**The 144,000 Jewish Evangels**  
***A First-Fruit of the Nation During the Tribulation*****By Arlen L. Chitwood of** [**Lamp Broadcast**](http://lampbroadcast.org/)

[Part One](https://www.koffeekupkandor.com/gods-word-three.php#Part%20One)

[Part Two](https://www.koffeekupkandor.com/gods-word-three.php#Part%20Two)

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**Part I of III**

*“And there appeared a great wonder* [‘sign’] *in heaven; a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars.*

*And she being with child cried, travailing in birth, and pained to be delivered.*

*And there appeared another wonder* [‘sign’] *in heaven; and behold a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads.*

*And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth: and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born.*

*And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and to his throne. And the woman fled into the wilderness, here she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and threescore days”* ([Revelation 12:1-6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.1-6&t=NKJV)).

Revelation chapters eleven and twelve ([Revelation 11](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+11&t=NKJV); [12](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12&t=NKJV)) must be studied together. The former chapter introduces the latter chapter, and the latter chapter provides additional details and commentary for the former chapter.

**Chapter Eleven, Introductory…**

Chapter eleven ([Revelation 11](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+11&t=NKJV)) began by calling attention to the whole of the seven-year Tribulation, divided into two equal parts, two equal periods of three and one-half years. Events during the latter half of the Tribulation were briefly mentioned first — the Gentiles treading the city of Jerusalem under foot ([Revelation 11:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+11.2&t=NKJV)). Then, a single series of events was singled out to cover the first three and one-half years — the ministry of two individuals sent from heaven to earth to bear witness to the Jewish people immediately before they entered into their darkest hour ([Revelation 11:3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+11.3&t=NKJV)). And part of the chapter was then given over to providing details concerning the ministry of these two witnesses ([Revelation 11:4-12](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+11.4-12&t=NKJV)).

Then chapter twelve ([Revelation 12](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12&t=NKJV)) picks up where chapter eleven left off and provides details and commentary concerning events surrounding Israel and the nations immediately before and during the time referenced in verse two of the preceding chapter ([Revelation 11:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+11.2&t=NKJV)) — during that time when Jerusalem would be trodden under foot by the Gentiles for three and one-half years, during the last half of the Tribulation.

As well, chapter twelve itself is also integrally arranged in a similar manner. The first six verses ([Revelation 12:1-6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.1-6&t=NKJV)) provide the complete story, with the remainder of the chapter forming commentary. The first three verses ([Revelation 12:1-3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.1-3&t=NKJV)), forming a continuation from the previous chapter, lead into and form the background for the three verses which follow ([Revelation 12:4-6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.4-6&t=NKJV)). Then the commentary seen in the remainder of the chapter has to do with these latter three verses.

Verses seven through twelve ([Revelation 12:7-12](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.7-12&t=NKJV)) provide commentary for verse four ([Revelation 12:4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.4&t=NKJV)); verse thirteen ([Revelation 12:13](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.13&t=NKJV)) provides commentary for verses four and five ([Revelation 12:4-5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.4-5&t=NKJV)); verses fourteen through sixteen ([Revelation 12:14-16](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.14-16&t=NKJV)) provide commentary for verse six ([Revelation 12:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.6&t=NKJV)); and verse seventeen ([Revelation 12:17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.17&t=NKJV)) somewhat covers the whole of the matter and provides commentary for all three of these preceding verses ([Revelation 12:14-16](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.14-16&t=NKJV)).

Then subsequent chapters, particularly chapters thirteen, fourteen, and seventeen through the first part of nineteen, continue this commentary. All of these chapters (chs. eleven through fourteen [[Revelation 11](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+11&t=NKJV); [12](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12&t=NKJV); [13](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+13&t=NKJV); [14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+14&t=NKJV)], and seventeen through the first part of nineteen [[Revelation 17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+17&t=NKJV); [18](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+18&t=NKJV); [19](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+19&t=NKJV)]) are inseparably tied together in this respect and must be studied as a unit, with any one part being incomplete when separated from the other parts.

(For additional information on the two witnesses in [Revelation 11](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+11&t=NKJV), refer to the author’s pamphlets, [The Son of Man Coming in His Kingdom](https://www.koffeekupkandor.com/gods-word-two.php#The%20Son%20of%20Man%20Coming%20in%20His%20Kingdom) and [Two Men at the Empty Tomb](https://www.koffeekupkandor.com/gods-word-two.php#Two%20Men%20at%20the%20Empty%20Tomb), both in this website.)

**A Woman, Dragon, and Man-Child**

Metaphors are used extensively throughout [Revelation 12](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12&t=NKJV), which is something seen throughout the Book of Revelation and throughout Scripture in general. That is to say, the “woman” is not a literal woman but is descriptive of someone or something else; and so it is with the “dragon” and the “man child.” All three have to do with things which are literal, which, in themselves, are descriptive of that which they are referencing. And that being depicted by all three metaphors is clearly made known in the chapter itself, through comparing Scripture with Scripture.

Metaphors are used in Scripture in a completely consistent manner, and man is never left to his own imagination as to that which God is depicting through the use of metaphors. The texts, contexts, and/or related Scripture elsewhere will always shed light on the matter, revealing how the metaphors are being used.

*1) The Woman*

The “woman” can easily be identified as *Israel* through a number of means.

The “woman” — in association with *the sun, the moon, and the stars* — is presented within the scope of Joseph’s second dream in [Genesis 37:9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+37.9&t=NKJV). The typology and the symbolism in this verse in Genesis have to do with *Christ and Israel* (*cf.* [Genesis 37:10](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+37.10&t=NKJV)) — *Christ ruling over Israel during the Messianic Era, with regality also shown relative to Israel*.

