

THE GODHEAD

LESSON # 11



LOUD CRY OF THE FOURTH ANGEL

REVELATION 18:1-4.

DUTY AND THE 144,000

INTRODUCTION

This month we will study the identity of the 144,000, and the responsibility of the members of this special group. There is much misunderstanding concerning their position and function. We will not be suggesting that any individual will or should belong to that group. They will know shortly without any doubt who they are. It is not the scope of this lesson to identify them individually. But we will study what is required to become one of this group and how to identify their characteristics and function. These are important persons, it will become evident before finishing the study, that these are the bride of Christ. Let us pray:

Dear Father: We need Your spirit to guide our thinking and understanding as we study this grand theme of the

144,000. Please give us Your spirit and may we have Your mind that we might know this deep and meaningful truths. I know that You will answer this prayer because I ask it in the name of Jesus, Your Son. Amen.

ST. AUGUST 26, 1897:8-10. "Every faculty that we possess has been provided for us in Christ; for when God gave his Son to our world, He included all heaven in His gift. And God would have men value their powers as a sacred gift from Him. A spark of God's own life has been breathed into the human body, making man a living soul, the possessor of moral endowments, and a will to direct his own course of action. He has the privilege of becoming a partaker of the divine nature. This will give him power to conquer evil, and love and choose that which is good. He has a conscience, which, under the

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control of God, will approve the right and condemn the wrong. And he may, if he will, have fellowship with God. He may walk and talk with God as did Enoch. This holy companionship is denied to none who will believe on Christ as their personal Saviour.”

“By thus centering his affections upon the contemplation of God, man may develop a noble character. Consecrated to God, each faculty should be a worker in the character we are to build. Brick by brick these workmen are building the temple, and if the structure is erected on a solid foundation, the Rock, (the belief that Christ is the only begotten Son of the Father Matt. 16:13-18), it will stand the storm and tempest that will surely beat against it. The warning comes to us, "But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon". As one flaw makes the chain worthless, so one defect will spoil the character, and if not overcome, will gain the mastery. Self is our greatest enemy, and day by day each must strive for the victory. There must be no careless, haphazard work in the foundation chosen or in the structure built thereon. Our physical, mental, and moral powers must be trained, every ability must be cultivated and used to the fullest extent, every power must be brought into working order.”

“Man is called upon to cooperate with God. Day by day he must be careful how his work of character-building is performed; for this work is to last, not merely for time, but for eternity. He may, if he will, become pure in thought, noble and upright in action. Every deed may be of a character that will receive the approval of God. God takes pleasure in the man who through faith in Jesus will stand as a polished stone in his temple, honored of God and man. He declares, "I will make a man more precious than fine gold; even a man than the golden wedge of Ophir." {ST, August 26, 1897 par. 10}. (Emphasis mine).

Who do the precious stones represent? 8 RED. 78:1 (Redemption or the Teachings of Paul and his Mission to the Gentiles).

“The precious stones represent the most perfect Christians, who have been refined and polished by the grace of God, and affliction which they have endured with much prayer and patience. Their obedience and love re-

semble that of the great Pattern. Their lives are beautified and ennobled by self-sacrifice. They will endure the test of the burning day, for they are living stones. "Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out." {8Red 78.1}. Also found in "Sketches from the life of Paul." 155:2. (Emphasis mine). Remember this about the polished living stones and pillars in the temple of God, we will talk again about them later.

NOTE: How is this victory over sin realized in our individual lives? Can we really live a sinless life? Or is this just a supposed thing that Christ magically, and miraculously infuses into us without any effort on our part while sin is still present in our lives? Must we really be sinless? Are we really to be perfect?

In Revelation chapters 2, & 3 each church has the promise that he who overcomes (no sin in them) will receive special rewards.

"He that hath an ear, let him hear what the spirit saith unto the churches; He that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death. . . . To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it. . . . And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations. . . . He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels. . . . Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is New Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name. . . . To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in His throne." {RH, March 14, 1893 par. 2}.

