

**INTRODUCTION**

1. Rv 14:1-5 Review 4th cycle: Enmity of 2 Seeds.
2. Challenge: back & forth - earth & heaven; tension of the "already & not yet" - life & blessings of next age are already being enjoyed: union w/ Christ/HS

**1st: Who Did John See? - v1**

1. Jn sees *the Lamb* & describes Him; sees *144k w/ Him* & describes them. Then v2-3, he tells us what he *hears*.
2. The Lamb was standing [Rv 5:5-6] - Stephen [A 7:56].
  - i. *on Mount Zion*: true worship - believing remnant w/i nation of *Israel* [idolatrous - apostasy; 2Kg 19:30-31; Mic 4:7] Ps 2:6-9. Jn sees what Peter & Paul preach [Acts]: Jesus is resurrected & enthroned.
  - ii. Heb 12:22-24. Is that happening here, now!?
3. *w/ Him* [disciples], *144K* - Rv 7:4 = army. *The seal = name of Lamb & Father written on foreheads*. cf. 7:9ff & Rv 21:4 - the disembodied state.
  - i. 144K - totality of Redeemed = symbolic number
  - ii. Rv 3:12 - *New Jerusalem* = *Mt Zion* = temple = people w/ *new name* - Rv 22:4 Beatific vision [1Jn3:1]. Sealed, safe, sanctified.
  - iii. *His Father* [Jn 20:17] Triune God w/ singular *name* [baptism] in contrast w/ the people of the AntiChrist - Rv 13:16-17.

**2nd: What Did John Hear? - v2-3**

1. v2, heard a *voice/sound* [4x] *from heaven*: *many waters* - Niagara; *loud thunder* - 'mega' thunder claps; discerns music? *harpists playing on harps*
2. v2 *voice & sound* is a *new song* in v3: sung only by the 144K
  - i. OT: *new song* - military victory: Ps 98:1 [144:9; 33:3; 40:3; 96:1; 149:1]

- ii. *before the 4 living creatures & the [24] elders*: Rv 5:8-9; but in 14:3, only the 144K sing this *new song*: a select choir - Rv15:2-3
  - a. The *new song* sung by *new creatures* [2C5:17]: - resurrection victory.
  - b. song of victory [overcome] Bst & his # [666] wh/ harps - song of Moses & song of Lamb. *New song* sung in victory over death. 144K is a military choir w/ piercing sound harps over din of battle.
3. Exclusive choir: only 144K sing. [Rv 2:17].

**3rd: Why is This Choir Singing? - v3-4**

1. What qualifies? Redemption [v3-4; 5:9; 1Pt 1:16-19]; choir robes - Rv 7:14-15
2. *had been purchased* = purchased in past & evident now in bodily sanctity - 1C 6:18-20 Body = temple - holy in midst of pagan idolatry marked by sexual sin.
3. Why is choir singing? Sovereign Grace!

**Applic 1: Why Does John Pull Back the Veil [Apocalypse] to Reveal Heaven to Us?**

1. Are heavenly scenes present or future? Rv 7:4 - sealed; army - heavenly worshipers [v9ff] thru trib [v14]: blessed - v15-17 [repeated in Rv 21:3-4].
2. Eternal blessings of age to come are already enjoyed by disembodied saints: overcomers & will be enjoyed in eternity in glorified bodies.
3. Heb 12:22-24. Worship. Is worship really essential for overcomers?

**Applic #2: Why Is Singing Emphasized When We See Heavenly Scenes?**

1. Singing forms the soul's connection to the soul's affection.
  - i. Hab 3:16-19 invasion! So Hab writes a hymn to the "Savior of Singers".
  - ii. Jehoshaphat - 2Chron 20:22
2. Brethren, see what Jn shows us & start singing the songs of Zion, the songs of victory!