

# Sharing Our Faith

Our sermon series on Revelation continues next Sunday as we look at chapter 7, the chapter of VICTORY. Chapter 7 is the first mention of the '144,000'. The supplemental material on chapter 7 is so large it will require me to talk about it today and in next week's bulletin article. Please read this article and next week's bulletin article in preparation for the sermon to be presented September 5<sup>th</sup>.



As the first four seals were opened (6:1-8), horsemen went out on their mission of victory, persecution, discrimination, and death. The fifth seal revealed martyrs who had died faithful. These ask, "How long until you judge and avenge our blood?" God's answer to this question will begin in chapter 8. The sixth seal revealed in truly apocalyptic language the coming judgment upon the Roman Empire. The last verse (6:17) asked the second question of the chapter, "Who is able to stand?" When the judgments described in 6:12-17 come upon the earth, who will be able to endure these? The answer to this question comes in the form of an interlude called chapter 7. John states that the 144,000 who have the seal of God (7:3-4) will be able to stand and endure. The 144,000 of chapter 7 may be referred to as the "CHURCH MILITANT," that body of people on earth who have remain faithful to Jesus as they battle the forces of Satan's ally, the Roman Empire. The "great multitude" (7:9) refers to the "CHURCH TRIUMPHANT," the saved who have died faithful to Jesus (2:10). Now, let's look at the individual verses of chapter 7.

V.1-There is no doubt. Despite what the Roman Empire believes, God is in control. Four is a number that often relates to things on earth.

V.2-As Jesus came from the east to the city of Jerusalem during the FINAL WEEK (see our current auditorium study), God sends His messenger from the east to the angels that God has directed to hold back the judgment upon the earth.

V.3-The seal indicates that a person belongs to God through his/her obedience. A mark (13:16-18) indicates a commitment to the Roman Empire, specifically, the worship of the emperor as God. In verse 3 God gives His assurance of recognition and protection. He knows who they are. He assures them that things are going to turn out well (Romans 8:28). He does NOT, however, promise them freedom from trials and difficulties (Romans 5:3-5; James 1:2-4).

V.4-The number 144,000 is symbolic. Twelve multiplied by twelve and by one thousand indicates FULLNESS or COMPLETENESS. The number 12 refers to God's people (e.g., 12 patriarchs, 12 tribes, 12 Apostles). Raising a number to a higher power by multiplying it by itself emphasizes its inner quality. The number 144,000 symbolically refers to all of God's people on earth, the CHURCH MILITANT. Later John will use the same number to indicate all of God's people in heaven, the CHURCH TRIUMPHANT (14:1-5).

V.5-8 -I believe this to be symbolic since there is no discernible reason for the arrangement of names except for the fact that JUDAH, the first listed, is the tribe of Jesus' birth and BENJAMIN, the last listed was the youngest of Jacob's sons. It is interesting to note that the tribes of Dan & Ephraim are not mentioned while Joseph and Levi are included despite not receiving land as such in the book of Joshua (Levi received cities while Joseph's inheritance was through his 2 sons). These would be difficult points to explain if verses 5-8 were literal. Thus, I believe this to be symbolic. John is using language to refer to ALL of God's people on earth made up of all nations, ethnic groups, and languages. I will complete this supplemental work in next week's bulletin.

~Michael Cox

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## 10:00 AM Worship Service

Welcome/Prayer.....Festus Ugbade  
Song Leader.....Bill Brannon

#414 - "Anywhere with Jesus"  
#875 - "Home of the Soul"

Prayer.....Tom Shelton

#922 - "Must Jesus Bear the Cross Alone?"

Scripture Reading/Prayer  
Danny Griffith/Ed Courtney

### COMMUNION

#470 - "Victory in Jesus"

Scripture Reading.....Michael Cox  
Sermon.....Billy Hayes

"What Exactly is Faithfulness?"  
2 Timothy 4:6-7

#909 - "There's a Fountain Free"  
#882 - "No Tears in Heaven"

Prayer.....Donnie Pogue, Jr.

## 6:00 PM Worship Service

Welcome/Prayer.....Festus Ugbade  
Song Leader.....Bill Brannon

#732 - "We Praise Thee, O God"  
#871 - "In His Time"

Prayer.....John Tolleson

#452 - "Night, with Ebon Pinion"

Scripture Reading/Prayer  
Danny Griffith/Ed Courtney

### COMMUNION

#297 - "I Want to Be a Worker"

Scripture Reading.....Michael Cox  
Sermon.....Billy Hayes

"The Faith of Gideon"  
Judges 6:11-12

#31 - "Almost Persuaded"  
#44 - "Anywhere Is Home"

Prayer.....Donnie Pogue, Jr.