NOTE: There is a chapter in Early Writings which speaks of the victory a group of people gain just before Christ's return. How they gained the real victory so that sin will no longer be a part of their lives. I believe this group to be the 144,000. These overcomers are connect-

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ed especially to the churches of Philadelphia and Laodicea. Laodicea is the condition that Philadelphia finds itself in at the last part of time just before Christ's return. Why do I suggest this to be the case? Because under Philadelphia are the promises to be granted to the 144,000 which are fulfilled during the period of Laodicea. The promises are given in the time of Philadelphia but are realized in the time of Laodicea thus connecting the two churches as one. Also, it is important to realize that each one of the 144,000 must also pass through the experience of all seven churches, and become victorious. This chapter in Early Writings speaks of the victory of a group of people that Mrs. White saw in vision. It tells what we, as a people must do in order to become overcomers; this is during the time of the church of Laodicea. Pay attention, close attention, because we will never gain the victory if we do not follow these instructions.

EARLY WRITINGS 269-273. "I saw some, with strong faith and agonizing cries, pleading with God. Their countenances were pale and marked with deep anxiety, expressive of their internal struggle. Firmness and great earnestness was expressed in their countenances; large drops of perspiration fell from their foreheads. Now and then their faces would light up with the marks of God's approbation, and again the same solemn, earnest, anxious look would settle upon them.

"Evil angels crowded around, pressing darkness upon them to shut out Jesus from their view, that their eyes might be drawn to the darkness that surrounded them, and thus they be led to distrust God and murmur against Him. Their only safety was in keeping their eyes directed upward. Angels of God had charge over His people, and as the poisonous atmosphere of evil angels was pressed around these anxious ones, the heavenly angels were continually wafting their wings over them to scatter the thick darkness.

"As the praying ones continued their earnest cries, at times a ray of light from Jesus came to them, to encourage their hearts and light up their countenances. Some, I saw, did not participate in this work of agonizing and pleading. They seemed indifferent and careless. They were not resisting the darkness around them, and it shut them in like a thick cloud. The angels of God left these

and went to the aid of the earnest, praying ones. I saw angels of God hasten to the assistance of all who were struggling with all their power to resist the evil angels and trying to help themselves by calling upon God with perseverance. But His angels left those who made no effort to help themselves, and I lost sight of them." (Emphasis mine).

NOTE: This reminds me of the self-examination God's people are to participate in during the feast of trumpets which takes place for ten days before the great Day of Atonement. These 10 days possibly represent a total of 10 years of warning given prior to Christ's second coming.

If the angels of God leave the careless and indifferent, it has to mean that we are to diligently overcome every sin or we will be left in utter darkness and be lost! Is this not the counsel to the church of Laodicea? Let's continue in Early Writings.

"I asked the meaning of the shaking I had seen and was shown that it would be caused by the straight testimony called forth by the counsel of the True Witness to the Laodiceans. This will have its effect upon the heart of the receiver, and will lead him to exalt the standard and pour forth the straight truth. Some will not bear this straight testimony. They will rise up against it, and this is what will cause a shaking among God's people.

"I saw that the testimony of the True Witness has not been half heeded. The solemn testimony upon which the destiny of the church hangs has been lightly esteemed, if not entirely disregarded. This testimony must work deep repentance; all who truly receive it will obey it and be purified.

Said the angel, 'List ye!' Soon I heard a voice like many musical instruments all sounding in perfect strains, sweet and harmonious. It surpassed any music I had ever heard, seeming to be full of mercy, compassion, and elevating, holy joy. It thrilled through my whole being. Said the angel, 'Look ye!' My attention was then turned to the company I had seen, who were mightily shaken. I was shown those whom I had before seen weeping and praying in agony of spirit. The company of guardian angels around them had been doubled, and they were

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clothed with an armor from their head to their feet.” (Emphasis mine).

NOTE: These are the first to gain the victory! They are the first fruits of the living saved! And we will see that they are the bride, the Lambs wife. They are, I believe, the 144,000. They are the polished stones! The first to perfect Christ in their lives!

The guardian angels have been doubled around them.

