

Ch 12,13 - SAVAGE Beasts EARTH – ch 14 - SOMBER Judgment in HEAVEN

Xtians WONDER? What about ME? – Are YOU Wondering? I AM!

a. Peace

v. 1 “Then I looked” v. 6 “Then I saw” v. 13 “Then I heard” v. 14 “I looked”
NOT WHEN EVENTS OCCURRED but Rather WHEN SEEN by JOHN
ORDER of REVELATION EVENT > *and then God showed me, and then...*

Stephen SAW JESUS IN GLORY > Even as STONES Crushed his LIFE Away
SCENE CHANGE > While Counterfeit Unholy Trinity Rages on EARTH
Same Time in HEAVEN > True & Living God REIGNS in TRIUNE FULNESS

v. 1 “Then I looked, and there before me was the Lamb, standing on Mount Zion”

John sees the Lamb > True & Authentic Lamb > Distinct from False Lamb
Standing > Alive and Strong > Standing on Mount Zion > Mtn of Divine Grace
BEAST stood on SAND > LORD standing on HOLY MOUNTAIN

“the Jerusalem that is above is free”

Galatians 4.26

“everyone who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved; for *on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there will be deliverance*”

Joel 2.32

"I have installed my King on Zion, my holy hill."

Psalms 2.6

“You have come to Mount Zion, to the heavenly Jerusalem, the city of the living God. You have come to thousands upon thousands of angels in joyful assembly, to the church of the firstborn, whose names are written in heaven” Hebrews 12.22-23

Dragon Lost BATTLE and WILL LOOSE the WAR

b. Protection

v. 1 “with him 144,000 who had his name and his Father's name written on their foreheads”

Revelation 7: 144,000 COMPLETENESS: WHOLE CHURCH of Jesus Christ

Confronted by ENEMIES on Earth > Comforted by SAVIOR in Heaven

“God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus”
Ephesians 2.6

Repetition of Number > None Lost > All those SEALED will be SAVED

“The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him. They will see his face, and *his name will be on their foreheads.*”
Revelation 22.3,4

“Although the dragon has tried his utmost to make them unfaithful to their Lord, and although he has employed two beasts to assist him, not a single one of the 144,000 is missing.”
William Hendriksen

BEASTS Mark > Not a ‘Seal’ > Seal is sign of PROTECTION and SECURITY

“Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession--to the praise of his glory.”
Ephesians 1.13,14

Beasts Mark offers NO PROTECTION from the COMING WRATH of God

Empty Hope those w/ Mark of Beast, Shattered like Pottery when Son Appears

The destiny of every person is determined by the mark that person bears. When judgment comes there will be no room for ambiguity; people will have their “mark” declared by their master.
Robert H. Mounce

c. Praise

vs. 2,3 And I heard a sound from heaven like the roar of rushing waters and like a loud peal of thunder. The sound I heard was like that of harpists playing their harps. And they sang a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and the elders. No one could learn the song except the 144,000 who had been redeemed from the earth.

Redeemed Kingdom of Priests: Sing New Song before Throne of God

PRAISE Characteristic MARK of Christian NOW > Seen by Eye of FAITH
NOT Color, Culture > X in You – GLOBAL Family celebrate PALM Sunday

‘HEAVEN’ Not a GEOGRAPHICAL Reference > Another Dimension
Loud and Melodic > Roar of Ocean > Sound of Thunder > Ensemble of Harps

VOICE > Overpowering Strength and Heartbreaking Sweetness
Greek Word here for NEW > Something made New from Former State
New Song sung ONLY by Redeemed > Have Experienced Deliverance
Those who have been FORGIVEN MUCH will LOVE MUCH

CHRISTIANS SING!! > One of GREAT EVIDENCES of Truth of GOSPEL

Wherever and Whenever People Redeemed > Praise: CONFIDENCE in X
Songs > Their Languages > Their Musical Styles > Quite Diverse and Unique
4 yrs Anglican churches Lugbara, AIRPLANE Song “*Nearrrrrer My God to Thee*”
“He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire; he set my feet on a
rock and gave me a firm place to stand. He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn
of praise to our God.” Psalm 40.2,3

INTENSITY of Singing > DENSE, sense of SHEER GLORY of God

IF you are not FILLED with Joy & Rapture of Jesus NOW – Going to Heaven?
Do you think DEATH will make you BETTER SINGER? No Biblical PROOF
You’ll be Terribly BORED in Heaven if you Cannot PRAISE God Here & Now
d. Purity

v. 4 These are those who did not defile themselves with women, for they kept
themselves pure.

By 2nd century, Marcion had established a church solely for celibates.

Origen > Great Theologian & Apologist > Castrated himself to insure Chastity
21st C. > CELIBACY Still Requirement for Leadership in Some Denomin.

ALL of the TOTALLY MISSED the Point of TRUE MEANING!

At first blush it seems to be a radically chauvinistic statement, eliminating from redemption half of the church and demeaning half of the human race...the vision is portraying the faithful as those who have not committed adultery with the harlot, Fallen Babylon, but have kept themselves “virgins” for their bridegroom, the Lamb.
M. Robert Mulholland, Jr.

God’s 1st Command: *Be Fruitful and Multiply* > Several Apostles were Married

LIKE much of Revelation > VIRGINITY = SYMBOL – HOLY People of God:

“O Virgin Daughter of Zion” Lamentations 2.13

UNFAITHFULNESS > Symbolized as Improper Sexual Relationships

"Their deeds do not permit them to return to their God. A spirit of prostitution is in their heart; they do not acknowledge the LORD."
Hosea 5.4

Followers of LAMB > Characterized by LOYALTY > Pictured by Virginit

“I promised you to one husband, to Christ, so that I might present you as a pure virgin to him...sincere and pure devotion to Christ.” 2 Corinthians 11.2,3

Soldier URIAH More Righteous than King David who stole U’s wife Bathsheba

v. 5 No lie was found in their mouths; they are blameless.

“The remnant of Israel will do no wrong; they will speak no lies, nor will deceit be found in their mouths.”
Zephaniah 3.13

REJECT the LIE > Lies of the Dragon, Anti-Christ, and False Prophet

e. Purpose v. 4 They follow the Lamb wherever he goes.

As Jesus walked beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will make you fishers of men." At once they left their nets and followed him.
Mark 1.16-18

DISCIPLE = ‘follower’ > CORE IDENTITY > Turn from Sin & Self to Christ

New Master > New Destiny > New Purpose > Part of God's Eternal Plan

"If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me."
Mark 8:34

"following the Lamb wherever he goes" calls for an abandonment of our lives to God in all things. Our agenda, our plans, our purposes, our wants, our needs, our desires, our goals, all become expendable for God's purposes M. Robert Mulholland, Jr.

f. Purchased

v. 4 purchased from among men and offered as firstfruits to God and the Lamb.

Redeemed from All Humanity, not just Israel > God's Restored Kingdom

"with your blood you purchased men for God from every tribe and language and people and nation"
Revelation 5.9

Firstfruits > All the Redeemed "He chose to give us birth through the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of all he created." James 1.18

Earth > Rebellious Realm of Evil Mankind > Saints "purchased" from There
"Redeemed *from the EARTH*" > Word of Hope > Possible to BE CHANGED

Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God. 1 Corinthians 6.9-11

DIRTY Laundry LIST of Sin > We are ALL in there SOMEWHERE!

SAVIOR who JUSTIFIES / SPIRIT who SANCTIFIES / GOD who SAVES!