

# Sealing of the 144 000

Who are they?

Where do they come from?

Is the number literal or symbolic?

What is God's purpose for them?

# Text for Meditation

“There is yet **much precious truth to be revealed** to the people in this time of **peril and darkness**, but it is Satan's determined purpose to prevent the light of truth from shining into the hearts of men. If we would have the light that has been provided for us, we should **show our desire for it by diligently searching the word of God**. Precious truths that have long been in obscurity are to be revealed in a **light that will make manifest their sacred worth**; for God will glorify His word, that it may appear in a light in which we have never before beheld it. **But those who profess to love the truth must put to the stretch their powers, that they may comprehend the deep things of the word**, that God may be glorified and His people may be blessed and enlightened. With humble hearts, subdued by the grace of God, **you should come to the task of searching the Scriptures, prepared to accept every ray of divine light**, and to walk in the way of holiness.”

— **Councils on Sabbath School Work p 25.1**

**Rev 1:1-3**

# Text for Meditation

“1 The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, **to shew unto his servants** things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified it by his angel **unto his servant John**:

2 Who bare record of the word of God, and of the testimony of Jesus Christ, and of all things that he saw.

3 **Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy**, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand.”

— **Revelation 1:1-3**

# Text for Study – Revelation 7

“1 And after these things I saw **four angels standing on the four corners** of the earth, **holding the four winds of the earth**, that the wind should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree.

2 **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,

3 **Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads.**

4 **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.**”

— **Revelation 7:1-4**

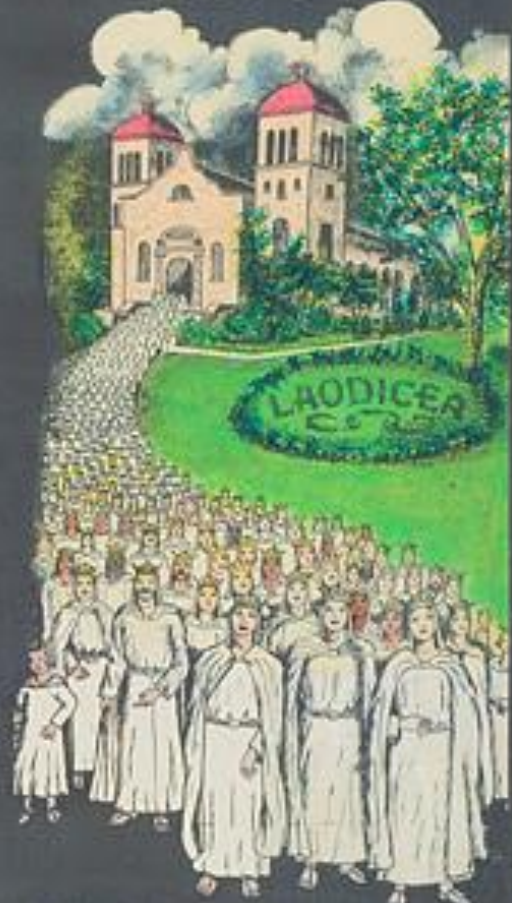
# HOLDING THE FOUR WINDS



HURT NOT...  
TILL WE HAVE SEALED  
THE SERVANTS OF OUR GOD...



THE GREAT MULTITUDE  
REV. 7: 9



THE FIRST FRUITS  
REV. 7: 1-4



E.W. p.36

THE ANGER OF THE NATIONS

THE WRATH OF GOD

REV. 11: 18

THE JUDGMENT OF THE DEAD

# What are the four winds?

“**The time is coming when** we cannot sell at any price. The decree will soon go forth prohibiting men to **buy or sell** of any man save him that hath **the mark of the beast**. **We came near** having this realized in California a short time since; but this was only the threatening of the **blowing of the four winds**. As yet **they are held by the four angels**. We are not just ready. There is a work yet to be done, and then the angels will be bidden to let go, that the four winds may blow upon the earth. That will be a decisive time for God's children, **a time of trouble such as never was since there was a nation**. Now is our opportunity to work.”

