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And They Sang a New Song Before the Throne 14: 1-5

And they sang a new song before the throne DIG: Given the chaos described in Chapters 12-13, what comfort do you find in this passage? What sights? Sounds? Feelings? Who sings the new song? Why? Who is the Lamb? What has He done? Why are the people following Him?

REFLECT: How are you like, or unlike, the 144,000? How do you follow the Lamb? Will you follow the slain Lamb wherever He will lead you?

Revelation 14 serves as a connecting link between the description of the middle of the Great Tribulation in **Chapters 10-13** and the events of the second half of the Great Tribulation in **Chapters 15-16**. Most of what was found in **Revelation 11-13** dealt with the activities of the counterfeit trinity in their attempt to steal the authority of **ADONAI** and to destroy those who worship **Him**. This section is a vision of the final salvation of the redeemed saints in heaven and the redeemed **144,000** on **the earth**. The purpose of this parenthetical section is to provide comfort to the Tribulation believers who are being slaughtered for not taking the mark of **the beast**.[316]

*Dear Heavenly Father, How Awesome **Your** love is for **Your** children. **Your** love will bring good out of the evil that **the Beast** means for **Your** children. **The Beast** will persecute the righteous of the TaNaKh and kill many.* ***The beast was given a mouth uttering great boasts and blasphemies. It was given authority to act for forty-two months. Then he opened his mouth with blasphemies against God, to slander His name and His tabernacle – that is, those dwelling in heaven. He was also permitted to make war against the kedoshim and overcome them, and he was given authority over every tribe and people and tongue and nation (Revelation 13:5-7).***

You will bring your children from their painful life on earth to their heavenly home of eternal peace and joy that Yeshua is preparing. ***“Do not let your heart be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in Me. In My Father’s house there are***

many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and take you to Myself, so that where I am you may also be (John 14:1-3). *We look forward to worshiping and loving you in heaven forever! In the holy name of your son and the power of his resurrection. Amen*

Then John looked, and it almost took **his** breath away, because **he saw the Lamb standing there before** him **on Mount Tziyon**, the highest point in **Jerusalem (14:1a). In Ezra 4 the seer is told that He, whom the Most High is keeping many ages and through whom He will deliver His Creation** [in other words, **the Messiah**] **will stand on the summit of Mount Tziyon. Yes, Tziyon shall come and be seen by everyone, prepared and built, just as you saw the mountain cut out without hands. But He, My Son, will reprove the nations who have come for their ungodliness (2 Esdras, 4 Ezra 13:26, 36-37).**

This was very significant, since **the Lamb** is seen as having redeemed, or bought back **His** people with **His** precious blood. The psalter wrote about this moment when **God the Father** said: **I have installed My [Son] King on Tziyon, My holy hill. I will proclaim the decree of the Lord: God the Father said to Messiah, "You are My Son** and **You** have a legitimate right to rule.**" Today I have begotten You. Ask of Me, and I will make the nations Your inheritance, the ends of the earth Your possession. You will rule Your** enemies **with an iron scepter, You will** shatter **Your** adversaries **to pieces like pottery (Psalm 2:6-9).** This royal **psalm** and describes smashing the rebellion of the Great Tribulation, and the beginning of the **rule** of the Messianic Kingdom.

And with the Lamb, John saw the **144,000** Jewish messianic evangelists **(7:1-8), who had His name and His Father's name written on their foreheads (14:1b).** Unbelievers will have the mark of **the beast on their foreheads (13:16)**, and **the 144,000** will have the mark of **God** placed **on their foreheads**. **John saw** the **144,000 and the Lamb** in **Jerusalem**, but **he heard a new song** from heaven.

And John heard a voice **from heaven like the roar of rushing waters and like a loud peal of thunder. The** voice he **heard** was not mere noise, it had a musical quality to it. It **was** joyful, **like that of harpists playing their harps (14:2). Heaven** will rejoice when **Messiah** returns to establish **His** earthly Kingdom.