In [Revelation 12:1](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.1&t=NKJV), the woman and the symbolism have to do with Israel and the nations (*cf.* [Revelation 6:12-17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+6.12-17&t=NKJV); [12:3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.3&t=NKJV)) — *Israel ruling over the nations during the Messianic Era, with regality also shown relative to the nations*.

Israel in [Revelation 12:1](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.1&t=NKJV), unlike in [Genesis 37:9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+37.9&t=NKJV), is seen *clothed with the sun* (symbolizing the main governing power), *the moon under her feet* (symbolizing Gentile powers subject to Israel [*cf.* [Psalm 110:1-2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Psalm+110.1-2&t=NKJV); [Revelation 6:12-17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+6.12-17&t=NKJV)]), and *a crown of twelve stars* upon her head (further showing regality through the use of “a crown” and ”twelve stars” [the number of *governmental perfection*, with the *stars* also showing governing powers, regality]).

(There are two words for “crown” in the Greek text of the New Testament — *stephanos* and *diadema*. The former word [*stephanos*] would be used of an individual *not actually seated on the throne and holding the sceptre*, *not reigning at the present time*, though *in a position to reign*; the latter word [*diadema*] would be used of one *actually seated on the throne and holding the sceptre, one presently reigning*.

The word used for crown in the text of [Revelation 12:1](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.1&t=NKJV) is *stephanos*, indicating a *present nonreigning position* for the woman, for *Israel*, but also indicating that this woman is *in a position to hold the sceptre and reign at a future time* [*cf.* [Revelation 17:18](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+17.18&t=NKJV)]. And at that *future* time the “crown of twelve stars” would no longer be described through the use of the word *stephanos* but, rather, through the use of the word *diadema*.

For additional information on the two Greek words for “crown,” along with additional information on the symbolism used with the woman in [Revelation 12:1](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.1&t=NKJV), refer to [Bible One - Arlen Chitwood's The Time of the End, Ch. 7](http://bibleone.net/TOTE_07.htm) and [Ch. 29](http://bibleone.net/TOTE_29.htm). Also see [The Ranks Of The Crowns!](https://www.koffeekupkandor.com/gods-word.php#The%20Ranks%20Of%20The%20Crowns!) and [Crowns Cast Before God’s Throne!](https://www.koffeekupkandor.com/gods-word-too.php#Crowns%20Cast%20Before%20God%E2%80%99s%20Throne!) in this site.)

The woman is further seen *with child*, “travailing in birth,” *in pain, awaiting deliverance* ([Revelation 12:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.2&t=NKJV)). This, of course, has to do with the woman in labor, about to give birth, about to bring forth the man-child ([Revelation 12:4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.4&t=NKJV)).

Then the woman, following the birth of the manchild ([Revelation 12:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.5&t=NKJV)), is seen fleeing into the wilderness where she has “a place prepared of God”; and she would be divinely cared for and protected in this place during the last three and one-half years of the tribulation ([Revelation 12:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.6&t=NKJV), [14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.14&t=NKJV)). This has its parallel in [Matthew 24:16-22](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+24.16-22&t=NKJV); [Luke 21:21-24](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Luke+21.21-24&t=NKJV), which, as well, has to do with Israel during the *last* half of the Tribulation.

Thus, in complete keeping with what this part of the Book of Revelation is about — *Israel and the nations, as Satan continues his rule through the nations* — the identity of the woman is seen at every turn.

*2) The Dragon*

The identity of the “dragon” in verses three and four ([Revelation 12:3-4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.3-4&t=NKJV)) is seen in the subsequent commentary part of the text itself. The “dragon” is identified as *the Devil, Satan* ([Revelation 12:9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.9&t=NKJV)). He is the one seen back in verse three, *ruling through the nations in the kingdom of the Beast* when this man *rises to power as world ruler near the middle of the Tribulation*.

In Revelation chapter six ([Revelation 6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+6&t=NKJV)) the Beast is seen *riding forth on a white horse*, going forth “conquering, and to conqueror.” In this opening part of the Tribulation, he is seen wearing a “crown,” described through the use of the word *stephanos*. This man’s aspirations at the time are worldwide dominion. But achieving his goal and wearing a crown described by the word *diadema* awaits a *future date*. It awaits *conquest after conquest*.

Then, in chapter twelve, this man is brought to the forefront again and is now seen wearing the *diadem* which he had sought. Note in verse three ([Revelation 12:3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.3&t=NKJV)) that *all seven heads* of the Beast are crowned (*cf.* [Revelation 17:9-12](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+17.9-12&t=NKJV)), and the word used for “crown” in the Greek text is *diadema*, not *stephanos* as used relative to Israel in verse one. Further, the “ten horns,” depicting this man’s ten-kingdom federation, are seen crowned with *diadems* in the opening verse of the next chapter ([Revelation 13](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+13&t=NKJV)).

Thus, the man previously seen riding forth when the first seal of the seven-sealed scroll was broken, wearing a crown depicted by the word *stephanos*, will *now have achieved the power which he had sought three and one-half years earlier — worldwide dominion*.

In [Revelation 12:3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.3&t=NKJV), this man’s kingdom is seen *so closely aligned* with Satan that the *dragon himself* is depicted as having the seven crowned heads and ten crowned horns. This is how inseparable Satan, the one ruling through the nations during Man’s Day, is seen aligned with the final form of Gentile world power at the end of Man’s Day. And Satan will *give to this man* who controls the final form of Gentile world power “his power, and his seat [‘throne’], and great authority” ([Revelation 13:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+13.2&t=NKJV)).

