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Who shall be able to stand? The 144,000. (See Malachi 3:1-6)

Verse 1

There are 20 times the words "four corners" are used together. Most of which include the edges of the thing referred to, or its entirety. There are only four times "four angels" is translated, each in Revelation. "Four winds" is used nine times. Each seem to denote 'worldwide.' Wind can be used for destruction, see Job 1:19, Jeremiah 51:1. The earth is the opposite of the sea, the sea (many people, Revelation 17:15), and trees are mentioned which can mean both righteous or wicked people, Psalm 37:35, 92:12, Isaiah 2:10-17, 55:12, 56:3, 61:3, Ezekiel 20:45-21:5, Daniel 4.

Verses 2

The angel had a seal and ascending he ascended out of the east like the sun rising (the Greek word for ascending is used twice). As the sun ascends, it gets brighter. You can see the brightness of the seal becoming stronger and its meaning becoming clearer.

Revelation uses the word 'seal' more than other book. Notice the use of the term: John 6:27, Ephesians 1:13-14, 4:30, 2 Timothy 2:19.

Verses 3

The words "earth," "sea," and "tree(s)" are not found in other verses of the Bible (see verse 1 and 3). The only other time the phrase "hurt not" is used in the Bible is 6:6. The word forehead(s) is mentioned much more in Revelation than any other book. Generally, the forehead refers to what type of choices a person makes (see Jeremiah 3:3 to read of a whore's forehead). Either a seal, mark, or name will be on the foreheads of either God's faithful, or the unfaithful in Revelation. The choices we make determine our eternal destiny. The Law and Words of God were to be on the frontlets (foreheads) of His people (Deuteronomy 5-6:8, 11:18).

There is an interesting section of the Bible that delivers a HUGE amount of information about the end of time, and it too pinpoints a mark on God's people. **Ezekiel 7-9** tells of the end coming upon the four corners of the land (similar to **Revelation 7:1**), the sins of God's people while in ministry for Him, a mark on the forehead of God's people sighing and crying for the sins being committed by those who should be faithful, and the destruction of those who choose sin over the Savior. That section is extremely important to understand before moving forward in Revelation.

The Commandments of God & the Sabbath

The wages of sin is death:

Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Sin is breaking the law:

1 John 3:4 Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.

Christ came to save from sin (which is breaking the law that brings death): **Matthew 1:21** And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins.

If there is no law, there is no sin, which means we don't have death and won't need a Savior!

Jesus did the will of His Father:

John 12:49 For I have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak.

John 12:50 And I know that his commandment is life everlasting: whatsoever I speak therefore, even as the Father said unto me, so I speak.

Psalm 40:7-8 Then said I, Lo, I come: in the volume of the book it is written of me, I delight to do thy will, O my God: yea, thy law is within my heart.

Hebrews 10:7-9 Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God. Above when he said, Sacrifice and offering and burnt offerings and offering for sin thou wouldest not, neither hadst pleasure therein; which are offered by the law; Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second.

When Christ gave a 'new commandment', He actually gave 'old' ones. Therefore, it cannot be a new commandment in content, but in practice—a new way of doing God's will—correctly:

Deuteronomy 6:5 And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.

Leviticus 19:18 Thou shalt not avenge, nor bear any grudge against the children of thy people, but thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself: I am the LORD.

Matthew 22:36-40 Master, which is the great commandment in the law [the Pentateuch]? Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind [Jesus quoted from the Pentateuch]. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself [Jesus quoted again from the Pentateuch]. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets [The "law" would be the Pentateuch, the "prophets" would be all the rest of Scripture. These two 'new' commandments in no wise diminish the moral law of God].

In the last book of the Bible—relevant for end-time-Christians—Revelation gives characteristics of those who will NOT be deceived, who will NOT receive the mark of the beast or the number of his name:

Revelation 12:17 And the dragon was wroth with the woman [the church], and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, AND have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

Revelation 14:12 Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, AND the faith of Jesus [though the "commandments of God" and the "faith of Jesus" are not two things—they are one—people have tried to separate them as though the "faith of Jesus" is somehow more important than the "commandments of God"].

Revelation 22:14 Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.