“They are clothed from their head to their feet with an armor.” This armor is the righteousness of Christ, that white raiment that was given to Joshua the high priest in Zechariah 3. It is the armor spoken of in: Eph. 6:14-17. “Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:”

NOTE: Let’s talk about the guardian angels being doubled for these overcomers? In Heb. 8:10 the new covenant is to be written in the heart. We are told that our stony heart would be removed (Ezekiel 11:19) and a heart of flesh would be given to replace it in which would be written the law of God (Exodus 20:3-17) which is a copy of God’s mind and will. (RH Sep. 27, 1881:16). We find this law deposited in the holiest of the sanctuary and how many angels are stationed as covering Cherubim? This would be the most holy place and the mercy seat is right there. Now these people are overcomers, the law has been written in their minds and hearts like Heb. 8: 10 promised. They are the same, in God’s eyes, as is that sacred chest in heaven. A depository for His law. If the law is a copy of the mind of God then they have received a portion of God Himself just as Christ had the mind of His Father so do these victorious ones. They are sons of God in a special sense. That would make them living stones as sacred to God as is the written law. The law was written on stone by God’s finger, now it is written on living stones. They are polished living stones. Therefore the two covering cherubim placed for their protection. And these are the only ones who can enter the temple of God in heaven. (Word to the

Little Flock 17:1, 2) The living testimony has finally been “revived”. Back to Early Writings.

“They moved in exact order, like a company of soldiers. Their countenances expressed the severe conflict which they had endured, the agonizing struggle they had passed through. Yet their features, marked with severe internal anguish, now shone with the light and glory of heaven. They had obtained the victory, and it called forth from them the deepest gratitude and holy, sacred joy.” (Emphasis mine).

NOTE: Many times in the past, when the subject of victory over sin was discussed, there was always strong denial that it was possible to obtain victory over sin while living in this world. It seems that 1 John 1:8-10 would always come up. “If we say that we have (past tense) no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.” they would always say “see, if you say you are not a sinner you tell a lie.” The verse continues, “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and **to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.** If we say that we have not sinned, (past tense) we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.” It seems to this investigator that verse 10 makes clear what verse 8 is saying “if we say we have (past tense—never sinned in our life or) no sin.” (Emphasis mine). This statement does not mean we cannot stop sinning, but that we cannot say we have never sinned. It is a fact that the purpose of the Gospel is to teach us that Christ’s grace makes it possible for us to overcome sin. We must be careful not to make the Bible to contradict itself, or to say something it does not really say.

And concerning the argument that we will have no knowledge of our sinless state. The overcomer will be aware of his sinless state after all because it states this victory “called forth from them the deepest gratitude and holy sacred joy” how can they be joyful if they don’t know of their victory. There will be no boasting because of humility and a feeling of unworthiness. I cannot understand why such ridicule and contempt is heaped on those who believe that victory can be obtained in this present world. Titus 2:12. “Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lust, we should live soberly,

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righteously, and Godly in this **present** world.” (Emphasis mine).

Now we will look at the promises to the overcomers of Philadelphia, Rev. 3:12. “Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out; and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name.” (Emphasis mine). It is important to put this together. The overcomer is made a pillar in the temple (only the 144,000 can enter there. (EW 18:2 “And as we were about to enter the holy temple, Jesus raised His lovely voice and said, ‘**Only the 144,000 enter this place,**’ and we shouted ‘Alleluia!’” If they enter the Temple of God they have to be the 144,000) plus they are called the “New Jerusalem.” Now the bride’s name is New Jerusalem. **Therefore the 144,000 are also the bride!** Remember it is the voice of the bridegroom and the voice of the bride that the ten virgins hear in the parable of the ten virgins (COL 406:1) they must hear a message given by the 144,000 that wakes them up.

In Revelation 7:2-4. We are told: “And I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God: and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea. Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads. And I heard the number of them which were sealed: and there were sealed an hundred and forty and four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel.” (Emphasis mine). From the wording of this it would seem that the 144,000 are the only ones to receive the seal of God.