*3) The Man-Child*

Most commentators and Bible teachers dealing with chapter twelve identify the “man child” as Christ, also brought forth by Israel. This is done mainly on the basis of two things said about the man-child in verse five ([Revelation 12:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.5&t=NKJV)). The man-child is destined “to rule all nations with a rod of iron”; and, following his birth, the man-child is “caught up unto God, and to his throne.” Both would appear to identify the man-child as *Christ*. Christ, brought forth by Israel (as the man-child was brought forth by Israel), is destined to rule the nations as described in the text ([Psalm 2:6-9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Psalm+2.6-9&t=NKJV)); and Christ, as well, ascended to the same place described in the text ([Psalm 110:1](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Psalm+110.1&t=NKJV); [Acts 1:9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Acts+1.9&t=NKJV); [7:56](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Acts+7.56&t=NKJV)).

Then again, co-heirs with Christ have a similar connection with Israel, are given the same promise relative to ruling the nations, and will be caught up into heaven as well ([Galatians 3:29](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Galatians+3.29&t=NKJV); [1 Thessalonians 4:16-17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=1Thessalonians+4.16-17&t=NKJV); [Revelation 2:26-27](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+2.26-27&t=NKJV)). And this has led some commentators and Bible students to associate the man-child with Christians being removed in what they would see as a selective rapture of Christians (though this would be completely out of place, for all Christians will have *previously been removed from the earth*; and, aside from this fact, *selective rapture is not taught in Scripture anyway*).

But, after all is said and done, bear something in mind. The “woman” and the “dragon” *are identified in the chapter*. And the *same* could only be expected concerning the identity of the man-child as well, *which is exactly what can be found*. The man-child is *unquestionably identified* later in the chapter, and a proper identification will open parts of chapters seven, eleven, and fourteen to one’s understanding (plus verses in the Olivet Discourse accounts, along with parts of the O.T.), which would otherwise remain closed.

With that in mind, note what the text and context have to say and teach about the matter.

The reference to a “man child,” used as a metaphor, must be *in complete keeping* with *how both* the “woman” and the “dragon” are *used as metaphors* in the chapter. And doing this would automatically *discount any teaching that the man-child is a reference to Christ*. If Christ is being referenced, then the expression *is not really being used as a metaphor in the same sense that the other two are being used*, for Christ was brought forth by Israel as both a “male” and a “child,” or a “son” (literal rendering from the Greek text in [Revelation 12:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.5&t=NKJV) is “a son, a male,” with the Greek word for “child” also used in the text and context [[Revelation 12:4-5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.4-5&t=NKJV)]).

But the preceding, contextually, is really inconsequential. Any thought that the man-child is *a reference to Christ is nullified by the context on both sides of the text*. Note the *timing* of the birth of the man-child in verse five ([Revelation 12:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.5&t=NKJV)). The man-child’s birth occurs *after* Satan and his angels have been cast out of their abode in the heavens, which places this birth *just before or in the middle of the Tribulation* ([Revelation 12:4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.4&t=NKJV)); and it occurs *immediately before* Israel flees into the wilderness at the *full end of the 1,260 days covering the first half of the Tribulation* ([Revelation 12:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.6&t=NKJV)). Also, the birth of the man-child will occur either *very near or at the time* when the two witnesses in chapter eleven are *slain*, which is also at the *full end of the first 1,260 days of the Tribulation*.

But how is the man-child identified in Revelation chapter twelve? The man-child is seen *following* the woman fleeing “into the wilderness” ([Revelation 12:14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.14&t=NKJV)) as “*the remnant* of her [the woman’s] seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ” ([Revelation 12:17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.17&t=NKJV) [seen also in [Revelation 11:13](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+11.13&t=NKJV) of the previous chapter]). And that stated about “the remnant” in [Revelation 12:17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.17&t=NKJV) would also *identify them with the 144,000 in chapters seven and fourteen*.

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**Part II of III**

*“And I looked, and lo, a Lamb stood on mount Zion, and with him an hundred forty and four thousand, having his Father’s name written in their foreheads.*

*And I heard a voice from heaven as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of a great thunder: and I heard the voice of harpers harping with their harps:*

*And they sung as it were a new song before the throne, and before the four beasts* [‘four living creatures’]*, and the elders: and no man could learn that song but the hundred and forty and four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth.*

*These are they which were not defiled with women; for they are virgins. These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth. These were redeemed from among men, being the firstfruits* [‘a first-fruit’] *unto God and to the Lamb.*

*And in their mouth was found no guile: for they are without fault before the throne of God.*

*And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters”* ([Revelation 14:1-7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+14.1-7&t=NKJV)).

The *individuals* who will proclaim the gospel of the kingdom to the ends of the earth during the Tribulation, spoken of by Christ in [Matthew 24:14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+24.14&t=NKJV) and [Mark 13:10](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Mark+13.10&t=NKJV), are revealed in the Book of Revelation to be *144,000 Jews*, 12,000 from each of the twelve tribes of Israel ([Revelation 7:1-8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+7.1-8&t=NKJV); [14:1-5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+14.1-5&t=NKJV)). And, in order to provide additional information, these Jewish evangels are presented after another fashion in chapters eleven and twelve of this book — as “a man child” at the time Israel *brings the 144,000 forth* (*gives birth* [[Revelation 12:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.2&t=NKJV), [4-5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.4-5&t=NKJV)]), and as “the *remnant* of her [Israel’s] seed” *following* the nation bringing the 144,000 forth ([Revelation 11:13](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+11.13&t=NKJV); [12:17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.17&t=NKJV)).

