

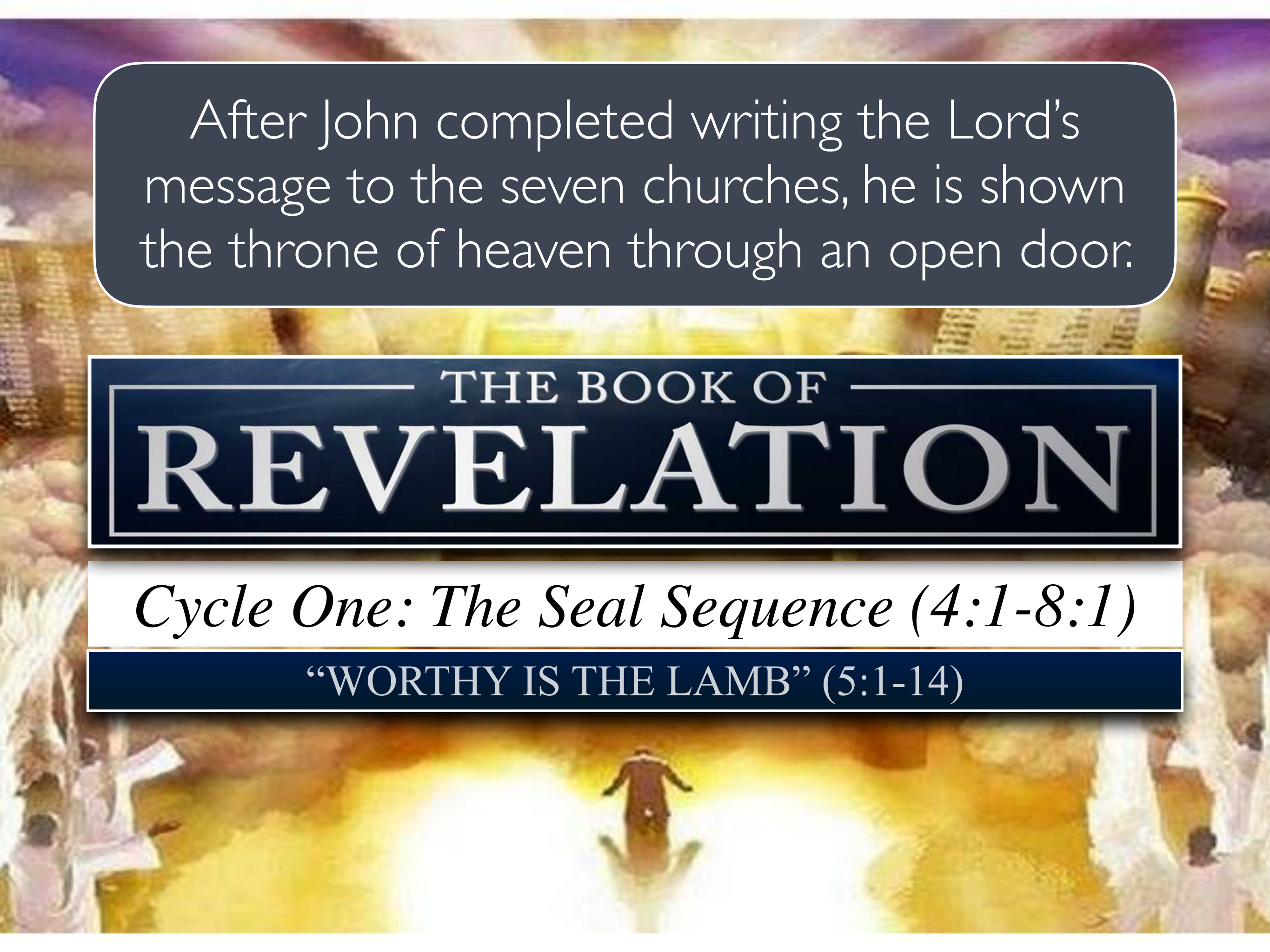
³ Blessed *is* he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written in it; for the time *is* near. —
Revelation 1:3 (NKJV)

A man with a long white beard and hair, wearing a simple brown robe, is seated in a desert landscape. He is holding a scroll in his left hand and a quill in his right, writing on it. The background shows rolling hills and a clear sky.

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle One: The Seal Sequence (4:1-8:1)

“BLESSEDNESS OF THE REDEEMED (7:1-17)



After John completed writing the Lord's message to the seven churches, he is shown the throne of heaven through an open door.

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle One: The Seal Sequence (4:1-8:1)

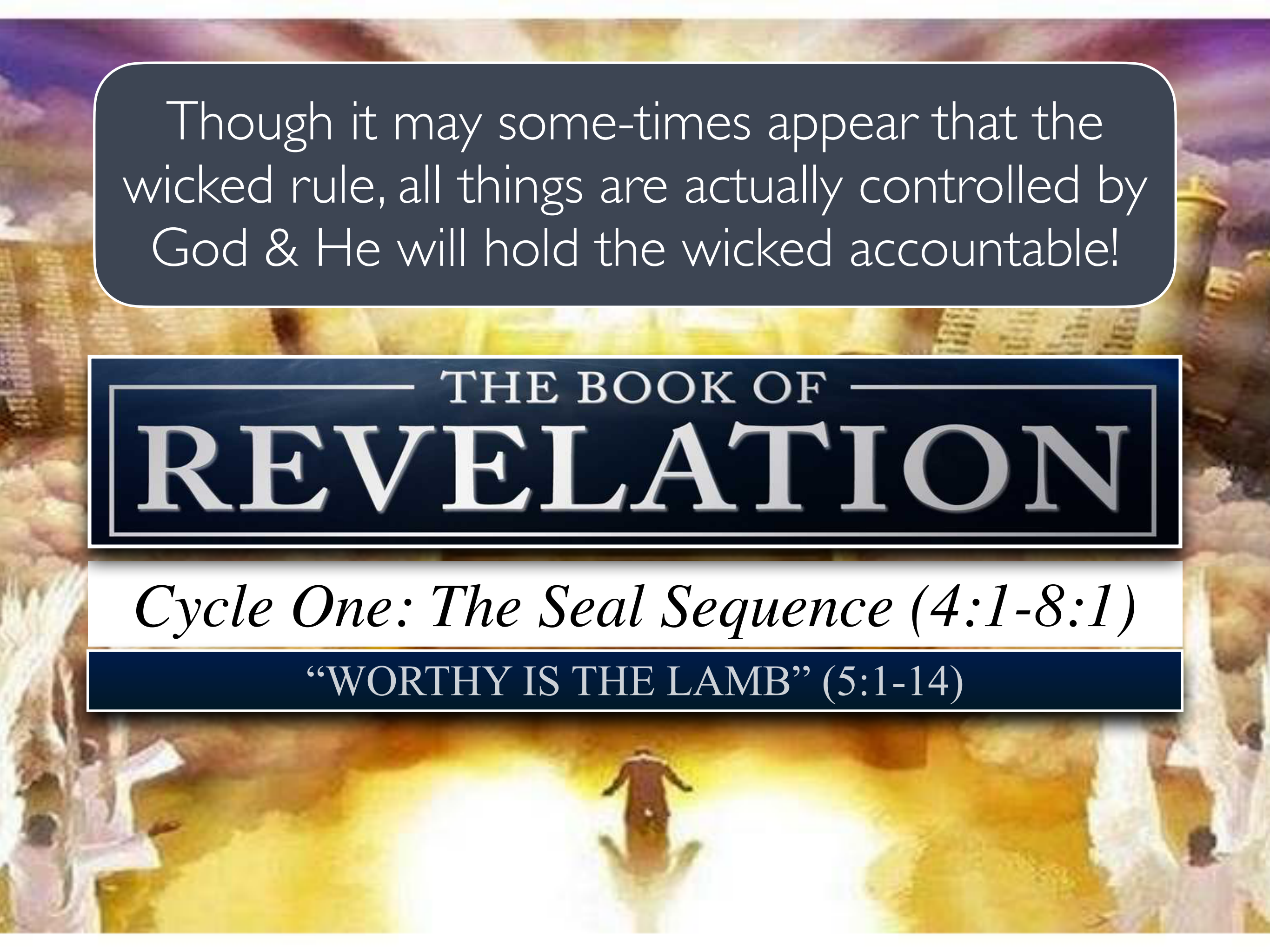
“WORTHY IS THE LAMB” (5:1-14)