The new song sung in **heaven before the throne (4:1-11)**, **and before the four living creatures and the elders** will be **the song** of redemption **(14:3a).** The angels will join the righteous of the TaNaKh, the raptured body of **Christ**, and the redeemed Tribulation martyrs in praising **Jesus** for their salvation. While angels do not experience redemption, they do rejoice because of it **(Luke 15:10)**. All **heaven** will overflow with praise because **God's** redemptive work, culminating in the return of **Messiah,** will have been accomplished.[317]

Heaven's praise overflows, where **the new song** is taken up on the earth. It was a **new song**, never heard before on the earth or in heaven. **John** noticed that **no one could** really **learn the song except the 144,000.** The heavenly assembly could sing the words and the know the tune, but only 12,000 from each tribe could truly understand its meaning, for it was **their new song**. **They** had been redeemed by the blood of **the Lamb**, protected by the name of **the Father** sealed **on their foreheads**, and completely dedicated to **His** service. Although the exact words of **the new song** are not recorded, it surely describes the great truth that they **had been redeemed from the earth (14:3b).**[318]

The worship of the antichrist during the Great Tribulation will lead to unspeakable sexual perversion. As it did in the fertility cults of ancient times, sexual sin will run rampant. Homosexuality and bestiality will probably be commonplace. In all likelihood pedophiles will brutalize helpless children with impunity. With the restraining influence of **the Holy Spirit** removed **(Second Thessalonians 2:6-7)**, and the unbelieving world in total rebellion against **God**, sin will be released like a tidal wave flooding the earth. In the midst of this darkness, **the 144,000** will shine like beacons of purity. **They** will **not defile themselves with women,** because

they will keep **themselves pure (14:4a)**. This does not mean **they** will not be married, since sex within the confines of marriage does **not defile** anyone **(Hebrews 13:4)**. What it does mean is that **they** will stand apart from the sin of their culture and will remain morally **pure** preachers amid the filth that surrounds them.[319]

They will **follow the Lamb wherever He** will lead them because **they** will be totally dedicated to **Him** no matter the cost **(14:4b). They** will allow no rivals, no refusals, and no restraint to tarnish **their** dedication to **the Lamb**. Does **He** need someone to stand upon the steps of the Vatican and cry out against the marriage of the Church to **the beast**? There will be **144,000** ready to go! Does **the Lord** need someone to berate **the beast** at some state dinner, and thoroughly denounce him, his policy, his religion, his economic boycott, his mark, his ministers, and his alliance with Satan! There will be **144,000** eager to go! Does **Christ** need evangelists to proclaim **His** gospel to untold millions? to climb the highest mountain, to cross the hottest desert, to blaze evangelistic trails through steaming jungles or to mush huskies across wide arctic circles? There will be **144,000** excited to go! And though **the beast's** Gestapo will shadow their footsteps, and put **their** converts to death, yet on **they** will go, not discouraged in the least. It was in that spirit that **they** followed **the Lamb** wherever **He** would lead them.[320]

They were purchased from among men and offered as firstfruits of many who will believe in **God and the Lamb (14:4c). They were** the **firstfruits** of the Great Tribulation. Long before the complete harvest of **Israelite** believers at the end of **Daniel's 70th seven** when **all Isra'el will be saved (Romans 11:26)**, these **144,000 Israelites** will be redeemed and prepared **as firstfruits** to both Jewish and Gentile believers alike during the climactic years of Jacob's Trouble. But, it is more than likely that the **144,000** will continue **their** evangelistic ministry throughout the Millennial Kingdom to unbelievers. Not all the unsaved will die physically when **Jesus** returns. Those lost souls and the children born to them will have one hundred years to accept **Messiah** as their **Savior** or die (see the commentary on **Isaiah, to see link click Kq – The Wolf and the Lamb Will Feed Together, and the Lion Will Eat Straw Like the Ox**). In fact, there will be enough unregenerate sinners alive at the end of the Millennium for Satan to lead a worldwide rebellion against **the Lord (20:7-10)**. Thus, the Bible talks about salvation during the Messianic Kingdom **(Isaiah 60:3; Zechariah 8:23)**, and the **144,000 Jewish** messianic evangelists will no doubt proclaim it.[321]

