The Sealed
Revelation 7

**Main Thought**  God sealed 144,000 **Jews** (1-8) as witnesses upon the earth resulting in a great multitude of **Saved Gentiles** (9-17) who were martyred for their faith.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sealed Jews (7:1-8)</th>
<th>Saved Gentiles (7:9-17)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Numbered – 144,000</td>
<td>Not numbered – not possible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sealed on earth</td>
<td>Standing in heaven</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**The Sealed Jews (1-8).**

- The **four corners** (20:8; Isa. 11:12) are equivalent to all the earth (Matt. 24:31).
- The lack of wind indicates a pause before the storm (Revelation 7 forms a parenthesis between the 6th (ch. 6) and 7th (ch. 8) seals; 10:1-11:14 forms a parenthesis between the 6th (ch. 9) and 7th (11:15) trumpets).
- Angels (Heb. 2:14) were assigned to seemingly everything (4 winds [1]; seal [2]; churches [2:1 ff]; fire [14:18]; water [16:5]; children [Matt. 18:10]).
- A seal indicates ownership and protection (Ezek. 9:4-6). Of course the antichrist duplicates this seal with his Mark of the Beast (13:16-17).
- Today believers are sealed with the Holy Spirit (22:4; Eph. 1:13-14).
- These seals were to be put on the foreheads (Ex. 13:9) to protect them.
- Before God judges, He saves! Here, His 144,000 witnesses (1 Kings 19:18).
- 12,000 from each of the 12 tribes shows that there are no lost tribes of Israel for God knows who they are.
- There are anomalies here: (1) Judah (Gen. 49:10 – Messiah) placed before the eldest Reuben; (2) Levi here, but no land; (3) Dan omitted (Iraenus: antichrist from Dan [idolatry – Jud. 18:13]?); (4) Joseph listed instead of Ephraim.

**The Saved Gentiles (9-17).**

- **Accepted** (9, 13-14): Not OT or church saints, but tribulation saints worldwide (5:9; Mk. 16:15 – every creature; John 3:16). John did not recognize these future saints (13-14a).
- They were rejected on earth, but accepted (Rom. 15:7) in heaven.
- Palm branches symbolize dwelling with God (Feast of Tabernacles – Lev. 23:40).
- Joyful (10-12): Both God (1 Tim. 1:1) and Christ (Tit. 1:4) are Savior.
- All rejoiced for salvation, even the angels (Luke 15:10; 1 Pet. 1:10-12).
- The sevenfold attributes (5:12) of God are bracketed by Amen!
- **Rewarded** (15-17): the saints are serving God – there is work to do in heaven – we are all priests of God both now and then (Rom. 12:1; 1 Pet. 2:9).
- God will take care of them (tent spreading – 12:12; 13:6; 21:3; John 1:14) in His eternal tent (tent spreading – Ruth 3:9; Isa. 54:2, 4).
- Never again / No more is our promise (21:4) – he will care for us (Isa. 49:10).
- We have a shepherd (Matt. 9:36) and living water (Jer. 2:13) unlike many.