— **Testimonies to the Church Volume 5 p 152.2**

- Time of Trouble
- Mark of the beast
- Sunday Laws

# Where do the 144 000 come from?

4 “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.**” — **Revelation 7:4**

“In order to be purified and to remain pure, **Seventh-day Adventists** must have the Holy Spirit in their hearts and in their homes. The Lord has given me light that when the **Israel of today** humble themselves before Him, and cleanse the soul-temple from all defilement, He will hear their prayers in behalf of the sick and will bless in the use of His remedies for disease. When in faith the human agent does all he can to combat disease, using the simple methods of treatment that God has provided, his efforts will be blessed of God.”

— **Testimonies to the Church Vol 9 p 164.1**

# Is the number literal or symbolic?

“4 “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.”

— Revelation 7:4

14 And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and with him an hundred forty and four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads.

— Revelation 14:1

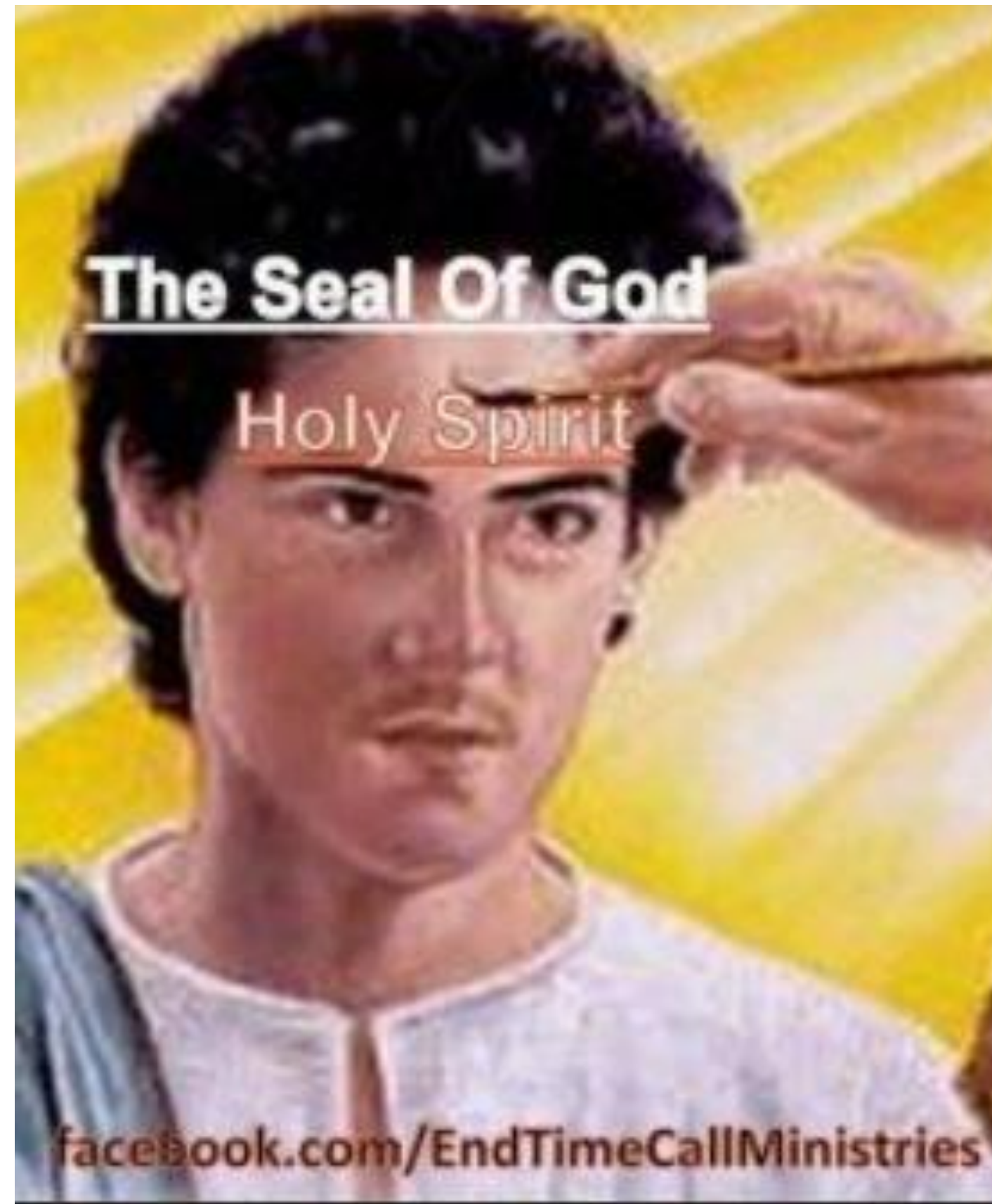
“Soon we heard the voice of God like many waters, which gave us the day and hour of Jesus’ coming. The living saints, 144,000 in number, knew and understood the voice, while the wicked thought it was thunder and an earthquake.”