Chapters four and five present the sovereignty of God who is on his throne and whose righteous rule is vindicated by the work of Christ.

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle One: The Seal Sequence (4:1-8:1)

“WORTHY IS THE LAMB” (5:1-14)



Though it may some-times appear that the wicked rule, all things are actually controlled by God & He will hold the wicked accountable!

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle One: The Seal Sequence (4:1-8:1)

“WORTHY IS THE LAMB” (5:1-14)

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle One: The Seal Sequence (4:1-8:1)

“THE FIRST SIX SEALS OPENED” (6:1-17)



- The **imagery** and **symbols** in Revelation are necessary in comprehending the **BIG PICTURE** - but if we focus too much on the imagery and symbols we can easily **MISS** the **BIG PICTURE**.
- The **BIG PICTURE** in chapters 6-8:1 is clearly **GOD WILL TAKE VENGEANCE** upon those who persecute His people.
- **The 7 seals are the first of 3 7's**

7 TRUMPETS - Rev. 8, 9
God's Call To Repentance



7 SEALS - Rev. 6-8:1
God's Judgment Is Coming



7 BOWLS - Rev. 16
God's Wrath Is Full



THE WICKED

All three series of sevens are simultaneous, and the focus is with the "things which must shortly come to pass" (1:1).

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle One: The Seal Sequence (4:1-8:1)

“THE FIRST SIX SEALS OPENED” (6:1-17)



- A series of three “7’s” — 7 seals (6:1-8:5); 7 trumpets (8:6-9:21); and 7 bowls of wrath (15:1-16:21).
- These run parallel to each other in a recapitulation pattern with God’s judgments being increased increased in intensity.
- John describes them one after the other by revealing from different viewpoints the judging and restraining action of God.

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle One: The Seal Sequence (4:1-8:1)

“THE FIRST SIX SEALS OPENED” (6:1-17)



- The First Seal: The White Horse (6:1-2)
- The Second Seal: The Red Horse (6:3-4)
- The Third Seal: The Black Horse (6:5-6)
- The Fourth Seal: The Pale Horse (6:7-8)
- The Fifth Seal: The Martyred Saints (6:9-11)
- The Sixth Seal: The Earthquake and Judgment (6:12-17)
- The Seventh Seal: Silence In Heaven, The Seven Trumpets (8:1-5)

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle One: The Seal Sequence (4:1-8:1)

“BLESSEDNESS OF THE REDEEMED (7:1-17)”



- A question is raised in the 6th seal: which speaks of “the coming great day of the wrath of God and of the Lamb,” - “Who is able to stand?” (6:17),
- This question is answered in our text - The 144,000 and the countless multitude are able to stand and will be blessed.(7:1-17).
- This text is commonly called the “interlude” or “parenthesis” before the breaking of the seventh seal - but is more of a pinnacle than a pause.

Revelation 7:1–17 (NKJV)

¹ After these things I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, on the sea, or on any tree. ² Then I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God. And he cried with a loud voice to the four angels to whom it was granted to harm the earth and the sea, ³ saying, “Do not harm the earth, the sea, or the trees till we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads.” ⁴ And I heard the number of those who were sealed. One hundred *and* forty-four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel *were* sealed:

Revelation 7:1–17 (NKJV)

⁵ of the tribe of Judah twelve thousand *were* sealed; of the tribe of Reuben twelve thousand *were* sealed; of the tribe of Gad twelve thousand *were* sealed; ⁶ of the tribe of Asher twelve thousand *were* sealed; of the tribe of Naphtali twelve thousand *were* sealed; of the tribe of Manasseh twelve thousand *were* sealed; ⁷ of the tribe of Simeon twelve thousand *were* sealed; of the tribe of Levi twelve thousand *were* sealed; of the tribe of Issachar twelve thousand *were* sealed; ⁸ of the tribe of Zebulun twelve thousand *were* sealed; of the tribe of Joseph twelve thousand *were* sealed; of the tribe of Benjamin twelve thousand *were* sealed.

Revelation 7:1–17 (NKJV)

⁹ After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands, ¹⁰ and crying out with a loud voice, saying, “Salvation *belongs* to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!” ¹¹ All the angels stood around the throne and the elders and the four living creatures, and fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹² saying: “Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom, Thanksgiving and honor and power and might, *Be* to our God forever and ever. Amen.”

Revelation 7:1–17 (NKJV)

¹³ Then one of the elders answered, saying to me, “Who are these arrayed in white robes, and where did they come from?” ¹⁴ And I said to him, “Sir, you know.” So he said to me, “These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. ¹⁵ Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His temple. And He who sits on the throne will dwell among them. ¹⁶ They shall neither hunger anymore nor thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any heat; ¹⁷ for the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them and lead them to living fountains of waters. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle One: The Seal Sequence (4:1-8:1)

“BLESSEDNESS OF THE REDEEMED (7:1-17)”

Revelation 7:1 (NKJV)

¹ After these things I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, on the sea, or on any tree.