Some verses that are commonly used to show we don't need the law, but notice them in context: **Romans 3:28-31** Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law. Is he the God of the Jews only? is he not also of the Gentiles? Yes, of the Gentiles also: Seeing it is one God, which shall justify the circumcision by faith, and uncircumcision through faith. Do we then make void the law through faith? God forbid: yea, we establish the law.

Romans 6:14-18 For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace. What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid. Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are

to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness? But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness. What is righteousness?

Isaiah 42:21 The LORD is well pleased for his righteousness' sake; he will magnify the law, and make it honourable.

Isaiah 51:7 Hearken unto me, ye that know righteousness, the people in whose heart is my law; fear ye not the reproach of men, neither be ye afraid of their revilings.

Romans 8:4 [Christ came] That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

Philippians 3:9 And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith: [this is dealing with our own works of righteousness, apart from a living experience with God through Christ.]

If the law was done away with at the cross, which one is no longer binding?

- 1. Having other gods before Him?
- 2. Creating and worshipping false idols?
- 3. Taking the name of God in vain?
- 4. Remembering the Sabbath?
- 5. Honoring father and mother?
- 6. Killing?
- 7. Stealing?
- 8. Committing adultery?
- 9. Bearing false witness?
- 10. Covering?

Why would anyone say that all are good except the Sabbath? Wouldn't we call that confusion?

Regarding the Sabbath:

It was kept holy by Christ after He "finished" His work in creation on the 6th day: **Genesis 2:1-3** Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. And on the seventh day God ended [finished] his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made. And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made.

It was kept holy by Christ after He "finished" His earthly work in redemption on the 6th day: **John 19:30** When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost.

Luke 23:54 And that day was the preparation, and the sabbath drew on.

John 19:31 The Jews therefore, because it was the preparation, that the bodies should not remain upon the cross on the sabbath day, (for that sabbath day was an high day,) besought Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away.

Christ's disciples kept the Sabbath AFTER His death:

Luke 23:55-24:1 And the women also, which came with him from Galilee, followed after, and beheld the sepulchre, and how his body was laid. And they returned, and prepared spices and ointments; and rested the sabbath day according to the commandment. Now upon the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they came unto the sepulchre, bringing the spices which they had prepared, and certain others with them.

ALL the disciples kept the Sabbath in the book of Acts, even in Galatia, Philippi, Thessalonica and Corinth:

Acts 13:14 But when they departed from Perga, they came to Antioch [Galatia] in Pisidia, and went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and sat down.

Acts 13:27 For they that dwell at Jerusalem, and their rulers, because they knew him not, nor yet the voices of the prophets which are read every sabbath day, they have fulfilled them in condemning him.

Acts 13:42 And when the Jews were gone out of the synagogue, the Gentiles besought that these words might be preached to them the next sabbath.

Acts 13:44 And the next sabbath day came almost the whole city together to hear the word of God. Acts 15:21 For Moses of old time hath in every city them that preach him, being read in the synagogues every sabbath day.

Acts 16:13 [Philippi] And on the sabbath we went out of the city by a river side, where prayer was wont to be made; and we sat down, and spake unto the women which resorted thither.

Acts 17:2 [Thessalonica] And Paul, as his manner was, went in unto them, and three sabbath days reasoned with them out of the scriptures,

Acts 18:4 [Corinth] And he reasoned in the synagogue every sabbath, and persuaded the Jews and the Greeks.

The Sabbath will be kept throughout all eternity:

Isaiah 66:22-23 For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before me, saith the LORD, so shall your seed and your name remain. And it shall come to pass, that from one new moon to another, and from one sabbath to another, shall ALL flesh come to worship before me, saith the LORD.

Following is partial Scripture notes from a series of meetings regarding the Sabbath:

Heavenly bodies - The earth rotating around the suns gives us a **year**. The moon rotating around the earth gives us a **month**. The world rotating on its axis gives us a **day**. But what gives us a **week**? The entire world runs on a seven day weekly cycle because of Genesis 1-2.

Genesis 1-2:3 - In 6 days God created the heavens and the earth, but rested the 7th day. Notice what God did on the 7th day in 2:2-3. God rested from creation to spend time with His newly created human creatures. God created the Sabbath to be a day of relationship between Him and His followers. THIS is why the enemy *hates* this day.

Exodus 16:2-5, 23-30 - God tested His people regarding His law—specifically the 7th day sabbath —before He spoke the commandments from Mount Sinai in chapter 20!