(*Ref*. **Part I** [[Part One](https://www.koffeekupkandor.com/gods-word-three.php#Part%20One)] for more information on the manchild and the remnant in [Revelation 11](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+11&t=NKJV); [12](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12&t=NKJV), along with how these are descriptive references to the 144,000 in [Revelation 7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+7&t=NKJV); [14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+14&t=NKJV).)

Thus, information in each of these four chapters ([Revelation 7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+7&t=NKJV); [11](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+11&t=NKJV); [12](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12&t=NKJV); [14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+14&t=NKJV)) presents different things about the 144,000.

**Leading into Chapter Fourteen**

Chapter seven ([Revelation 7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+7&t=NKJV)) presents the sealing of the 144,000 ([Revelation 7:1-8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+7.1-8&t=NKJV)), along with the results of their ministry — “a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations…” ([Revelation 7:9-17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+7.9-17&t=NKJV)).

Chapter eleven ([Revelation 11](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+11&t=NKJV)) drops back behind chapter seven in time and presents the apparent *means* by which the 144,000 *will hear* the message and *be saved* — *through the ministry of the two witnesses* ([Revelation 11:3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+11.3&t=NKJV), [13](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+11.13&t=NKJV)).

Chapter twelve continues from chapter eleven, providing additional information about the 144,000. This chapter presents *their being brought forth as the man-child after all 144,000 have been saved*, the timing surrounding their being saved (*progressively* during the first half of the Tribulation, with the *complete number* [all 144,000] brought forth, saved, by the *middle* of the Tribulation), and *that which will occur* once the 144,000 have been *brought forth* ([Revelation 12:1-17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.1-17&t=NKJV)).

(Note that the 144,000 *couldn’t* be saved near the *end* of the dispensation in which God deals with the Church, *prior* to the Tribulation. If saved during the *present* dispensation, they would be *part of the one new man* “in Christ” and would *be removed at the time of the rapture*, *preceding the Tribulation*. Thus, they will have to *be saved following the removal of Christians from the earth*.)

Chapter fourteen then presents additional commentary concerning the 144,000 for that previously revealed in chapters seven, eleven, and twelve ([Revelation 14:1-7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+14.1-7&t=NKJV)).

When information in all four of these chapters is studied together, allowing Scripture to interpret itself, a developing word picture can be seen concerning the place which these Jewish evangels will occupy in events throughout the entire seven years of the Tribulation.

As previously seen, the 144,000, referred to in chapter twelve as “a man child” and “the remnant” ([Revelation 12:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.5&t=NKJV), [17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.17&t=NKJV)), are presented in this chapter as being *brought forth* in a progressive manner throughout the *first* three and one-half years of the Tribulation. The matter is presented as the development and subsequent *birth of a child*, with “Israel” seen as the *mother* and “the 144,000” seen as the *child* ([Revelation 12:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.2&t=NKJV), [4-5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.4-5&t=NKJV)).

The gestation period for child-birth in the human realm is nine months, but for the man-child it will be three and one-half years. Development of the child in the mother’s womb (Israel’s womb), as it were, will progressively occur over a three and one-half-year period as individuals are saved and added to the number throughout this time. Then, near the middle of the Tribulation when the number is *complete*, Israel *will give birth to the man-child, the 144,000* ([Revelation 12:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.2&t=NKJV), [4-5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.4-5&t=NKJV); *cf.* [Matthew 24:8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+24.8&t=NKJV); [Mark 13:8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Mark+13.8&t=NKJV)).

The 144,000 are referred in [Revelation 11:13](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+11.13&t=NKJV) as “the remnant” in connection with events occurring immediately *following* the death, resurrection, and ascension of the *two witnesses* ([Revelation 11:7-13](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+11.7-13&t=NKJV)). And this “remnant” is seen again in the next chapter ([Revelation 12:17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.17&t=NKJV)), identifying the man-child seen earlier in the chapter ([Revelation 11:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+11.5&t=NKJV)).

(The word “remnant” in both [Revelation 11:13](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+11.13&t=NKJV) and [Revelation 12:17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.17&t=NKJV) is a translation of the Greek word *loipos*, which means “remaining ones.” The word *loipos* could not refer to the Jewish people in the land as a whole. The nation will exist in *unbelief* at this time, and those remaining, the *remnant*, though *afraid* like the rest of the Jewish people, *will give* “glory to the God of heaven.” And giving “glory to the God of heaven” would be *completely out of place* for all of the unbelieving Jewish people *still in the land*.

The only Jewish people in the land at this time, to whom this could possibly be referring, would be those seen in [Revelation 12:17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.17&t=NKJV) — “the remnant of her seed [Israel’s seed], which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.” And this “remnant” in [Revelation 12:17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.17&t=NKJV), referred to as *Israel’s seed*, is the identification which the chapter provides for Israel’s seed back in [Revelation 12:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.5&t=NKJV), the “man child” [easily identified as the 144,000 in [Revelation 7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+7&t=NKJV); [14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+14&t=NKJV), for they will be the *ones* having the testimony of Jesus Christ and will be the *only ones* on earth at this time who could *fit the description of the man-child, the remnant, in* [*Revelation 12*](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12&t=NKJV)].)

Following the order of events occurring in the middle of the Tribulation, the Beast (who will, *at this time*, be the *world ruler*, the crowned seventh head) will *slay* the two witnesses ([Revelation 11:7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+11.7&t=NKJV)). The two witnesses’ bodies will then lie unburied in the streets of Jerusalem for three and one-half days, while the world rejoices.

And this rejoicing may very well *include* many of the unbelieving Jewish people in the land, those guilty of the blood of the prophets, along with others sent unto them, including God’s Son ([Matthew 21:33-39](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+21.33-39&t=NKJV); [23:37](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+23.37&t=NKJV); [Luke 13:33- 34](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Luke+13.33-+34&t=NKJV)).