- “four angels standing at the four corners of the earth” - i.e., the entire surface of the earth. (NOT SPEAKING OF JERUSALEM).
- “holding the four winds of the earth ...” - Temporarily holding back the coming destruction.
- This judgment is about to take place, “for the great day of his wrath is come” (6:17), but something else **MUST** occur first.

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle One: The Seal Sequence (4:1-8:1)

“BLESSEDNESS OF THE REDEEMED (7:1-17)”

Revelation 7:2–3 (NKJV)

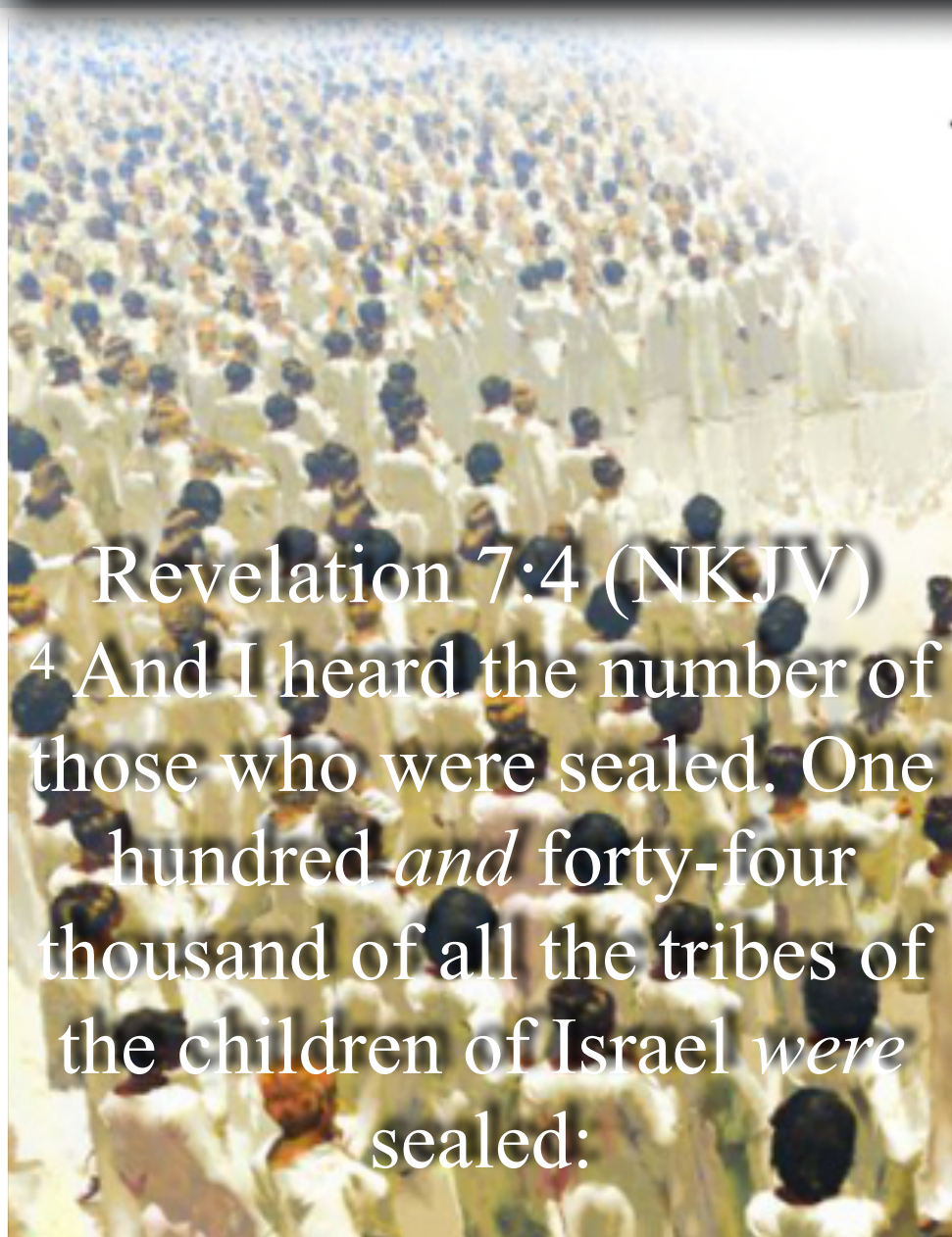
² Then I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God. And he cried with a loud voice to the four angels to whom it was granted to harm the earth and the sea, ³ saying, “Do not harm the earth, the sea, or the trees till we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads.”

- Before the 4 winds are turned loose, an angel cries to hold them in check so God can seal those who belong to Him.
- A seal indicates: (a) protection (Mt. 27:66); (b) ownership (S. of Sol. 8:6); and certification (Esth. 3:12); (cf. Ezek. 9:1-11).
- Christians are under God's protection and certified by the Spirit to be the sons of God (Eph. 1:13; Rom. 8:16).

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle One: The Seal Sequence (4:1-8:1)

“BLESSEDNESS OF THE REDEEMED (7:1-17)”



Revelation 7:4 (NKJV)

⁴ And I heard the number of those who were sealed. One hundred *and* forty-four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel *were* sealed:

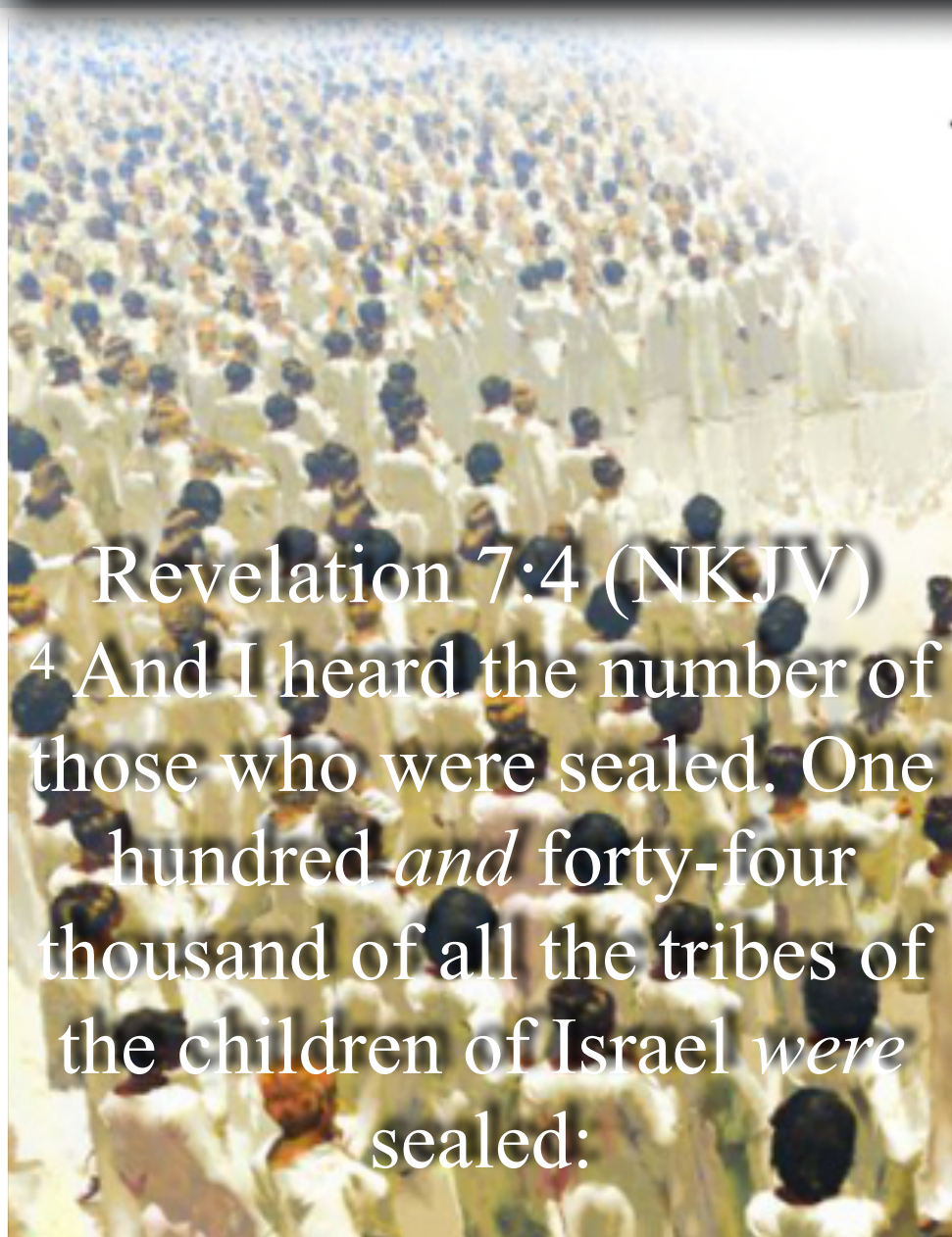
■ 144,000 On Earth Are Sealed (7:4-8)

- ▶ (12,000 times 12, the number of the original 12 tribes of Israel) represent the complete number of God's remaining people who serve Him on the earth.
- ▶ Assurance is given that God knows and protects them all (2 Tim. 2:19).

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle One: The Seal Sequence (4:1-8:1)

“BLESSEDNESS OF THE REDEEMED (7:1-17)



Revelation 7:4 (NKJV)

⁴ And I heard the number of those who were sealed. One hundred *and* forty-four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel *were* sealed:

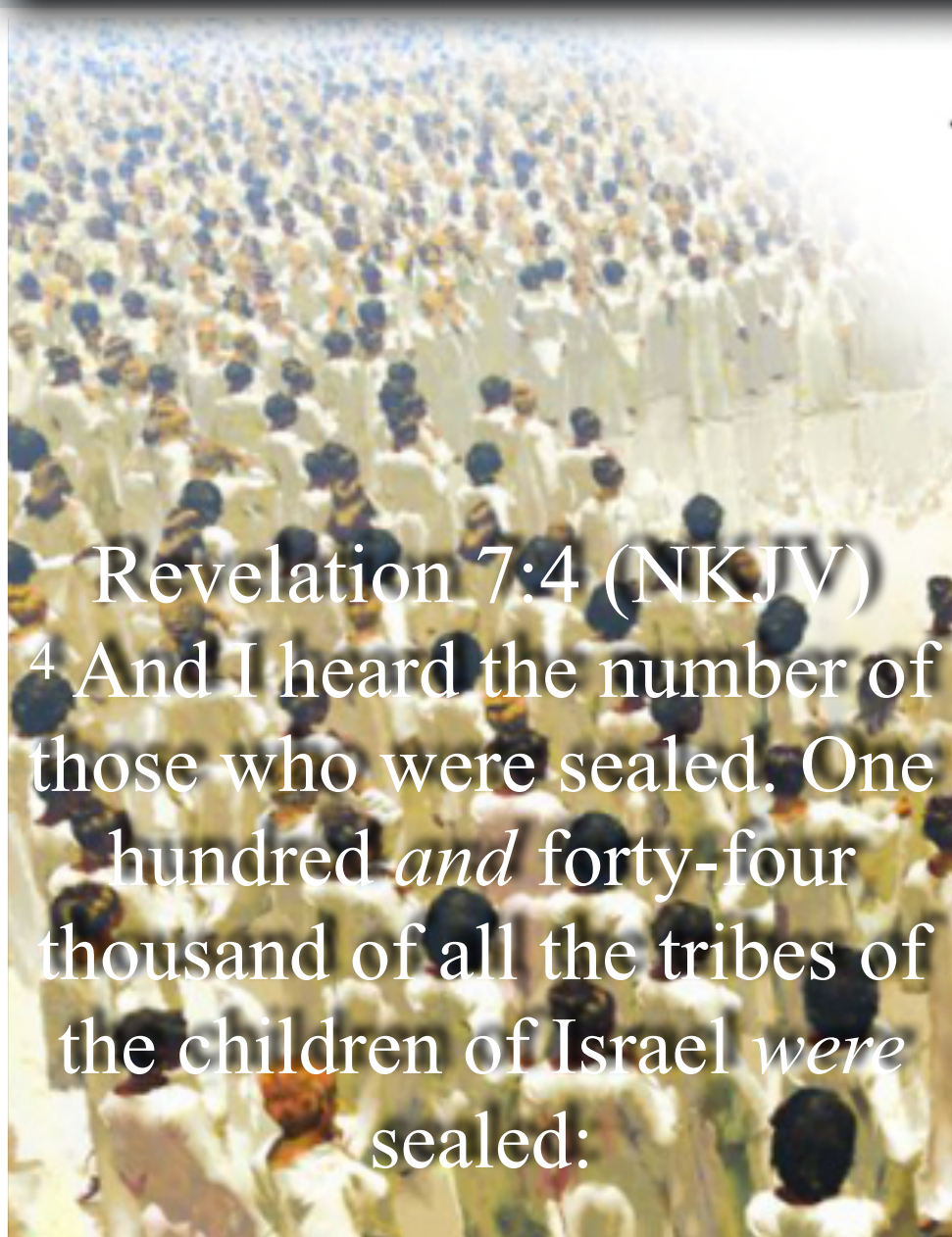
■ 144,000 On Earth Are Sealed (7:4-8)

- ▶ The 12 tribes of Israel signifies God's covenant people. The church, in fact, is referred to as the “twelve tribes” (Matt. 19:28; Luke 22:30; Jas. 1:1).
- ▶ These people are not literal fleshly Jews, but comprise the spiritual “Israel of God” (Gal. 6:16; Rom. 2:28-29).