“A WORD TO THE LITTLE FLOCK” 17:1, 2.

“And as we were about to enter the holy temple, Jesus raised his lovely voice and said, **only the 144,000 enter this place,** and we shouted Hallelujah.

Well, bless the Lord, dear brethren and sisters, it is an extra meeting **for those who have the seal of the living God.**” [Revelation 14:3.] {WLF 17:2}

NOTE: It seems from this statement that the 144,000 are the sealed ones. She makes this statement once in 1846 and again in 1847. Mrs. White only confirmed what Rev. 7:4 states. “And **I heard the number of them which were sealed:** and there were sealed an hundred and forty and four thousand of **all the tribes of the children of Israel.**” And as always the spirit of prophecy is in agreement.

In Revelation 7:13-17. “And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, what are these which are arrayed in white robes? And whence came they? I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, these are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. (They are overcomers). Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: (remember only the 144,000 enter there) and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat. For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.” (Emphasis mine).

THE GREAT CONTROVERSY 426, &7.

“The marriage represents the reception by Christ of His kingdom. The Holy City, the New Jerusalem, which is the capital and representative of the kingdom, is called ‘the bride, the Lamb’s wife.’ Said the angel to John: ‘Come hither, I will show thee the bride, the Lamb’s wife.’ ‘He carried me away in the spirit,’ says the prophet, ‘and showed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God.’ Revelation 21:9, 10. Clearly, then, the bride represents the Holy City, and the virgins that go out to meet the bridegroom are a symbol of the church. In the Revelation the people of God are said to be the guests at the marriage supper. Revelation 19:9. If guests, they cannot be represented also as the bride.” (Emphasis mine).

But then I read in MR. 280:1. The church is the bride of Christ, and her members are to yoke up with their Lead-

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er. God warns us not to defile our garments.”--Letter 123a, 1898. (Emphasis mine).

7BC. 986:1, 2. “Conduct Befitting the Bride of a King.--The church is the bride, the Lamb's wife. She should keep herself pure, sanctified, holy. Never should she indulge in any foolishness; for she is the bride of a King. Yet she does not realize her exalted position. If she understood this, she would be all-glorious within (Letter 177, 1901). {7BC 986.1}

(Chs. 3:4; 7:14; 16:15.) Clean Garments.--The church is the bride of Christ, and her members are to yoke up with their Leader. God warns us not to defile our garments.” (Letter 123 1/2, 1898). {7BC 986.2}. (Emphasis mine).

NOTE: These two different statements confused me for some time. The statement in GC 426 & 427 seemed to be a contradiction to me. I could not understand how the church can be represented as **guest** at the wedding: and also as being the **bride**. I decided I must be misunderstanding Mrs. White's meaning. Both statements have to be true or else she has lied!

I finally came to the understanding that there are two separate groups in the church at Christ's second coming! One is the bride, the other are the guest at the wedding. The parable of the ten virgins helped me to understand this truth. The virgins heard the voice of the groom and the voice of the bride. (COL 406"1) So the bride was heard by the virgins, or guest, making them two separate groups. Notice, that if the virgins hear the voice of the bride, they **cannot be the bride**. The bride represents the sealed ones, or Christ's wife, the guests, represent the unnumbered multitude of Rev. 7:9. And everyone else attending the wedding feast.

NOTE: Now concerning the pillars and the polished stones in the temple, let us look at a few comments from the Spirit of Prophecy.

“From worldly policy, many endeavor, by their own efforts, to become as polished stones; but they cannot be living stones, because they are not built upon the true foundation. The day of God will reveal that they are, in reality, only wood, hay, and stubble. {LP 155.3} (Sketches from the Life of Paul)

“God takes pleasure in the man who through faith in Jesus will stand as a polished stone in his temple,” {ST, August 26, 1897 par. 10}

“EXPERIENCE AND VIEWS” 41:7.

“Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is New Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name.” {ExV 41.7} (A sketch of the experiences and views of Ellen White).