— Early Writings p 14.1



# What is the seal?

- “This sealing of the servants of God is the same that was shown to Ezekiel in vision. John also had been a witness of this most startling revelation.”  
— **Testimonies to Ministers p 445.2**
- The sealing of the servants of God is Ezekiel chapter 9 the separation (sifting in the church – the godly from the ungodly).
- “The 144,000 were all sealed and perfectly united. On their foreheads was written, God, New Jerusalem, and a glorious star containing Jesus’ new name.” — **Early Writings 15.1**



# Seal shown to Ezekiel

“He cried also in mine ears with a loud voice, saying, Cause them that have charge over the city to draw near, even every man with his destroying weapon in his hand.

2 And, behold, six men came from the way of the higher gate, which lieth toward the north, and every man a slaughter weapon in his hand; and one man among them was clothed with linen, with a writer's inkhorn by his side: and they went in, and stood beside the brasen altar.

3 And the glory of the God of Israel was gone up from the cherub, whereupon he was, to the threshold of the house. And he called to the man clothed with linen, which had the writer's inkhorn by his side;

4 And the Lord said unto him, Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, **and set a mark upon the foreheads of the men that sigh and that cry for all the abominations that be done in the midst thereof.**

5 And to the others he said in mine hearing, Go ye after him through the city, and smite: let not your eye spare, neither have ye pity:” — **Ezekiel 9:1-5**

# Cont...

“Slay utterly old and young, both maids, and little children, and women: but come not near any man upon whom is the mark; and begin at my sanctuary. Then they began at the ancient men which were before the house.<sup>7</sup> And he said unto them, Defile the house, and fill the courts with the slain: go ye forth. And they went forth, and slew in the city.<sup>8</sup> And it came to pass, while they were slaying them, and I was left, that I fell upon my face, and cried, and said, Ah Lord GOD! wilt thou destroy all the residue of Israel in thy pouring out of thy fury upon Jerusalem?<sup>9</sup> Then said he unto me, **The iniquity of the house of Israel and Judah is exceeding great, and the land is full of blood, and the city full of perverseness:** for they say, The LORD hath forsaken the earth, and the LORD seeth not.<sup>10</sup> And as for me also, mine eye shall not spare, neither will I have pity, but I will recompense their way upon their head.<sup>11</sup> And, behold, the man clothed with linen, which had the inkhorn by his side, reported the matter, saying, I have done as thou hast commanded me.” — **Ezekiel 9:6-11**

# Sealed with present truth

“(Revelation 7:2.) Seal Is a Settling Into Truth—Just as soon as the people of God are sealed in their foreheads—it is not any seal or mark that can be seen, but a settling into the truth, both intellectually and spiritually, so they cannot be moved—just as soon as God's people are sealed and prepared for the shaking, it will come. Indeed, it has begun already; the judgments of God are now upon the land, to give us warning, that we may know what is coming.”