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle One: The Seal Sequence (4:1-8:1)

“BLESSEDNESS OF THE REDEEMED (7:1-17)”



Revelation 7:4 (NKJV)

⁴ And I heard the number of those who were sealed. One hundred *and* forty-four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel *were* sealed:

■ 144,000 On Earth Are Sealed (7:4-8)

- ▶ Dan & Ephraim omitted? - Neither are loyal representatives of God's people.
- ▶ Ephraim led Israel into idolatry through Jeroboam (1 Kings 11:26; 12:25-33),
- ▶ Dan left his inheritance, moved north to Laish and practiced idolatry (Judges 18).

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle One: The Seal Sequence (4:1-8:1)

“BLESSEDNESS OF THE REDEEMED (7:1-17)”

Revelation 7:9 (NKJV)

⁹ After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands,

■ Saints Are Viewed As Triumphant (7:9-17)

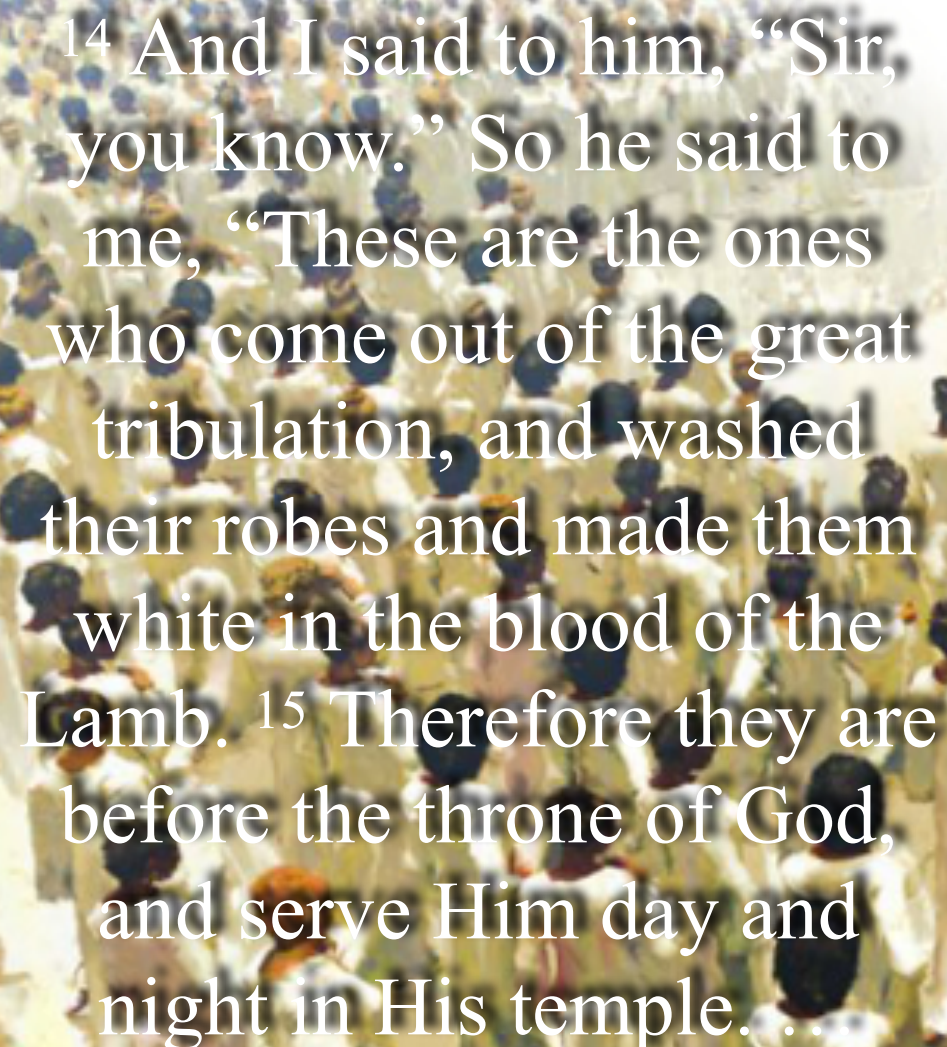
- ▶ The 144,000 are now seen in a future state, redeemed from the earth (14:1-5).
- ▶ The great multitude includes the souls of those in 6:9-11 and 20:4.
- ▶ Every nation and tongue were represented, all redeemed by the blood of the Lamb (5:9; Mk 16:15-16; Mt. 28:19; Col. 1:5,6,23).

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle One: The Seal Sequence (4:1-8:1)

“BLESSEDNESS OF THE REDEEMED (7:1-17)”

Revelation 7:14–15
(NKJV)

14 And I said to him, “Sir, you know.” So he said to me, “These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. 15 Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His temple....”

Saints Are Viewed As Triumphant (7:9-17)