Exodus 20:8-11 - "Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it."

Luke 4:14-16 - "Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit into Galilee: and there went out a fame of Him through all the region round about. And He taught in their synagogues, being glorified of all. And He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up: and, as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up for to read."

Revelation 1:10 - "I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day." The phrase "Lord's day" is only used one time in all of Scripture. What then could be the Lord's day?

Mark 2:27-28 - "The sabbath was made for man, and not man for the sabbath: Therefore the Son of man is Lord also of the sabbath."

Revelation 22:14 - "Blessed are they that **do His commandments**, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city." Some translations render this "wash their robes" instead of "do His commandments." Both are acceptable, as they both mean the same. Notice **Psalm 119:9-10** - "Wherewithal shall a young man **cleanse his way**? By taking heed thereto according to Thy word. With my whole heart have I sought Thee: O let me not wander from thy **commandments**."

John 14:15 - "If ye love Me, keep my commandments." Jesus was quoting directly from the 2nd commandment of the Ten Commandment Law. Exodus 20:6 says, "Shewing mercy unto thousands of them that **love Me**, and **keep my commandments**."

What made the most holy place the most holy place?

- "Thy city Jerusalem, Thy holy mountain." Daniel 9:16
- "O Jerusalem, the holy city." Isaiah 52:1
- "I worship toward Thy holy temple." Psalm 5:7
- "He goeth in unto the holy place." Exodus 28:29
- "The testimony in the most holy place." Exodus 26:34
- "Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy." Exodus 20:8

(The Sabbath is the only commandment defining who we worship: Name, Title, Territory.)

	God is	Law is
Good	Lk 18:19	1 Tim 1:8
Holy	Is 5:16	Rom 7:12
Perfect	Mt 5:48	Ps 19:7
Pure	1 Jn 3:2-3	Ps 19:8
Just	Dt 32:4	Rom 7:12
True	Jn 3:33	Ps 19:9
Spiritual	1 Cor 10:4	Rom 7:14
Righteousness	Jer 23:6	Ps 119:172
Faithful	1 Cor 1:9	Ps 119:86
Love	1 Jn 4:8	Rom 13:10
Unchangeable	Jms 1:17	Mt 5:18
Eternal	Gen 21:3	Ps 111:7-8
Light	1 Jn 1:5	Pr 6:23

All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God, right? Sin is breaking God's law, and His glory is equal to His character (this can be seen in the story of when Moses asked God to show him His glory. God then answered by revealing His character, **Exodus 33:18-34:9**).

Revelation verses 4-8

144,000 is a number specific to Revelation. The other time the 144,000 are mentioned is in **14:1-5**. They were sealed with God the Father's name on their foreheads. The forehead can refer to the part of the brain where we make moral decisions, the frontal lobe. The 144,000 have chosen to follow God all the way—to have His character in their lives (name is synonymous with character in the Bible: Jacob, Israel; Abram, Abraham; Saul, Paul; James and John, sons of Boanerges; This was the reason why the names of Daniel and his three friends were changed—a failed attempt to change their characters).

Not all the tribes of Israel are mentioned (Dan was switched with the half-tribe of Manasseh, a son of Joseph), and they are out of birth order (**Genesis 30-31**, see the chart below). The number 12,000 is a bit more common in the Bible. Numbers 31:1-24 uses the number 12,000 which can be understood symbolically to represent the end of time (Moses represents those who will be resurrected at the end of time—as Elijah represents those who will not taste of death—which can be seen in the story of the transfiguration of Christ. See Matthew 17. The Midianites sold Joseph, hired Balaam, and were party to lead Israel into apostasy at the Jordon—just before entering Canaan!).

When listing the names of the 144,000 in order with their meanings, there is a 'hidden message.'

Now will I praise the LORD: - Judah – Genesis 29:35 (for) Surely the LORD hath looked upon my affliction – Reuben – Genesis 29:32 (.) A troop cometh – Gad - Genesis 30:11 (and) Happy am I – Asher - Genesis 30:13 (for) With great wrestlings have I wrestled - Naphtali - Genesis 30:8 (and) God... hath made me forget all my toil – Manasseh – Genesis 41:51 (for) The LORD hath heard that I was hated - Simeon - Genesis 29:33 (.) Now this time will my husband be joined unto me - Levi - Genesis 29:34 (.) God hath given me my hire – Issachar - Genesis 30:18 (and) God hath endued me with a good dowry – Zebulun - Genesis 30:20 (and) God hath taken away my reproach – Joseph – Genesis 30:23-24 (for I will be) The son of the right hand – **Benjamin – Genesis 35:18** – margin.