Then, *after* three and one-half days, a day for each year of their ministry, the two witnesses will *be raised from the dead and ascend to heaven.*

And it will evidently be at the time of and *in connection* with the death and/or resurrection of these two witnesses that the Beast *breaks* his covenant with the Jewish people and *enters* into the Temple, *declaring* himself to be God ([Daniel 11:31](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Daniel+11.31&t=NKJV);[Matthew 24:15](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+24.15&t=NKJV); [2 Thessalonians 2:3-4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=2Thessalonians+2.3-4&t=NKJV)). At this time he will *show* his true colors, *turn against* the Jewish people, and *seek to destroy* them from off the face of the earth.

The first part of [Revelation 11:13](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+11.13&t=NKJV) (describing events occurring *immediately following* the ascension of the two witnesses), in the light of related Scripture, apparently has to do with the *destruction* of Jerusalem and the *scattering* of the Jewish people (events which occur at this time). Then attention is called to “the remnant” — individuals *who are afraid but still place first things first and give* “glory to the God of heaven.”

Things will happen so fast at this time that the Jewish people in Jerusalem and Judaea are told to run for their lives, without even taking time to enter into their homes to take necessities with them. A segment of the Jewish people will escape to a *specially prepared place* in the wilderness or in the mountainous terrain, apparently in Moab ([Isaiah 16:4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+16.4&t=NKJV)). And the remainder *will either be* slain, sold as slaves to the Gentiles, or driven out among the nations of the earth ([Joel 3:6-7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Joel+3.6-7&t=NKJV); [Matthew 24:16-21](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+24.16-21&t=NKJV); [Luke 21:20-24](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Luke+21.20-24&t=NKJV); [Revelation 12:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.6&t=NKJV), [14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.14&t=NKJV)).

Jerusalem and the Temple will be *destroyed at this time*, with the nation of Israel in the Middle East, as the world knows it today, *ceasing to exist* (*cf.* [Daniel 9:26](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Daniel+9.26&t=NKJV); [Luke 21:22-24](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Luke+21.22-24&t=NKJV); [Revelation 11:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+11.2&t=NKJV)). And the Jewish people will not again have a national identity in this respect *until* Christ *returns*, *removes* the Jewish people from the nations, and *reestablishes* them back in the land Himself ([Ezekiel 37:21-28](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Ezekiel+37.21-28&t=NKJV); [39:25-29](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Ezekiel+39.25-29&t=NKJV); [Matthew 24:30-31](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+24.30-31&t=NKJV)).

The *present* nation of Israel in the Middle East — destined to be *uprooted*, with the Jews comprising this nation being *driven back out among the Gentile nations* — *includes only a part of world Jewry. This nation was brought into existence through man’s efforts in a Zionistic movement, and it is a restoration of the Jewish people in unbelief, not belief.*

But when Christ returns, the *restoration* of the Jewish people back to the land will occur *through Divine activity. Christ will send His angels out to regather all of the Jews from the nations of the earth* ([Matthew 24:31](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+24.31&t=NKJV)), *and He will then restore them to the land in belief.*

The latter, not the former, is that prophesied in Moses, the Psalms, and the Prophets concerning Israel’s national restoration.

(For additional information concerning the preceding, refer to the author’s **two** pamphlets titled, [“Time” of Israel's Restoration by Arlen Chitwood, Pt. I](http://lampbroadcast.org/plets/ppdf8/TimeofIsraelsRestorationPartI.pdf) and,[Pt. 2](http://lampbroadcast.org/plets/ppdf8/TimeofIsraelsRestorationPartII.pdf).)

**The 144,000, Removed from and Returned to the Earth**

Revelation chapter fourteen ([Revelation 14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+14&t=NKJV)) provides the necessary information to explain things surrounding the *removal* of the man-child from the earth in [Revelation 12:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.5&t=NKJV). The man-child, the 144,000, is seen in [Revelation 14:1](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+14.1&t=NKJV) in Christ’s presence on Mt. Zion in heaven. And further down in the chapter the 144,000 are said to have been “redeemed from the earth” ([Revelation 14:3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+14.3&t=NKJV)), and “redeemed from among men” ([Revelation 14:4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+14.4&t=NKJV)). Then they are referred to as “the firstfruits [*lit.*, ‘a first-fruit’ (seen as a corporate group)] unto God and to the Lamb” ([Revelation 14:4b](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+14.4b&t=NKJV)).

The 144,000 will comprise a *first-fruit of the nation*. During the *last half* of the Tribulation they, as a first-fruit of the nation, will *fulfill* one of God’s purposes for calling the nation into existence. They will be *God’s witnesses to the ends of the earth during this time* ([I Kings 8:54-61](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=I+Kings+8.54-61&t=NKJV); [Isaiah 43:8-9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+43.8-9&t=NKJV)).

Then, *following* the Tribulation, God will deal with the *main harvest* — the nation as a *whole*, the nation which brought forth the 144,000. *Following* the Tribulation, the *entire* nation will be brought forth (*saved* through the personal appearance of their Messiah to them). The entire nation will be brought forth “in one day” ([Isaiah 66:8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+66.8&t=NKJV)). And, as a first-fruit of the nation will have carried God’s message worldwide to the Gentile nations during the *last half* of the Tribulation, the *entire* Jewish nation will carry God’s message worldwide to the Gentile nations *during the Millennium.*

(Israel will bring forth a first-fruit of the nation, the 144,000. But how will the *entire* nation be brought forth?

