

Revelation: The 144,000

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Description	Interpretation	Scriptures
Sealed on foreheads (7:3)	Seal of approval or protection God knows who are His He is always on our minds	Ezek. 9:1-6 2 Tim. 2:19; Eph. 1:13; 4:30 Matt. 22:37; Deut. 6:6-8
144,000 heard (7:4)	Symbol of completeness, would not change 12 x 12,000	Rev. 22:11 Rev. 7:5-8
Children of Israel (7:4-8)	Jews only (physical Israel) or Jews and Gentiles (spiritual Israel)	Gal. 3:28; 6:15-17
Standing on Mt. Zion (14:1)	Established in the church	Heb. 12:22; 1 Pet. 2:6
Father's name on foreheads (14:1)	Those who overcome	Rev. 3:12
Redeemed from earth (14:3)	The saved	Acts 20:28; Gal. 3:13; 1 Pet. 1:18; Rev. 5:9
Not defiled with women (14:4), no deceit and without fault (14:5)	Those who live righteously	Jas. 1:27; Phi. 2:15; 2 Pet. 3:14; Rev. 3:4
Virgins (14:4)	Those who are pure	2 Cor. 11:2
Follow the Lamb (14:4)	Those who follow His teachings	Jn. 12:26
Firstfruits to God and the Lamb (14:4)	The first and very best The first Christians	Jas. 1:18; 1 Cor. 15:20, 23; Deut. 25:10; Pr. 3:9; Rom. 1:16; Rom. 16:5
Great multitude seen (7:9)	Same as 144,000 or includes 144,000 (all nations)	
All nations, tribes, peoples, tongues (7:9)	Christians (Jews and Gentiles)	Gal. 3:28
Standing before throne (7:9)	In the presence of God	2 Cor. 6:16; Rom. 8:11; Col. 3:16; Heb. 4:16; Rev. 7:15; 21:3
Clothed in white robes (7:9, 14)	Those who overcome, live righteously	Rev. 3:5; 19:8
Palm branches in hands (7:9)	Rejoicing before and praising God	Jn. 12:13; Lev. 23:40
Come out of the great tribulation (7:14)	Would escape great tribulation Would obey the words of Jesus	Matt. 24:21; Lk. 21:36; cf. Rev. 2:22 Matt. 24:16; Mk. 13:14; Lk. 21:21

These are first century Christians that would obey the warnings of Jesus to flee Judea (Matt. 24:16), and would thereby escape the worst events in world history surrounding the destruction of Jerusalem (Matt. 24:21; Lk. 21:36; Rev. 7:3, 14).

The separation between the 144,000 and great multitude could be a Jew/Gentile separation due to the nature of the book. It could also be that they are one and the same, and that while John heard the number of them, he saw that they actually represented a great multitude. Either way, it was to emphasize that no others at that time would obey the gospel (cf. 6:11; 22:11), the first generation was complete.