## AUGUST CONTACTS

ELDER / DEACON:  
DONNIE POGUE, JR. / JOHN HERRING  
FOOD COORDINATORS:  
Carolyn Brannon & Amy Griffith

### Children's 9:00 AM BIBLE CLASSES:

9th - 12th - MPB  
Donnie Pogue, Jr./Billy Hayes

7th/8th - room#113  
Scott March

5th/6th - room#115  
Kenny Ward

3rd/4th - room#114  
Richard/Heather Anderson

1st/2nd - room#104  
Rick/Eve Palmer

Kindergarten - room#108  
Diana Ward

PreK - room#107  
Kerry McCormick

18 mo.-3 yrs. - room#105  
Sarah Fader

3-18 months. - room#106  
Martha Dean

### Adult's 9:00 AM BIBLE CLASSES:

Adult class - Auditorium  
"The Final Week"  
Michael Cox

Young Adults/College Age (18-25 yrs.)  
"First Principles" - Room #116  
Jonathan Bonde

Adult Class - room #118  
"Foundations"  
Tim Togami



INTERNET RADIO FOR CHURCHES OF CHRIST

Hot Springs  
Christian Radio  
<https://www.truth.fm/hs/>

### Our Record: 8/22/2021

9:00 AM Bible Class.....133  
10:00 AM Worship.....245  
PM Worship.....101  
Wed. Bible Class.....129  
Contribution.....\$8,088.55

~Hearing Assistance Available~  
Please ask for a receiver from the sound room

# 70 West church of Christ Welcomes you!

Bulletin Volume 14, Issue 13

August 29, 2021

EVERY TUESDAY  
**LADIES' VISITATION GROUP**  
11:30 am in MPB

EVERY 2ND TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH  
**'THREADS OF COMPASSION'** 9:30 am -  
Sewing teddy bears for sick children

WE ALWAYS FOUGHT THE GOOD FIGHT  
WE FINISHED THE RACE  
WE KEPT THE FAITH  
2 TIMOTHY 4:7



**4 things to do for God every day**

1. **LISTEN to God daily.**  
God does not speak to us audibly. He does, however, speak to us through His Word. To understand God is to understand His Word. We must read and study the Word of God. Acts 17:11 & Romans 10:9-17.
2. **Say something TO God every day.**  
Communication is the key to every good, healthy relationship. The communication with God is reading and studying the Bible and prayer unto our Holy God. Colossians 4:2, 1 Thessalonians 5:17, Acts 16:25, 1 Peter 5:7. Ephesians 6:10-18
3. **Say something FOR God every day.**  
We must speak on behalf of truth. This takes place every day. As we live around a group of people who do not know nor understand God, we must say something for truth. As His child, who loves truth and God, we also must love speaking about Him. 2 Timothy 2:1-3
4. **DO something for God every day.**  
Jesus is our Lord. Jesus was full of service while He lived on this earth. As Christians, we need to follow in His footsteps. A Christian is a follower of Christ. We need to fully understand that idea in order to be a faithful Christian. 1 Corinthians 15:58

May God allow us the time to listen, say something to God, say something for Him and do something for God every day.

~Billy Hayes  
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**Upcoming Events...**

**BIBLE STUDY SCHEDULE:** [facebook.com/airportroad](https://www.facebook.com/airportroad)

**Every morning @ 7:00 AM** - 'Fundamentals of the Faith'

-an online study with Michael Cox

**Every evening @ 9:00 PM** - "Bible Investigation"

-an online Bible study with Michael Cox

**Every Friday @ 7PM (Teens) & Saturday @ 8PM (PTP Girls)**

-an online study of "BIBLE ABC's"

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 27**

♦ LADIES' DIGGING DEEP BIBLE STUDY • 6:00 pm • MPB • Bring snacks!

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 28**

♦ FELLOWSHIP GAME NIGHT • 6:30 pm • MPB • Bring your favorite games & food

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 29**

♦ JR. JAM/TEEN DEVO • 3:30-5:30 pm • MPB

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 31**

♦ TUESDAY LADIES' VISITATION • 11:30 pm • MPB • Bring a lunch

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7**

♦ TUESDAY LADIES' BIRTHDAYS • 11:30 pm • MPB

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12**

♦ FELLOWSHIP POT-LUCK • 11:05 am • MPB • Bring your favorite Fall dishes, sides, desserts, drinks

♦ JR. JAM (3RD-6TH GRADES) • 3:30-5:30 pm • MPB

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13**

♦ TEEN DEVO • 6-8:00 pm • MPB

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14**

♦ TUESDAY LADIES' "THREADS OF COMPASSION" • 9:00 am • MPB • Sewing bears for hospitalized children