Here we have polished stones and pillars in the Temple of God. Only the 144,000 are allowed in that temple, it is evident that the 144,000 are the ones who have perfected Christ like character and are called white and polished living stones. Since they are also pillars in the temple in heaven it is evident that they are both of the same group. Let's continue with ExV.

“These were redeemed from among men, being the **first-fruits** unto God and to the Lamb.... {ExV 41.9}

“And in their mouth was found no guile; for they are without fault before the throne of God.” Revelation 14:4, 5. {ExV 41.10}. (They are white stones) (Emphasis mine).

NOTE: She has added more identifying marks, no guile, in the mouth of the 144,000, and they are called the first fruits.

In Leviticus 23:10-12. We are introduced to the first fruits offering. This is the Barley first fruits offering and represents Christ, the first fruits of the dead. There was no leaven (Christ was sinless) given with this offering. Many Christians are unaware that there is a second first fruits offering commanded in Leviticus 23:17. This offering is to be different than the other offering representing Christ. It was baked into two loaves made with leaven and wheat (see Exodus 34:22) and not barley. In Matthew 13:29, wheat represents the redeemed. We know leaven represents sin. The first fruits representing Christ had no leaven because Christ was sinless. This offering having leaven must represent the 144,000 because they are also first fruits of the living, not the dead. There must

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be a first fruits of each group. They are redeemed from sinful men represented by the leaven, **but** have gained the victory—they are no longer sinful. After bread has been baked it takes about 24 hours for the yeast or leaven to die or become non-existent. This fits the pattern because the 144,000 were sinners but not any longer. By the grace of God and their own diligent efforts the leaven, or sin, is dead, no longer present within them. Notice this group does not see death for they are alive when Christ returns! Pay close attention to the last sentence of the next quote.

THE GREAT CONTROVERSY (1888) 648: 9.

“Upon the crystal sea before the throne, that sea of glass as it were mingled with fire,—so resplendent is it with the glory of God,—are gathered the company that have “gotten the victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his mark, and over the number of his name.” With the Lamb upon Mount Zion, “having the harps of God,” they stand, the hundred and forty and four thousand that were redeemed from among men; and there is heard, as the sound of many waters, and as the sound of a great thunder, “the voice of harpers harping with their harps.” And they sing “a new song” before the throne, a song which no man can learn save the hundred and forty and four thousand. It is the song of Moses and the Lamb—a song of deliverance. None but the hundred and forty-four thousand can learn that song; for it is the song of their experience—an experience such as no other company have ever had. “These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever He goeth.” These, having been translated from the earth, from among the living, are counted as “the first fruits unto God and to the Lamb.” (Emphasis mine).

NOTE: There are many who believe that the 144,000 represent all the saved since 1844. Or that it is a symbolic number representing all the saved. This cannot be. Let’s look at the criteria we have just studied for identifying this number. First, they have to be alive without seeing death when Christ returns. Second, they have to go through the time of trouble such as has never been. Third, they are the first fruits. The first fruits are never all the harvest. They are the first ripened grains that are gathered. They are the guarantee that the rest of the har-

vest will also ripen and be gathered. Fourth, they represent the first to perfect character in the Lord. In fact they reflect Christ’s character so perfectly they are called polished stones! Fifth, they stand before God during the time of trouble without a mediator, and have also gone through the time of Jacob’s trouble. None have gone through the time of Jacob’s trouble except those alive when Christ returns! And sixth, as far as being a literal number or not, it seems to this investigator, that the number has to be literal because of the fact that in Revelation 7 the number 144,000 is backed by the fact that only 12,000 are being chosen from the millions in each of the 12 tribes of Israel. This is the strongest evidence of all that the number 144,000 is literal and not figurative. Also in “EARLY WRITINGS,” 15. She says, the living saint, 144,000 in number.” Why would she say that if it were a symbolic number? There are 12 hits where she said this. Seventh, I know of no place in scripture where a number is used symbolically to represent a different number than that given! Eighth, “Because they had to stand with a wonderful truth right before the whole world, and receive their opposition, and while receiving this opposition they were to remember that they were sons and daughters of God, that they must have Christ formed within them the hope of glory.” 1st 72:3. (Sermons and talks vol. 1. Quoted later). Ninth, They have stood without a mediator during the time of trouble. None including Adam have had that experience yet. Let’s return to “Great Controversy.”