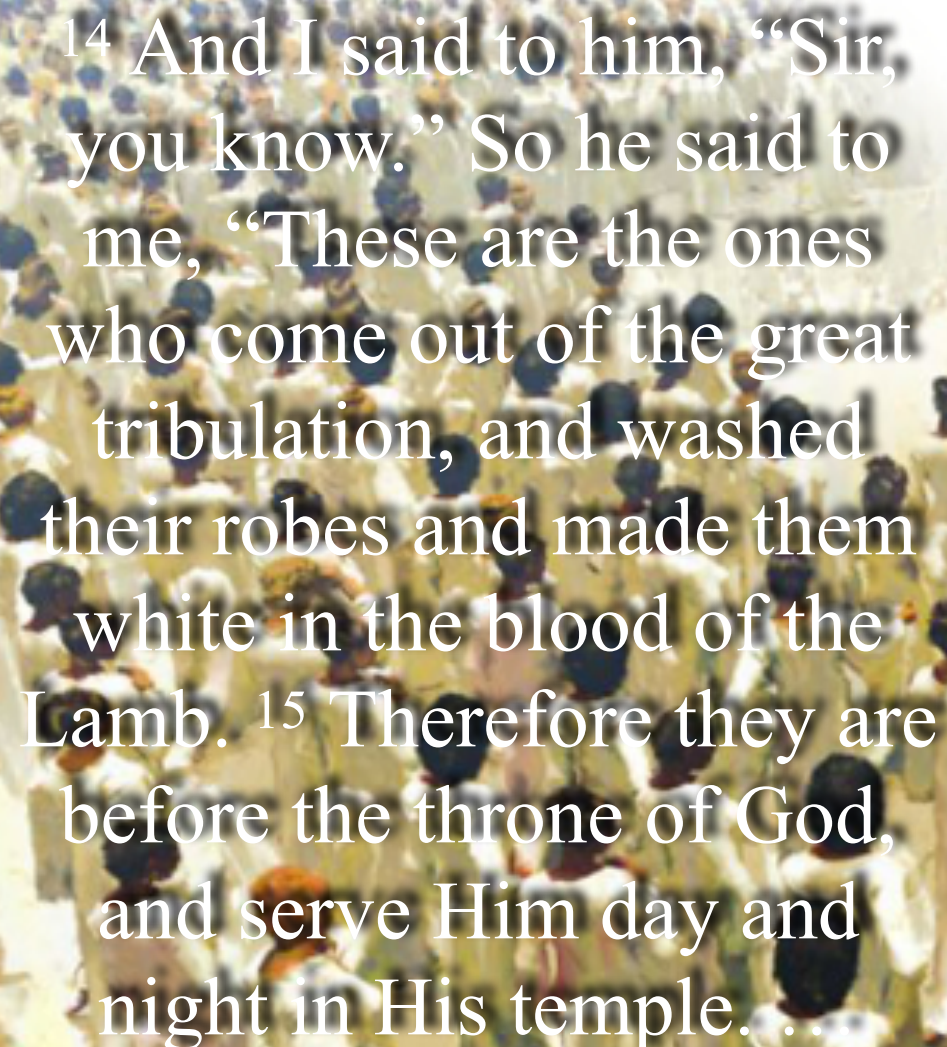
- ▶ This is a vision of great encouragement, for it pictures those who have come out of “the great tribulation and have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb” (7:14).
- ▶ The stabilizing anchor of the soul is hope (Heb. 6:19).

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle One: The Seal Sequence (4:1-8:1)

“BLESSEDNESS OF THE REDEEMED (7:1-17)”

Revelation 7:14–15
(NKJV)

14 And I said to him, “Sir, you know.” So he said to me, “These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. 15 Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His temple. ...”

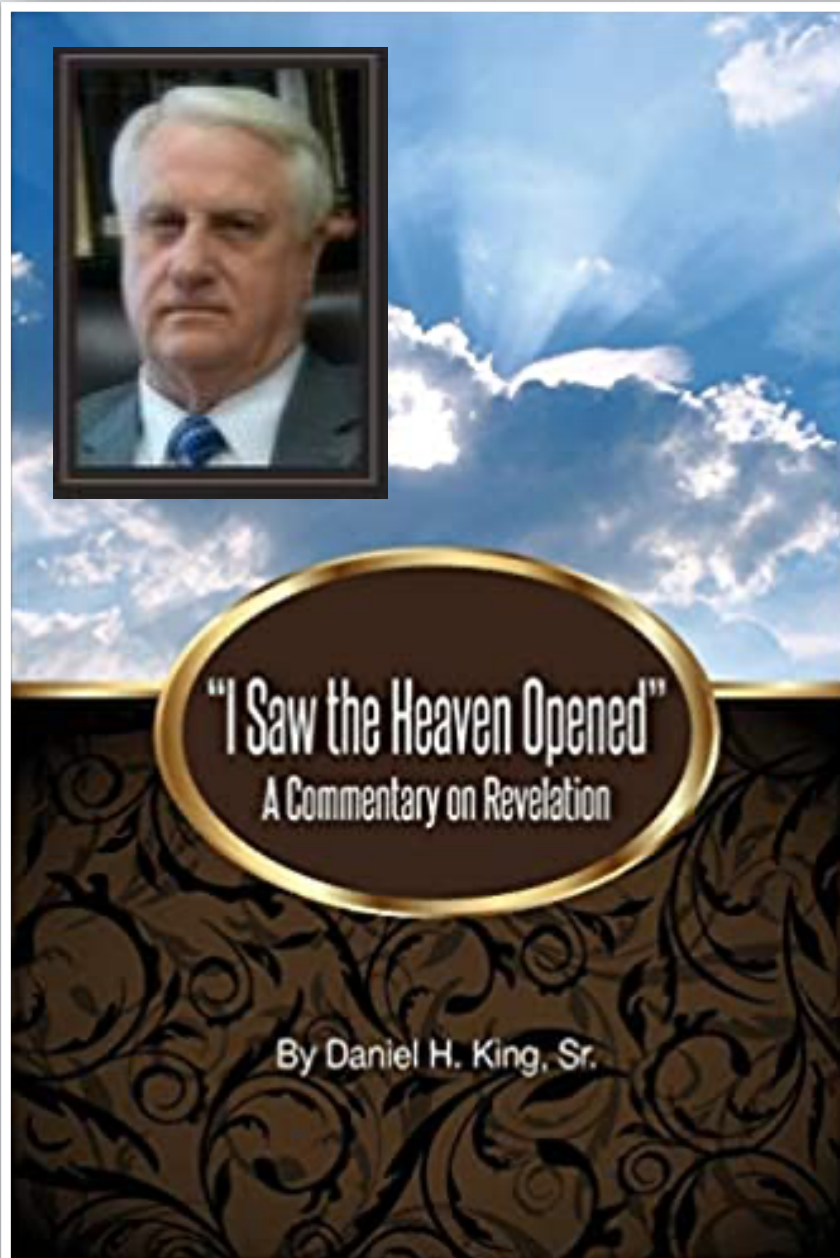
Saints Are Viewed As Triumphant (7:9-17)

- ▶ “The great tribulation?”
 - ◆ Premillennialism: Future
 - ◆ A.D. 70 that befell the people in Jerusalem at the time of its destruction (Matt. 24:21, 29).
 - ◆ Experienced by the saints contemporary with John during the Roman period.
 - ◆ All (Acts 14:22; 2 Tim. 3:12)

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle One: The Seal Sequence (4:1-8:1)

“BLESSEDNESS OF THE REDEEMED (7:1-17)”