In [Isaiah 66:7-8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+66.7-8&t=NKJV) Israel is seen in travail relative to her own bringing forth. And Israel being brought forth is in connection with “*the land"* [the land of Israel] also being brought forth [[Isaiah 66:8, NASB](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+66.8&t=NASB)]. Then, this concept of “*the land*” being brought forth at this time is seen in a larger sense in [Romans 8:19-22](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Romans+8.19-22&t=NKJV) as the *entire* material creation *groaning and travailing together in pain, awaiting deliverance*.

In Isaiah, the deliverance of Israel and her land is seen in connection with the nation *bringing herself forth*:

*“As soon as Zion travailed* [contextually, a reference to the nation], *she also brought forth her sons”* [[Isaiah 66:8 NASB](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+66.8&t=NASB) {8b}].

And the reference to “sons” being brought forth is also seen in the travailing and deliverance in Romans chapter eight [[Romans 8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Romans+8&t=NKJV)]. The time when the creation will be delivered from the present groaning and travailing together in pain is the time of “the manifestation of the sons of God” [[Romans 8:19](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Romans+8.19&t=NKJV)]. This chapter in Romans deals more specifically with the adoption of Christians as firstborn sons and their being manifested as such. Israel though has *already been adopted* and is *presently God’s firstborn son* [*cf.* [Exodus 4:22-23](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Exodus+4.22-23&t=NKJV)], though an *unbelieving son*. And Israel must be brought forth *as well* [actually first and foremost].

The creation will be delivered from its present groaning and travailing in pain *only when* the complete contingent of the Sons of *God* [Christ, Israel, and the Church following the adoption] *have been manifested for all to see*.)

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**Part III of III**

*“And I looked, and lo, a Lamb stood on mount Zion, and with him an hundred forty and four thousand, having his Father’s name written in their foreheads.*

*And I heard a voice from heaven as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of a great thunder: and I heard the voice of harpers harping with their harps:*

*And they sung as it were a new song before the throne, and before the four beasts* [‘four living creatures’], *and the elders: and no man could learn that song but the hundred and forty and four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth.*

*These are they which were not defiled with women; for they are virgins. These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth. These were redeemed from among men, being the firstfruits* [‘a first-fruit’] *unto God and to the Lamb.*

*And in their mouth was found no guile: for they are without fault before the throne of God.*

*And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people,*

*Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters”* ([Revelation 14:1-7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+14.1-7&t=NKJV)).

The *timing* of the removal of the 144,000 from the earth is seen in both chapters eleven and twelve. In chapter eleven, they are still seen on earth *at the time* Jerusalem and the Temple are *destroyed* (or, are in the process of being destroyed), with the Jewish people *fleeing for their lives* at this time ([Revelation 11:13](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+11.13&t=NKJV); *cf.* [Matthew 24:15ff](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+24.15ff&t=NKJV); [Luke 21:20ff](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Luke+21.20ff&t=NKJV)). In chapter twelve, they are seen *being removed* from the earth *following* the casting of Satan and his angels out of heaven and *at the time* that the Jewish people in Jerusalem and Judaea flee for their lives ([Revelation 12:4-6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.4-6&t=NKJV)). Thus, Satan and his angels will be cast out of the heavens *before* the middle of the Tribulation, evidently shortly before. And the 144,000, the man-child, will be removed from the earth *after* the middle of the Tribulation, evidently shortly after.

(Satan and his angels will be cast out of the heavens *after* all seven heads of the Beast have been crowned. Note, in [Revelation 12:3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.3&t=NKJV), all seven heads are seen wearing *diadems* at this time [a “*diadem*” is a monarch’s crown, a crown worn by one *holding the septre* (*ref*. [Bible One - Arlen Chitwood's The Time of the End, Ch. 7](http://bibleone.net/TOTE_07.htm) and [Ch. 12](http://bibleone.net/TOTE_12.htm))]. And the *seventh head* [the final world ruler, the final king of Babylon, *Antichrist*] will *not* rise to the position he will aspire [worldwide power and dominion], wearing a *diadem*, until *near the middle of the Tribulation.*

Thus, Satan and his angels being cast out of the heavens onto the earth will *have to occur very close to the middle of the Tribulation*. And the 144,000 will have to be removed from the earth *at the same time* that the remainder of the Jewish people in the land flee for their lives, for they are placed *together* in [Revelation 12:5-6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.5-6&t=NKJV) [with the *escape* of the 144,000 from the wrath of Satan and Antichrist being into the heavens, and the *escape* of other Jews in the land being out into different parts of the earth].)

**The 144,000 Removed from the Earth**

As previously seen, the man-child — the 144,000 — *will be removed from the earth, following birth, to escape Satan’s wrath*. And the removal of the manchild would parallel another removal of Israel’s Seed over 2,000 years before — *Christ’s removal from the land following His birth, to escape Herod’s wrath*.

Israel brought Christ forth through a Jewish woman. Shortly after His birth, He was taken into Egypt to escape Herod’s death decree on all the children in and around Bethlehem, two years old and under. He was taken to a location which was outside Herod’s jurisdiction. Then, at a later time, Christ was brought back into the land to proclaim the gospel of the kingdom to Israel for *about three and one-half years* ([Matthew 2:13-21](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+2.13-21&t=NKJV)).

Israel will bring forth the man-child through a means *other* than natural childbirth. Nonetheless, the matter is *likened* in Scripture to natural childbirth ([Revelation 12:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.2&t=NKJV), [4-5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.4-5&t=NKJV)). Shortly *after* the 144,000 have been brought forth, they will be *removed* from Satan and Antichrist’s jurisdiction, *into the heavens* (Satan, immediately *prior* to this, will have been *cast out of heaven* and will *no longer have jurisdiction in the heavens* [[Revelation 12:4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.4&t=NKJV), [7-12](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.7-12&t=NKJV)]). Then, at a later time, the 144,000 will be *sent back to the earth* to proclaim the gospel of the *kingdom* to the *Gentiles worldwide for about three and one-half years* ([Matthew 24:14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+24.14&t=NKJV)).