“These are they which came out of great tribulation;” [Revelation 14:1-5; 15:3; Revelation 7:14-17.] they have passed through the time of trouble such as never was since there was a nation; they have endured the anguish of the time of Jacob’s trouble; they have stood without an intercessor through the final outpouring of God’s judgments. But they have been delivered, for they have “washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.” “**In their mouth was found no guile**; for they are without fault” before God. “Therefore are they before the throne of God, **and serve him day and night in his temple**; and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them.” [Revelation 14:1-5; 15:3; 7:14-17.] They have seen the earth wasted with famine and pestilence, the sun having power to scorch men with great heat, and they themselves have endured suffering, hun-

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ger, and thirst. But “they shall hunger no more; neither thirst anymore; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat; for the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters; and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.” [Revelation 14:1-5; 15:3; 7:14-17.] {GC88 648.3}. (Emphasis mine).

1SAT 73:3. (Sermons and talks vol.1).

“Why were they [the 144,000] so specially singled out? Because they had to stand with a wonderful truth right before the whole world, and receive their opposition, and while receiving this opposition they were to remember that they were sons and daughters of God, that they must have Christ formed within them the hope of glory. They were ever keeping in view the great and blessed hope that is before them. What is it? It is an eternal weight of glory. Nothing could surpass it.” {1SAT 72.3 9 }. Let’s go back to:

“EARLY WRITINGS” 271:1.

“The numbers of this company had lessened. Some had been shaken out and left by the way. The careless and indifferent, who did not join with those who prized victory and salvation enough to perseveringly plead and agonize for it, did not obtain it, and they were left behind in darkness, and their places were immediately filled by others taking hold of the truth and coming into the ranks. Evil angels still pressed around them, but could have no power over them. {EW 271.1}

I heard those clothed with the armor speak forth the truth with great power. It had effect. Many had been bound; some wives by their husbands, and some children by their parents. The honest who had been prevented from hearing the truth now eagerly laid hold upon it. All fear of their relatives was gone, and the truth alone was exalted to them. They had been hungering and thirsting for truth; it was dearer and more precious than life. I asked what had made this great change. An angel answered, “It is the latter rain, the refreshing from the presence of the Lord, the loud cry of the third angel.” E.W. 271:4}. (Emphasis mine).

NOTE: The latter rain is the **Elijah message**. It is the loud cry of Revelation 18:1-4, along with the health

message. ‘Great power was with these chosen ones.’ Here is the earnest labor. Our duty to spread the gospel will be perfectly preformed when the victory is realized and we are filled with the holy spirit. This is why knowing the true identity of the spirit is so important. I would hate to receive a counterfeit. See EW 56:1.

It is evident that the 144,000 do not represent all the saved since 1844 because they “speak forth the truth with great power. It had effect”, many were brought to the cross of Christ by their witness. (Remember the ten virgins heard the voice of the bride so they are not the bride). What has made the difference? It is the outpouring of the latter rain. Who are this multitude that are brought to Christ?

REVELATION 7:9, 10.

“After this (the sealing) I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands; And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb.”

NOTE: These converts have palms in their hands. This is something that Enoch carried but the 144,000 are never said to have palms in their hands instead they enter the temple of God. Back to “Early Writings.”

“Great power was with these chosen ones. Said the angel, “Look ye!” My attention was turned to the wicked, or unbelievers. They were all astir. The zeal and power with the people of God had aroused and enraged them. Confusion, confusion, was on every side. I saw measures taken against the company who had the light and power of God. Darkness thickened around them; yet they stood firm, approved of God, and trusting in Him. I saw them perplexed; next I heard them crying unto God earnestly. Day and night their cry ceased not: ‘Thy will, O God, be done! If it can glorify Thy name, make a way of escape for Thy people! Deliver us from the heathen around about us. They have appointed us unto death; but Thine arm can bring salvation.’ These are all the words which I can bring to mind. All seemed to have a deep sense of their unworthiness and manifested entire submission to

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the will of God; yet, like Jacob, every one, without an exception, was earnestly pleading and wrestling for deliverance.”