No lie was found in their mouths because **they are blameless (14:5).** Like **Jesus**, **the One they** followed, **no deceit was found in their mouths (First Peter 2:22). No** wonder **no one** else **could** really **learn the new song except** for **them!** How could **144,000** men, even redeemed men, be so **blameless** as to stand **with the Lamb on Mount Zion**? The answer can only be seen in terms of the **grace** of **God**. **Noah**, for example, **was a righteous man, blameless among the people of his time (Genesis 6:9)**. **But** before such a testimony could be given, the Bible tells us that **Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD (Genesis 6:8).** Like John the Baptist, who was **filled with the Holy Spirit even from birth (Luke 1:15)**, and like the Rabbi Sha'ul, who could testify that **ADONAI** had **set** him **apart from birth and called me by His grace (Galatians 1:15)**, these **144,000** will be **called** and **set apart from birth**. **They** were not sinless, for all have sinned – even **Noah**, John the Baptist and Rabbi Sha'ul. But **YHVH** had so prepared and protected **them** that **they kept themselves** sexually **pure**, being zealous toward **God** from **their** infancy.[322]

The 144,000 will be **the firstfruits** of a worldwide revival. The fruit of their ministry will also be **standing before the Lamb. They** will be **a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language (7:9-17).** There have been great responses to the gospel in the past. We can think of times like Shavu'ot and the birth of the messianic community **(Acts 2:1-41)**, the Reformation in Europe during the sixteenth century, and the Great Awakening in America during the eighteenth century. However, the greatest revival the world has ever seen is yet to come. It will not happen during the B'rit Chadashah Age, but during the Great Tribulation. They will be Jews and Gentiles, and they will be **from every nation, tribe, people and language.** Most will be martyred.

What **song** is in your heart today? Is it the blues of doubt and despair, or is it **a song** of praise and worship like the one **the 144,000** sing **before the Lamb on Mount Zion**? Theirs is the **song** of complete, utter joy at being in the presence of the triumphant **Lamb**.

Unlike the heavenly assembly, we carry in our hearts the burdens and limitations of this life. Yet we also carry the death and resurrection of **Messiah** – the very reason why the **144,000 and the great multitude** are singing! The message of our redemption is so good that even in the middle of trials, we can know an inexplicable sense of joy deep within our hearts. When things around us are chaotic, we can still believe in the fact that **YHVH** is unchanging in **His** love for us and that **He** delights in us.

Every day, Jesus wants to sing to you about **His** love and mercy. Do you listen for **His** song and receive its consolation and strength? How do you answer? While none of us can learn the **new song** of the **144,000**, we can listen to **the Holy Spirit**, unite ourselves with **His** pleadings (which go beyond human words), and express our hearts' yearning to be totally with **Yeshua**. What could be a more glorious **song** of prayer?

If you struggle with a lack of joy, ask **the Holy Spirit** to examine your heart. Repent of any sin **He** brings to mind. Then draw close to **the Lord**. If you're facing a difficult situation, ask **Him** to be there with you, and tell **Him** you want the joy of being held safely in **His** arms. **Yeshua** longs to sing to you! When voices of doubt or fear rise up and threaten to drown out **His** still, small voice, quiet your heart and listen for **His** song of love.

***Jesus**, we rejoice with **the 144,000** because **You** are **the Lamb** who was slain for us. Pour out on us **Your** gift of joy, and let our hearts resonate with the songs of heaven in adoration of **Your** wonderful love. **You** are our strength and our **song**!* [323]