1 Chronicles 25 contains interesting information. King David had "captains of the host separated" "who should prophesy" with music. They "prophesied according to the order of the king." They were numbered. There were 288 of them. They were chosen by casting lots (something people would do to find the will of God, such as in **Acts 2:26**). They were chosen from the "small as the great, the teacher as the scholar." There were 24 divisions of 12 equalling 288. Half of 288 is 144. Half of 24 is 12. This seems interesting as there were 144,000 with divisions of 12,000 in **Revelation 7**… And in **Revelation 14:3** the 144,000 sing a "new song."

Judges 21 - One tribe was lacking, but the C.o.I. repented for causing it. 12,000 men were summoned to kill the men and the women who were defiled. Brought virgins to Canaan.

2 Samuel 17 - Ahithophel, someone with a grudge against David which is a type of Christ, spoke to Absalom the arch-enemy suggesting they gather 12,000 to attack the Leader only. Hushai, a friend of David, suggested the arch-enemy show up in person to defeat all of them at the same time. It was the Lord's plan, yet it was to defeat Absalom. This will happen in reality at the end of time. The arch-enemy will impersonate Christ, showing up personally to deceive all the people upon whom the death sentence had been passed—the faithful followers of Christ.

Notice this study regarding who Israel is:

- Israel dreamed of a ladder reaching heaven where angels ascended and descended, Genesis 28:12
 A. Jesus was the Ladder reaching heaven with angels ascending and descending, John 1:51
- Joseph, a child of Israel, dreamed of Egypt, Genesis 37:5-8
 A. Joseph, a child of Israel, dreamed of Egypt, Matthew 2:13
- Joseph was given a second dream about Egypt Genesis 37:9-10
 A. Joseph, father of the Child Israel, was given a second dream in Egypt Matthew 2:19-20
- 4. While the children of Israel were in Egypt all of the male children were killed, Exodus 1:22A. While the Child Israel was in Egypt all of the male children were killed, Matthew 2:16
- The children of Israel came out of Egypt, Exodus 12:30-32
 A. The Child Israel came out of Egypt, Matthew 2:20-21
- 6. The children of Israel were baptized in water, Exodus 14:21-22, 1 Corinthians 10:1-2
 A. The Child Israel was baptized in water, Matthew 3:16
- 7. The children of Israel went into the wilderness after baptism for 40..., Exodus 15:22, Acts 7:36
 A. The Child Israel went into the wilderness after baptism for 40..., Matthew 4:1-2
- The children of Israel were fed with bread which comes down from Heaven, Exodus 16:14-15
 A. The children of Israel were fed with Bread which came down from Heaven, John 6:48-51
- 9. The children of Israel were offered water from a rock, Exodus 17:6A. The children of Israel were offered Water from the Rock, John 7:37-38
- 10. By command of the father, the leader of Israel **appointed able men** to be heads or rulers to judge the twelve tribes of Israel, **Exodus 18:24-26**
 - A. By command of the Father, the Leader, Israel, **appointed able men** to be heads or rulers to judge the twelve tribes of Israel, **Matthew 19:27-28**
- 11. The law of God was proclaimed by Jesus to Israel from a mountain, Exodus 19:16 20:18A. The law of God was proclaimed by Jesus to Israel from a mountain, Matthew 5:1 7:29
- 12. The old covenant with twelve tribes was ratified by blood, Exodus 24:7-8A. The new covenant with twelve apostles was ratified by blood, John 19:34
- 13. God wished for a sanctuary so that He may dwell among the children of Israel, Exodus 25:8A. God wishes for a sanctuary to dwell among the spiritual children of Israel, 1 Corinthians 3:16

-In the Old Testament the **entire nation** of Israel came through one man, Jacob. -In the New Testament the **entire Israel** of God comes through One Man, Jesus.

"When Israel was a child, then I loved Him, and called My Son out of Egypt." Hosea 11:1, Matthew 2:13-15. (See 2 Corinthians 1:19-20.)