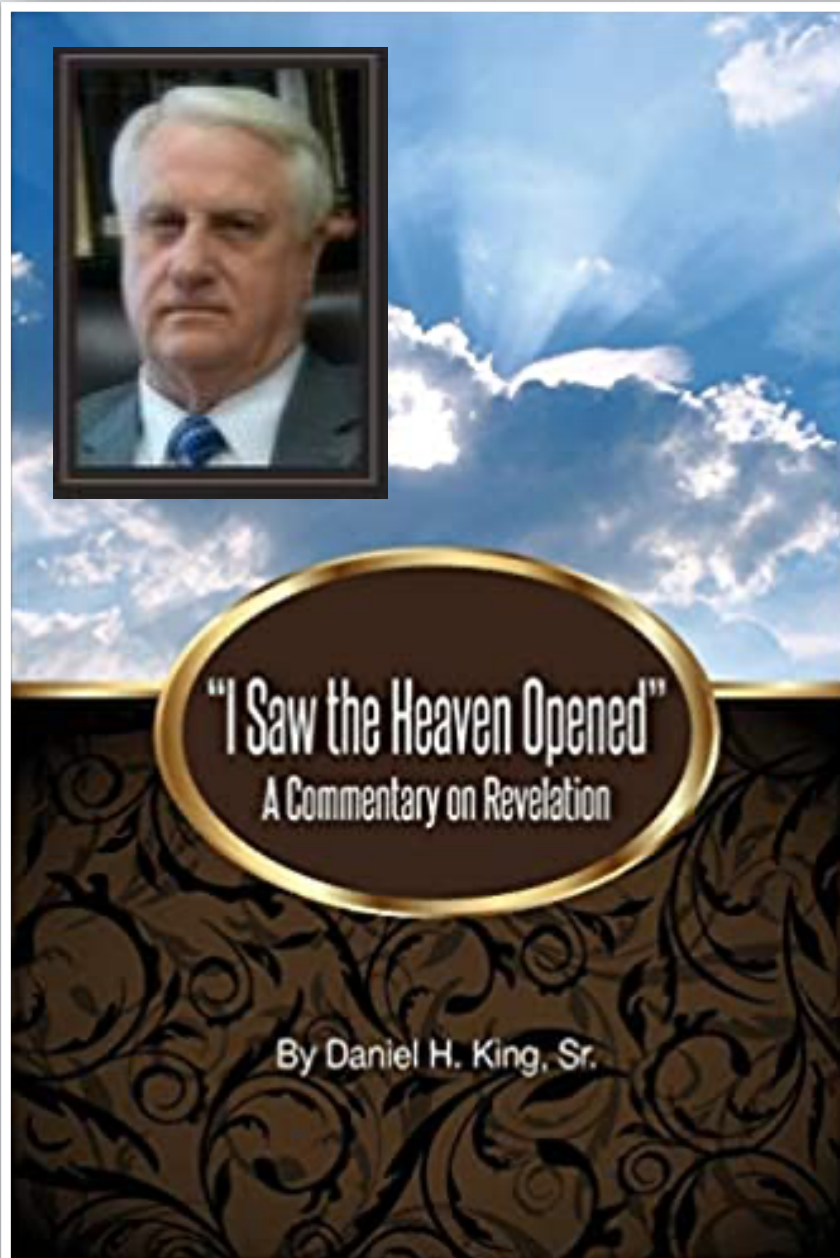


“And so in a sense the writer draws aside for a brief moment in time the curtain of eternity to reveal the end product of God’s plan for redeeming and preserving His faithful people. It is a view into God’s throne room when all of His children are finally gathered about His throne to give Him praise for all of His mighty works and wonders and signs, most especially those that have brought about their own deliverance. ...”

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle One: The Seal Sequence (4:1-8:1)

“BLESSEDNESS OF THE REDEEMED (7:1-17)”



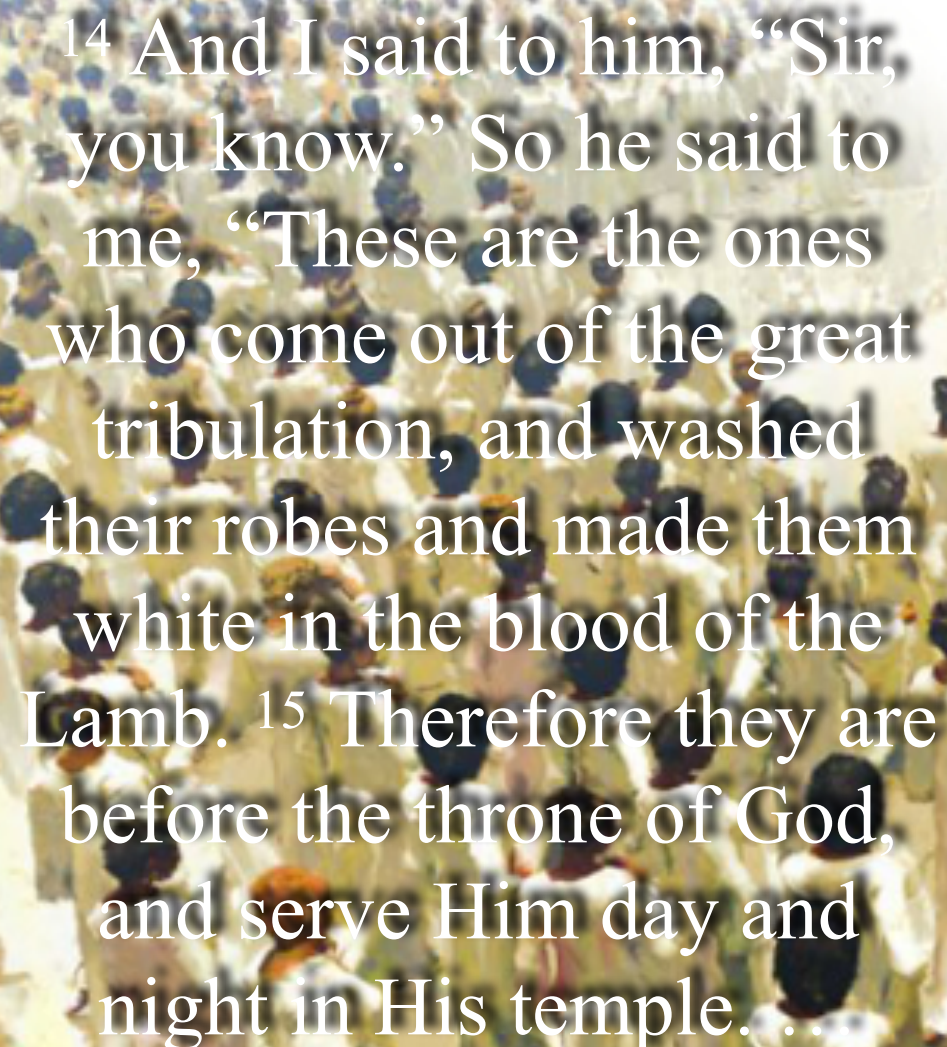
“...By the aid of this vision the Christians who faced torture and death at the hands of the Romans and their often malicious and sometimes downright evil emperor might always keep before them this surpassingly beautiful reminder of their ultimate destiny with their heavenly Father. This is what the end looks like. It will be incomparably beautiful. So you do not want to miss out on it!”

