

Sunday Bible Study Session 1 – November 16, 2014

"Gentile Converts of the Tribulation" – (Revelation 7:1-9)

Grace Bible Church begins our 40th year in 2015: God has been VERY Gracious to us!

Read [Revelation 7:1-9](#)

Revelation 7:9 – *"After these things I looked, and behold, a great crowd no one could number, out of all nations, and tribes and peoples and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, having been clothed with white robes and palms in their hands."*

Review [TRIBULATION EVANGELISM](#) from last Wednesday night.

Exegesis of [Revelation 7:9](#)

After these things, I saw and behold, a great crowd no one could number,
(*The word number – ἀριθμέω – AAIInf.*)

out of all nations, and tribes and
(*nations = ἔθνους, acc.m.pl – ethnology*)

Peoples and tongues,
(*Gentile languages – γλωσσᾶ standing (Pf.)*)

Before the throne, and before the Lamb, having been clothed
(*Pf.P.P.acc pl. of περιβαλλω*)

with robes white, and palms (*sign of victory*) in their hands.

Review the [5 CYCLES OF DISCIPLINE](#) to the Nation of Israel from Wednesday night.

In [Revelation 7:9 and following](#), we have a presentation on the converts of the 144,000. The ministry is presented again in [Revelation 14:1-5](#). One of the great issues of the angelic conflict will be the subject of evangelism.

Man was placed on this earth with free will. At the point of God-awareness, people can express positive or negative volition toward the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, using their own free will.

Sunday Bible Study Session 1 – November 16, 2014 (Continued)

"Gentile Converts of the Tribulation" – (Revelation 7:1-9)

In each dispensation, evangelism must have a base, or foundation. In the Age of the Gentiles (Genesis 1-11) the family was the base of evangelism. The father of each family had that responsibility to present the Gospel to his children. Following that, the Age of Israel, a special nation was chosen as that foundation for evangelism. God took a Gentile named Abram, of Ur of the Caldees; and he chose to believe in the Lord, and he became a Jew not by birth, but by the *new birth*. His brother Nahor was an unbelieving Gentile. Abram would become responsible for communication of the Gospel, as the first Jew in history. His first son Ishmael came about while Abram was not yet completely right with God's Plan; Ishmael became an unbelieving Arab Gentile. After this, he grew spiritually, God renamed him Abraham, and he and received his first promised son Isaac, a believing Jew, and thus began the line of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. He also had other sons (found in Genesis 25): Zimran, Jokshan, Medan, Midian, Ishbak, and Shuah, all through his second wife Keturah. But Isaac received his inheritance; Isaac had twins, Jacob (the youngest, a Jew) and Essau (the eldest, a gentile).

The Lord Jesus Christ is called *God of the Jewish race* (the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob – summarized in [Romans 9:6-13](#)).

So, in the Age of the Gentiles *family* was the conduit of evangelism; in the Age of Israel, it was the *Jewish race*. Now in the Church Age, God has chosen to give us – *each individual believer-priest* – the responsibility of evangelism. After the Church Age, we are back to the consummation of the Age of Israel (Tribulation), when Jews from each of the 12 tribes again take up that responsibility.

In Revelation 7 and Genesis 49, we have parallel presentations of each of the [TWELVE TRIBES OF ISRAEL](#).

This passage is actually the middle of a parenthetical passage that illustrates God's Grace in the midst of great judgment during the Tribulation. This Grace includes salvation for 144,000 witnesses and their converts and a description of them, including their great number, nationalities, and the fact that they are not a part of the Church. Note: review the following [REVELATION 7:9 Notes](#) for a more detailed description of this passage.