**Lesson VII**

**Revelation Chapter 7**

**INTRODUCTION:** “There is a progression in the book of Revelation with regard to intensity and urgency. Chapter seven is a break in the action. Instead of introducing the next and final seal, two different pictures are presented to give encouragement to the Christian. The purpose of this interlude in the drama is to underscore the victory of the church throughout the human struggle. In spite of Satanic efforts, as effective as they may seem to be, the church of Jesus Christ will continue to reign victoriously.”

Glenn Bourne, Tower of Truth, p. 77.

1. **THE SAFETY OF THE CHURCH DURING JUDGMENT**
2. The four angels
3. The four corners of the earth symbolize all of the earth.
4. The four winds (see Jeremiah 51:1; 49:36)
5. The Seal of the Living God   
   (see Ephesians 4:30; 2 Timothy 2:19; Ephesians 1:13; 2 Corinthians 1:21, 22)
6. The angels are told to hold back the judgment outlined in the seven seals until God’s people are sealed.
7. The 144,000
8. Is it literal or symbolic?
9. The Jehovah’s Witnesses see it as literal.
10. Only 144,000 J.W.s will share in heavenly glory with Jesus Christ.
11. All other J.W.s will enjoy the blessings of life on earth.
12. The literal view is to be rejected in light of previously discussed hermeneutical reasons.
13. The symbolism of the 144,000.
14. 12 is the number of God’s people.
15. 1000 is a large perfect, complete number.
16. 12×12 = 144

144×1000 = 144,000

1. 144,000 is a numerical designation of all God’s people living on earth.
2. “Sons of Israel” must be understood in the New Testament sense.   
   (See Galatians 3:26-29; Romans 2:28-29)
3. **THE TRIUMPHANT CHURCH, ASSURED SAFETY AFTER JUDGMENT**

(vs. 9-17)

“Verse nine begins the second of two pictures. In the first eight verses we are presented with a picture of God’s people on earth, alive and involved in world evangelism. Beginning with verse nine we see God’s people triumphant and victorious, having completed their earthly service. In a sense we may say that both pictures in this chapter portray the same people, but under different conditions and circumstances.”

Glenn Bourne, Tower of Truth, p. 81

1. (vs. 9) Palm branches were emblems of triumph, victory, and peace.
2. (vs.13) This dialogue is intended to emphasize the greatness of salvation in Jesus Christ. The question and answer method is an effective teaching tool.
3. (vs. 14)
   1. “My Lord” means “sir”.
   2. “The Great Tribulation” is not one event but is an expression including all the sufferings of the saints throughout history.
4. (vs. 15)  
   1. “In His temple” is explained in 21:22.
   2. “Shall spread His tabernacle over them” is an expression of God’s presence with His people. (See Leviticus 26:11-12)