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle One: The Seal Sequence (4:1-8:1)

“BLESSEDNESS OF THE REDEEMED (7:1-17)”

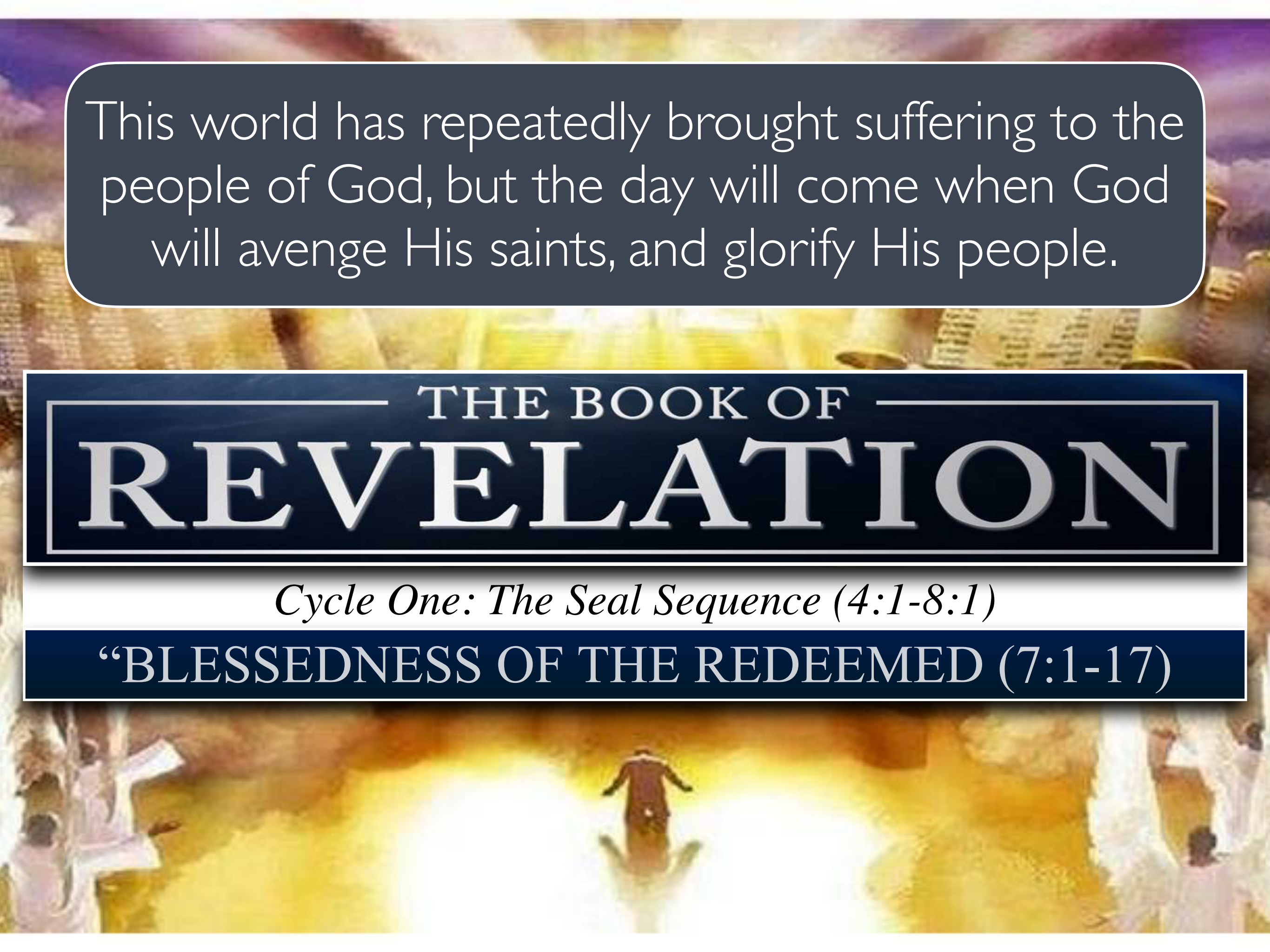
Revelation 7:14–15
(NKJV)

A large crowd of people, many wearing white robes, are gathered in a field. The scene is depicted in a style that suggests a biblical or historical illustration. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

¹⁴ And I said to him, “Sir, you know.” So he said to me, “These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. ¹⁵ Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His temple. . . .”

Revelation 7:16–17 (NKJV)

¹⁶ They shall neither hunger anymore nor thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any heat; ¹⁷ for the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them and lead them to living fountains of waters. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”



This world has repeatedly brought suffering to the people of God, but the day will come when God will avenge His saints, and glorify His people.

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle One: The Seal Sequence (4:1-8:1)

“BLESSEDNESS OF THE REDEEMED (7:1-17)

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle One: The Seal Sequence (4:1-8:1)

“BLESSEDNESS OF THE REDEEMED (7:1-17)

**HEAVENS DOOR HAS BEEN OPENED
FOR YOU - WILL YOU ENTER?**

Believe — John 3:16;

Repent — Acts 17:30;

Confess — Romans 10:9,10;

Be baptized — Acts 2:38;

Endure by faith — I Corinthians 15:58

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Cycle One: The Seal Sequence (4:1-8:1)

“BLESSEDNESS OF THE REDEEMED (7:1-17)”

Charts by Don McClain

Preached June 12, 2022

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Prepared using Keynote / More Keynote, PPT & Audio Sermons:

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Colossians 1:3–8 (NKJV)

³ We give thanks to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you, ⁴ since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of your love for all the saints; ⁵ because of the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, of which you heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel, ⁶ which has come to you, as *it has* also in all the world, and is bringing forth fruit, as *it is* also among you since the day you heard and knew the grace of God in truth; ⁷ as you also learned from Epaphras, our dear fellow servant, who is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf, ⁸ who also declared to us your love in the Spirit.