

Sabbath ~ February 25, 2017

## **Lecture 13: 144,000 ~ Part 7 .**

### **1.) Subject: The Work of the 144,000 .**

1.1.) We are going to look today at some of the work which the 144,000 are given to do. >In the big picture, we are to do the work illustrated by the third angel of Revelation 14; which is the final warning to a planet which is in many forms of rebellion against God.

1.2.) We'll put glasses on so as to look closer, and we find there to be a certain body of information that is called "Present Truth" which is the truths the saints are to be united on. Here is the list:

1.2.1.) The 2300 Days

1.2.2.) The Sanctuary

1.2.3.) The Commandments of God

1.2.4.) The Sabbath Question

1.2.5.) The Faith of Jesus–Christ

1.2.6.) The Testimony of Jesus—The Spirit of Prophecy

1.2.7.) Man not Immortal

1.3.) Seven items we are given to unite on. Interestingly, the first four are really about the third angel's message, correctly given; for, the 2300 day prophecy leads us from 457BC right up to 1843, the Advent Movement; on into 1844 and the great disappointment of October that year; the great light of the Sanctuary, the Commandments of God, and the Sabbath, which came up like the sun, first cold, then grows warmer,

which light began October 23, 1844, with the first vision God gave to his church through Hiram Edson; and into the patient, waiting, watching, time that we currently live in.

- 1.4.) In order to properly look at this work, we are going to take what may appear to be a side track. We will begin by quoting a special verse. **“When I washed my steps with butter, and the rock poured me out rivers of oil; Job 29:6 (repeat)**
- 1.5.) This begs the question, “How do we understand this!?”
- 1.6.) We need to identify the **real objects** and **key words**. By humbly asking God to explain his own words we discover the spiritual meaning of these real objects and key words. Here they are:
  - 1.6.1.) **Washed** Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes; cease to do evil; Isaiah 1:16
  - 1.6.2.) **Steps** My foot hath held his [Christ’s] steps, his way have I kept, and not declined. Job 23:11
  - 1.6.3.) **Butter** Surely the churning of milk bringeth forth butter, Proverbs 30:33 For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again **which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk,** and not of strong meat. Hebrews 5:12-13
  - 1.6.4.) **Rock** And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ. 1 Cor. 10:4
  - 1.6.5.) **Oil** Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the midst of his brethren: and the Spirit of the Lord came upon David from that day forward. 1 Samuel 16:13

- 1.7.) Putting all this together, we get an understanding of the text, and, a clearer understanding of what we know to be the truth anyway. To paraphrase: [The meat of God's word pointed out my sins, so that I could confess them, and put them away; and then, Christ poured out the Spirit of the Lord upon me.](#)
- 1.8.) We did this as a little exercise to help get us thinking about spiritual meanings.

## **2.) Subject: Understanding Ezekiel 9 & the 144,000 .**

- 2.1.) Now we have a better foundation with which to understand what God is saying through Ezekiel. We know that the 144,000 are figured in Ezekiel 9, in the six men, each with a slaughter weapon, one having a writer's inkhorn by his side. This can be found on page 197 of the 1858 Great Controversy.
- 2.2.) We are going to read a few verses from Jeremiah. [The portion of Jacob is not like them; for he is the former of all things: and Israel is the rod of his inheritance \(Psalms 74:2 confirming\): the LORD of hosts is his name. Thou art my battle axe and weapons of war: for with thee will I break in pieces the nations, and with thee will I destroy kingdoms; And with thee will I break in pieces the horse and his rider; and with thee will I break in pieces the chariot and his rider; With thee also will I break in pieces man and woman; and with thee will I break in pieces old and young; and with thee will I break in pieces the young man and the maid; I will also break in pieces with thee the shepherd and his flock; and with thee will I break in pieces the husbandman and his yoke](#)

of oxen; and with thee will I break in pieces captains and rulers. (Jer 51:19-23)

2.3.) We see here that God is using Israel to break in pieces, or destroy, the wicked. But we will now show that this is spiritual and not physical.

2.3.1.) How long will ye vex my soul, **and break me in pieces with words?** Job 19:2

2.4.) It then makes perfect sense that the slaughter weapons the six men have are the word of God. I'm sure you will remember Heb 4:12; For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword. And Rev 1:16; And out of his mouth went a sharp twoedged sword. And these figures are not strange to us, when we are reminded of them.

2.5.) So what is this work we are focusing on today? here it is. “ The true people of God, who have the spirit of the work of the Lord and the salvation of souls at heart, will ever view sin in its real, sinful character. They will always be on the side of faithful and plain dealing with sins which easily beset the people of God. Especially in the closing work for the church, in the sealing time of the one hundred and forty-four thousand, who are to stand without fault before the throne of God, will they feel most deeply the wrongs of God's professed people. p. 22, Para. 1, [23OT].

THIS is forcibly set forth by the prophet's illustration OF THE LAST WORK under the figure of the men, each having a slaughter weapon in his hand. p. 22, Para. 1, [23OT].

Now we are told that we are being pointed to Ezekiel's **illustration** —“of the last work.” There are two major points in this phrase. The

first, Ezekiel chapter 9 is an illustration, meaning that it is not literal. Second, the phrase “of the last work” means the work going on in the previous three sentences.

**What is this “work?” It is the spiritual activity of the 144,000 then living;** and this is applicable on a rolling-through-the-years basis, because of the 168 years since this process started. You will remember that we are in the time of the shaking, as told to us by God, in The Present Truth, No. 9, page 72, top left corner, in the words, “The mighty shaking has commenced, and will go on,....”

I asked the meaning of the shaking I had seen. I was shown that it would be caused by the straight testimony called forth by the counsel of the true Witness to the Laodiceans. It will have its effect upon the heart of the receiver of the testimony, and it will lead to him to exalt the standard and pour forth the straight truth. This straight testimony some will not bear. They will rise up against it, and this will cause a shaking among God’s people. p. 184, Para. 3, [1SG ].

Let us remember that this illustration shown by God to his church is in the present tense. Since we were told that the shaking had started January 26, 1850, this is proof that the shaking is a process and that this paragraph from the 1858 Great Controversy is in fact an illustration of that process. It is not a future event.

Satan has created the deception that the shaking will happen at some future time. And most of the SDA church waits for that, believed to be, future event, all the while participating in the on-going process by refusing to ASK (ask, seek, knock), rejecting the testimonies, fighting against God by claiming that the Spirit of Prophecy is outdated, irrelevant and too harsh.

The straight truth is the straight testimony, which is the living testimony,

the gift of the spirit in prophecy as exemplified in the life of Ellen and the Testimonies for the Church, the voice of reproof and rebuke.

And here is the proof.

Go ye after him through the city, **and smite:** Ezekiel 9:5

Let the righteous smite me; it shall be a kindness: and let him reprove me; it shall be an excellent oil, which shall not break my head: Psalms 141:5

As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent. Revelation 3:19

May God grant that you will be a part of the 144,000

And that is...  
~ **The End** ~  
of our Presentation for Today,  
God Bless your Study