And there will likely *be another reason* for their being removed into the heavens at this time. Unlike Christ during His earthly ministry, they *will need training for the ministry which they are to carry out*.

Christ, in this respect, *removed Paul* into the heavens *following* his conversion and evidently *personally taught him the message which he was to proclaim* ([2 Corinthians 12:1-7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=2Corinthians+12.1-7&t=NKJV); [Galatians 1:11-12](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Galatians+1.11-12&t=NKJV); [Ephesians 3:1-3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Ephesians+3.1-3&t=NKJV)). Paul had previously sat “at the feet of Gamaliel” and had been “taught according to the perfect manner of the law of the fathers” ([Acts 22:3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Acts+22.3&t=NKJV)). But Christ still had to take Paul, who was quite knowledgeable in the Scriptures, and teach him *the message which he was to proclaim throughout the Gentile world.*

And the 144,000, though many of them will have possibly *been taught by the two witnesses*, will likely experience the *same thing Paul experienced* following his conversion. During the time spent in heaven, the 144,000 will evidently *be taught the message which they are to proclaim throughout the Gentile world* by Christ Himself.

**The 144,000 Returned to the Earth**

As Christ was taken *back into the land* to later proclaim the gospel of the *kingdom* to *Israel* for about three and one-half years, the 144,000 will be sent *back to the earth* to proclaim the gospel of the *kingdom* to the *Gentiles worldwide* for about the *same length of time* (or, as Paul was also returned to the earth for a corresponding purpose).

The 144,000 being sent back to the earth to proclaim this message — though not stated in so many words in Scripture — is inferred several different ways. The proclamation of this message is seen in [Matthew 24:14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+24.14&t=NKJV) and [Mark 13:10](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Mark+13.10&t=NKJV) as “the gospel of the kingdom” being proclaimed among all nations during what is evidently *a time extending to the end of the Tribulation*, and it is seen in [Revelation 12:17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.17&t=NKJV) as individuals *possessing* “the testimony of Jesus Christ” during *the last half of the Tribulation*.

Then, the proclamation of this message is connected in a direct manner with the 144,000 in Revelation chapter fourteen. In this chapter, the connection of the 144,000 with the message to be proclaimed is seen after a fashion in keeping with how the Book of Revelation is structured.

Immediately after the 144,000 have been introduced ([Revelation 14:1-5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+14.1-5&t=NKJV)), the text reads:

*“And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people,*

*Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters”* ([Revelation 14:6-7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+14.6-7&t=NKJV)).

That proclaimed by the angel in verse seven is *not* the content of “the everlasting gospel” in verse six. Rather, this is *simply an announcement* to those dwelling on the earth by the angel appearing with this gospel.

Angelic activity is seen at every turn throughout the Book of Revelation. And, in the light of Israel’s calling, the placement of this angel with a message to those on the earth — “to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people” — immediately after the verses dealing with the 144,000 (who are about to carry a message to the same people on earth), can be understood only one way.

*Israel* is the nation which God called into existence to *deliver* His message to the *Gentile nations* throughout the earth, *not* angels. And, in view of Israel’s *calling*, the reference in these two verses, particularly contextually, *cannot* possibly have to do with *an angel carrying the gospel message worldwide to all the nations on the earth*. Rather, it can *only* have to do with an angel appearing with *the message which the 144,000, seen in the immediately preceding verses, are to proclaim.*

And the latter, along with [Revelation 12:17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.17&t=NKJV) (viewed in the overall structure of the chapter) and the Olivet Discourse references ([Matthew 24:14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+24.14&t=NKJV); [Mark 13:10](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Mark+13.10&t=NKJV)), would *necessitate the 144,000 being returned to the earth to proclaim this message.*

(Note that the *message* which the 144,000 will proclaim is referred to as the “gospel of the *kingdom*” in [Matthew 24:14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+24.14&t=NKJV). In this respect, the word “everlasting” in [Revelation 14:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+14.6&t=NKJV) [*Gk.*, *aionios*] could probably be better translated “age-lasting.” The Messianic kingdom is in view in [Matthew 24:14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+24.14&t=NKJV), and *this kingdom comprises one age — the seventh day* [foreshadowed by the Sabbath in [Genesis 2:2-3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+2.2-3&t=NKJV), following six days of restorative work], *the seventh one-thousand-year period in the septenary structure of time, the coming Sabbath of rest in* [Hebrews 4:9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+4.9&t=NKJV)[*cf.* [Hebrews 4:4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+4.4&t=NKJV)].

*Aionios* is used in the Greek text of the N.T. to refer to “a long period of time,” often “an age.” The “long period of time” can be understood as “eternal” *only if* the context so designates.

Neither the Hebrew of the O.T. nor the Greek of the N.T. contains a word for “eternal.” *Olam* is the word translated “eternal,” “everlasting,” or “perpetual” in English translations of the O.T., and *aion* [a noun] or *aionios* [the adjective form of *aion*] are the words translated “eternal” or “everlasting” in the N.T. [*aidios*, an older form of *aionios*, used only two times and meaning exactly the same as *aionios*, is the *only* exception ([Romans 1:20](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Romans+1.20&t=NKJV) and [Jude 1:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Jude+1.6&t=NKJV))].