"If ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise." Galatians 3:29

Genesis 29-35 Order (Their birth)	Genesis 49 Order (The blessings)	Exodus 1 Order (Going to Egypt)	IChronicles 2 Order (The records)	Revelation 7 Order (The sealing)
1. Reuben - Leah	1. Reuben - Leah	1. Reuben - Leah	1. Reuben – Leah	4. Judah - Leah
2. Simeon - Leah	2. Simeon - Leah	2. Simeon - Leah	2. Simeon – Leah	1. Reuben - Leah
3. Levi - Leah	3. Levi – Leah	3. Levi - Leah	3. Levi - Leah	7. Gad - Zilpah
4. Judah - Leah	4. Judah - Leah	4. Judah - Leah	4. Judah – Leah	8. Asher – Zilpah
5. Dan - Bilhah	10. Zebulun - Leah	9. Issachar - Leah	9. Issachar – Leah	6. Naphtali - Bilhah
6. Naphtali - Bilhah	9. Issachar - Leah	10. Zebulun - Leah	10. Zebulon – Leah	Manasseh-(5. Dan?)
7. Gad - Zilpah	5. Dan - Bilhah	12. Benjamin - Rachel	5. Dan – Bilhah	2. Simeon - Leah
8. Asher - Zilpah	7. Gad - Zilpah	5. Dan - Bilhah	11. Joseph – Rachel	3. Levi - Leah
9. Issachar - Leah	8. Asher - Zilpah	6. Naphtali - Bilhah	12. Benjamin–Rachel	9. Issachar - Leah
10. Zebulun - Leah	6. Naphtali - Bilhah	7. Gad - Zilpah	6. Naphtali – Bilhah	10. Zebulun - Leah
11. Joseph - Rachel	11. Joseph - Rachel	8. Asher - Zilpah	7. Gad – Zilpah	11. Joseph - Rachel
12. Benjamin - Rachel	12. Benjamin - Rachel	11. Joseph - Rachel	8. Asher - Zilpah	12. Benjamin - Rachel

With a symbolic seal to be put symbolically on our foreheads, with the earth, sea, and trees to be kept safe from a symbolic wind, why should we say the number 144,000 is literal? Symbolic or literal, it will be a small number (Flood, 8 - Sodom, 3 - Wilderness, 2 - Furnace, 3 - Lions den, 1 - Elijah in the wilderness, 1 etc. [all stories referenced are symbolic of the end of time, each can illustrate the 144,000, and each have a different number of those who are faithful]).

Verses 9-12

The great multitude stood before the throne which will be <u>on the earth</u> after the millennium. Palm branches prove the location of the earth to be true, as they were used in the feast of tabernacles which, in antitype, will be fulfilled after the 1,000 years - **Leviticus**, 23:34-40, **Revelation 21:3**. See **Psalm 92:12**.

Verses 13-17

The great tribulation is past tense in these verses, meaning, the people who are arrayed in white had already come out of that troublous time. They certainly could be the 144,000, but if they are, they are pictured on the earth after the 1,000 years or millennium (because they are holding palm branches, showing the fulfillment of tabernacles). See **Deuteronomy 4:27-31**, **Psalm 91:3-12**, **Daniel 12:1-3**, **Matthew 24:20-31**, **John 16:33**. Also, it is in this context of the fulfillment of the feast of tabernacles, after the 1,000 years—as in **Revelation 7:15** and **21:4**—when God will wipe away all tears from their eyes.

The book of **James** could be a book applicable for the 144,000. "To the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad..." (**James 1:1, Revelation 7:4-8**). James desires all to have "patience" as saints (**James 1:4, Revelation 14:12**). James calls people to know what sin is and to overcome it, "Do not err..." and "they are without fault...." (**James 1:12-18, Revelation 14:5**). James calls all to be a "doer of the work," referring to "the perfect law of liberty" (**James 1:22-25, Revelation 14:12**). James speaks of "pure religion and undefiled" (**James 1:27, Revelation 14:4**). James calls for all to have no "guile" in their mouths (**James 3, Revelation 14:5**), and much more.

Please request sermon notes or video presentations of any topic you may have questions about. There is a good chance someone has covered that topic and I would be happy to send you any information available: <u>www.RevelationWithDaniel.com/contact</u>.

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