“Soon after they had commenced their earnest cry, the angels, in sympathy, desired to go to their deliverance. But a tall, commanding angel suffered them not. He said, “The will of God is not yet fulfilled. They must drink of the cup. They must be baptized with the baptism.”

“Soon I heard the voice of God, which shook the heavens and the earth. There was a mighty earthquake. Buildings were shaken down on every side. I then heard a triumphant shout of victory, loud, musical, and clear. I looked upon the company, who, a short time before, were in such distress and bondage. Their captivity was turned. A glorious light shone upon them. How beautiful they then looked! All marks of care and weariness were gone, and health and beauty were seen in every countenance. Their enemies, the heathen around them, fell like dead men; they could not endure the light that shone upon the delivered, holy ones. This light and glory remained upon them, until Jesus was seen in the clouds of heaven, and the faithful, tried company were changed in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, from glory to glory. And the graves were opened, and the saints came forth, clothed with immortality, crying, ‘Victory over death and the grave;’ and together with the living saints they were caught up to meet their Lord in the air, while rich, musical shouts of glory and victory were upon every immortal tongue.” {EW 272.3}. (Emphasis mine).

NOTE: I hope this lesson has given new insight to your understanding of the 144,000. I believe they are the equivalent to the 12 disciples in the last moments of time. They are a symbol for, and will have the message of Elijah in these last days. Imagine, 144,000 people with the zeal and courage of Christ in the last moment of time. Doesn't E.G.W. declare that “when divine power is combined with human effort the work will spread like fire in the stubble?”

Let us pray: Father I thank You that this is hid from the wise of this world, but You have revealed it to your servants. Thank You, Father, for Your wisdom and the understanding of Your word. May we assimilate it into our life? Please pour out Your holy spirit upon us, that

we might hasten Your return. Help us to receive the truth into our lives for by receiving truth we receive Christ for He is the truth! We know You will hear and answer this prayer because I ask it in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Will you accept all the evidence that the holy spirit is not someone other than the actual presence of the Father and His only begotten Son? That the holy spirit is the manifestation of the Father and Son's mind influencing to good. Remember Philippians 2: 5 “let this mind (spirit) be in you that was in Jesus Christ.” Whose mind (spirit) was in Christ's mind? Was it not the Father's? Yes, and the definition of spirit is the “mind”. Look the word spirit up in Strong's concordance word #H7307. The definition is wind, breath, or mind. If it is the Father's mind how can it be anyone but the Father and Son when we speak of the spirit as the holy spirit?

Even though I would like to share more with you I must reach others to warn of the false holy spirit. My finances are limited so I can only print a limited number of lessons each month about this wonderful truth of the Godhead. The trinity doctrine, which has for its origin the Papal Church who's authority comes from the Dragon or Satan, must be shown as one of the doctrines from the wine cup of abominations held in her hand. We want nothing to do with such an organization that has as its head such a diabolical originator.

There will be three more lesson in this series. Two on health, also a part of the loud cry. Are you suffering from high blood pressure, diabetes or just drug out and tired all the time? Then these next two lessons are for you! The third and last will be on the Atonement most specially about the blotting out of sin.

If you would like to fellowship with others who hold these same truths please visit with us as we study weekly just across Spartanburg highway from the National Guard armory next to Ingles on highway 176 where Upward Road intersects. The suite is behind Hill's Body Shop. We meet every Saturday afternoon for Bible study and fellowship between 3:30 and 4 PM. Till around 7 PM. That way you can have regular church fellowship with no interference. You are all welcome. We are in the last unit in the very back.

THE GODHEAD

LESSON # 11

May God bless and keep you is my prayer!

Virgil

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RESPOND
IN ANY WAY PLEASE WRITE TO:**

**“THE LOUD CRY OF THE FOURTH
ANGEL’S MINISTRY”**

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