*Olam*, *aion*, and *aionios* all have to do with “a long period of time,” which, if the context permits, can refer to “eternity” [*e.g.*, the *Aionios* God in [Romans 16:26](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Romans+16.26&t=NKJV)]. But the words standing *alone*, apart from a context, *cannot* be understood as “eternal.” Context is the all-important factor to ascertain the length of time in view when these words are used.

*Aion* and *aionios* are usually thought of and used numerous times in the N.T. in the sense of “an age.” And a usage of this nature is even brought over into English. For example, the English word “aeon [or ‘eon’]” is derived from the Greek word *aion*.

The only way in which the Greek text can express “eternal” apart from textual considerations is through a use of *aion* in the *plural* [*e.g.*, [Luke 1:33](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Luke+1.33&t=NKJV); [Hebrews 13:8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+13.8&t=NKJV), referring to “the ages,” *i.e.,* ages without end, which would comprise eternity] or a double use of *aion*, in the plural and articular both times [*e.g.,* [Revelation 1:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+1.6&t=NKJV); [4:9-10](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+4.9-10&t=NKJV); [5:13- 14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+5.13-+14&t=NKJV); [7:12](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+7.12&t=NKJV); [10:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+10.6&t=NKJV); [11:15](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+11.15&t=NKJV); [15:7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+15.7&t=NKJV); [19:3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+19.3&t=NKJV); [20:10](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+20.10&t=NKJV); [22:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+22.5&t=NKJV) — referring to “the ages of the ages,” again, ages without end]. Also, the same plural double use of *aion* occurs in [Revelation 14:11](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+14.11&t=NKJV) without the definite articles, meaning “ages of ages.”

The preceding lists *all occurrences* of the plural double use of *aion* in the Book of Revelation. This plural double use only occurs seven other times in the N.T., all articular [[Galatians 1:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Galatians+1.5&t=NKJV); [Philippians 4:20](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Philippians+4.20&t=NKJV); [1 Timothy 1:17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=1Timothy+1.17&t=NKJV); [2 Timothy 4:18](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=2Timothy+4.18&t=NKJV); [Hebrews 13:21](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+13.21&t=NKJV); [1 Peter 4:11](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=1Peter+4.11&t=NKJV); [5:11](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=1Peter+5.11&t=NKJV)].)

**The Ministry of the 144,000**

The *ministry* of the 144,000 will reach to the *ends of the earth* over the short space of about *three and one-half years* — to “all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues” ([Revelation 7:9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+7.9&t=NKJV)). Many reached with the message will *be slain* for their faith, with many others, in the words of [Matthew 24:13](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+24.13&t=NKJV), *enduring* “unto the end” (the *end of the Tribulation*) and *being* “saved” (being *physically delivered out of the Tribulation*).

Those *slain* for their faith during this time are described in [Revelation 6:9-11](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+6.9-11&t=NKJV); [7:9-17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+7.9-17&t=NKJV); [20:4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+20.4&t=NKJV). Their *state* during the *time between* death and the end of the Tribulation is seen in the former two references ([Revelation 6:9-11](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+6.9-11&t=NKJV); [7:9-17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+7.9-17&t=NKJV)), and that which *awaits them* during the Messianic Era is seen in the latter reference ([Revelation 20:4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+20.4&t=NKJV)).

*Following death* they are seen in Christ’s presence in *heaven*, and *during* the Messianic Era they are seen *occupying regal positions with Christ in His kingdom*.

Those *enduring* until the end and being *delivered* out of the Tribulation are seen in [Matthew 25:31-46](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+25.31-46&t=NKJV). And, as seen among those slain during the Tribulation in the larger scope of the passage in Revelation chapter twenty ([Revelation 20:4-6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+20.4-6&t=NKJV)), *both* faithful and unfaithful appear among the saved who *endure* until the end and *come out* of the Tribulation *alive* in [Matthew 25:31-46](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+25.31-46&t=NKJV).

A *judgment* of these individuals who come out of the Tribulation *alive*, as with those *slain* in [Revelation 20:4-6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+20.4-6&t=NKJV), occurs when Christ *returns*. And, exactly as in [Revelation 20:4-6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+20.4-6&t=NKJV), the faithful will be allowed *to enter* into the kingdom, *but* the unfaithful will *be turned away*; and the same metaphorical picture of a burning in relation to the unfaithful, as seen in [John 15:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=John+15.6&t=NKJV) and [Hebrews 6:8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+6.8&t=NKJV), is seen in *both* judgments (in both [Matthew 25:31-46](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+25.31-46&t=NKJV) and [Revelation 20:4-6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+20.4-6&t=NKJV)).

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(For more information on [Matthew 25:31-46](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+25.31-46&t=NKJV), refer to Chapters XXII-XXIV in the author’s book, “[Prophecy on Mount Olivet](http://lampbroadcast.org/Books/POMO.pdf)” [Revised Edition], and in this site [The Time of the End](https://www.koffeekupkandor.com/gods-word-in-revelation.php#The%20Time%20of%20the%20End), Chs. 22-24. For more information on [Revelation 20:4-6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+20.4-6&t=NKJV), refer to Chapter 33 of [The Time of the End](https://www.koffeekupkandor.com/gods-word-in-revelation.php#The%20Time%20of%20the%20End).)

[The 144,000 Jewish Evangels by Arlen Chitwood, Part I](http://lampbroadcast.org/plets/ppdf8/144000JewishEvangelsPartI.pdf), [Part II](http://lampbroadcast.org/plets/ppdf8/144000JewishEvangelsPartII.pdf) and [Part III](http://lampbroadcast.org/plets/ppdf8/144000JewishEvangelsPartIII.pdf) in pamphlet form, designed for printing on letter size paper, both front and back, then folded into pocket size fit.