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25**

♦ FELLOWSHIP GAME NIGHT • 6:30 pm • MPB • Bring your favorite games & food

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26**

♦ PARENT HOSTED JR. YOUTH/TEEN DEVO • 7-9:00 pm • MPB • Nickolson's

**PRAYER REQUESTS**

**SYMPATHIES EXTENDED TO**

**Kyle Hawthorn & Family**, his uncle **Howard Hawthorn** passed away.

**MEMBERS**

Mike/Shirley Baka • Bill/Cyndi Crow  
Anna Foster • Ola Freibolt  
Louise Honeycutt • Tina Jeffcoat  
Alvena Jones • Alta Lekwa • Carla March  
Jane Needham • Glenda Pannell  
Karen Pate • Leslie Pate • Keith Powell  
Stuart Reeves • Carolyn Scott  
Mickey Shultz • Paul Wallace  
Patricia Wireman • Wade Wisely  
Linda Woeppel • Richard/Sylvia Wright

♦ **Brashears, Lauren (Diagnosed w/ covid on 8/25, still has headache but doing much better on 8/26)**

♦ **Green, Marcelle (Is now @Canyon Springs Health & Rehab. NO VISITORS PLEASE)**

♦ **Lingo, Sally (Pacemaker placed 8/26 home now doing well)**

♦ **Martin, Barbara (Pulled back muscle & is on pain medication)**

♦ **Myers, Mark (Scheduled for surgery 9/1 to remove kidney stones & exploratory surgery of kidney blockage)**

♦ **Sharpe, Freddie (Health)**

♦ **Wedsted, Ken (Complicated reconstructive ankle & foot surgery @CHI St. Vincent's, L.R. on 10/12 w/6 mo. recovery period, 3 mo. before can he can bear weight)**

**FAMILY/FRIENDS BATTLING CANCER**

**Jan Brewer** • Melanie Garner  
Mariah Green • **David Hill** • Kirsten James  
Phyllis Madlen • Mitzi Robinson  
Kevin Steed • Sherry Stratton  
Andrea Thompson • Delorious Tolleson  
Mike Wacaster • Janice Wilcox  
Jennifer Williams

**SHUT-INS**

Geraldine Bledsoe • Norman/Joyce Bonde  
LaVonne Depew • Marcelle Green  
Lorene Prescott • Joyce Walker  
Wade Wisely

**MISSIONS (Matthew 28:18-20)**

⇒ **Nigeria/Sekeme Ekaiko/Chad Wagner**  
⇒ **Pacific Islands/Randy English**

**ALL MILITARY & FIRST RESPONDERS**

- \* Bernard, Heidi -GCSO/Patrol Deputy
- \* Boughan, Tyler (EMS) Garland County
- \* Cox, John
- \* E4, Crow, Jake, 806 EN Co. AFO, AE 09330
- \* Gay, Rhett (AF) McConnell AFB, Wichita, KS
- \* Pianalto, Nick (Navy) Deployed overseas
- \* Spears, Kevin -WAT22 (Vet. Suicide Prevention)
- \* Spellings, Randy (Army Nat'l Guard) Jackson, TN
- \* **Snyder, Tess -Unit to deploy & bring home troops from Afghanistan**
- \* Tolleson, Rebekah LRPD
- \* Vincent, Tyler (VF) Garland County
- \* Wells, Andrew GCPD/HSPD

**FAMILY & FRIENDS**

- Kalli Brashears • Evalene Bright  
Paula Crippen • Chuck/Linda Golden  
Bo Maley • Jane Maynard • Beth McCollum  
Linda Nichols • Sam Palmer • Lee Ratcliff  
Judy Straut • Megan Tharp • Chad Vaughn  
Marisela Ward • Michael Wedsted
- ♦ **Cyphers, Lee (Reding's SIL) Aneurysm, surgery, medically induced coma until 8/17, Not doing well**
  - ♦ **Ford, Carlissa & Savannah -covid**
  - ♦ **Haight, Jim (V.Cole's BIL) Blockage found, he must regain strength before necessary surgery**
  - ♦ **Lomack, Terrell (B.Martin's grand-daughter's dad) Suffered a stroke & is on a breathing tube**
  - ♦ **Moore, Lane (Kay Ward's 3 yr old great-great-nephew) 6 hr. sugery to remove tumor & removed kidney 8/24, may need chemo**
  - ♦ **Rico, Jody & son Logan (16)(Kay Ward's niece) Hit by drunk driver, burns on 15-30% of their bodies. Denver hospital**
  - ♦ **Ware, Johnny (Nick Atkins' cousin) Marine in Afghanastan-health/wellness unknown**
  - ♦ **Weatherford, Kim (Bobby/Kathy Pate's friend) In NPMC -pneumonia**