— **Manuscript 173, 1902**

# Is it the Sabbath seal?

- The sealing of the 144 000 **is not** Sabbath seal.
- However, those who are sealed must be Sabbath keepers
- It is a seal, or mark, that separates the two classes in the church
- They are not sealed because they keep the Sabbath only, but because they ***sign and cry for all the abominations that be done in the church.***
- The ***sealing and the slaughter*** are both done in God's church, not in Babylon – the world.
- It is only in Jerusalem and Judah, the house of Israel (the church)

# Who are the six men?

“2 And, behold, six men came from the way of the higher gate, which **lieth toward the north...**” — **Ezekiel 9:2**

<sup>13</sup> For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the **sides of the north:** — **Isaiah 14:13**

“Finite man is likely to misjudge character, but God **does not** leave the work of judgment and pronouncing upon character to those who are not fitted for it. We are not to say what constitutes the wheat, and what the tares. The time of the harvest will fully determine the character of the two classes specified under the figure of the tares and the wheat. The **work of separation is given to the angels** of God, and not committed into the hands of any man.”

— **Testimonies to Ministers p 47.2**

# The sealing time

“**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. 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**. One man among them was clothed with linen, with a writer's inkhorn by his side. “And the Lord said unto him, Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and set a mark upon the foreheads of the men that sigh and that cry for all the abominations that be done in the midst thereof.”

— **Testimonies to the Church vol 3 p 266.2**

# Abominations in the church

“Who are standing in the counsel of God at this time? Is it those who virtually excuse wrongs among the professed people of God and who murmur in their hearts, if not openly, against those who would reprove sin? Is it those who take their stand against them and sympathize with those who commit wrong? No, indeed! Unless they repent, and leave the work of Satan in oppressing those who have the burden of the work and in holding up the hands of sinners in Zion, they will never receive the mark of God's sealing approval. They will fall in the general destruction of the wicked, represented by the work of the five men bearing slaughter weapons. **Mark this point with care: Those who receive the pure mark of truth**, wrought in them by the power of the Holy Ghost, represented by a mark by the man in linen, **are those “that sigh and that cry for all the abominations that be done” in the church**. Their love for purity and the honor and glory of God is such, and they have so clear a view of the exceeding sinfulness of sin, that they are represented as being in agony, even sighing and crying. **Read the ninth chapter of Ezekiel.**”

— Testimonies to the Church vol 3 p 267



# The men with slaughter weapons

“The class who do not feel grieved over their own spiritual declension, nor mourn over the sins of others, **will be left without the seal of God.**

**The Lord commissions His messengers, the men with slaughtering weapons** in their hands: “Go ye after him through the city, and smite: let not your eye spare, neither have ye pity: slay utterly old and young, both maids, and little children, and women: but come not near any man upon whom is the mark; **and begin at My sanctuary. Then they began at the ancient men which were before the house.”**

**— Testimonies to the Church vol 5 p. 211.1**

# The Church first

“Here we see that the church—the Lord's sanctuary—was the first to feel the stroke of the wrath of God. The ancient men, those to whom God had given great light and who had stood as guardians of the spiritual interests of the people, had betrayed their trust. They had taken the position that we need not look for miracles and the marked manifestation of God's power as in former days. Times have changed. These words strengthen their unbelief, and they say: The Lord will not do good, neither will He do evil. He is too merciful to visit His people in judgment. Thus “Peace and safety” is the cry from men who will never again lift up their voice like a trumpet to show God's people their transgressions and the house of Jacob their sins. These dumb dogs that would not bark are the ones who feel the just vengeance of an offended God. Men, maidens, and little children all perish together.”

— Testimonies to the Church vol 5 p. 211.2

# Are the Great Multitude the same as 144 000

“9 **After this** 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;” — **Revelation 7:9**

## Two companies revealed

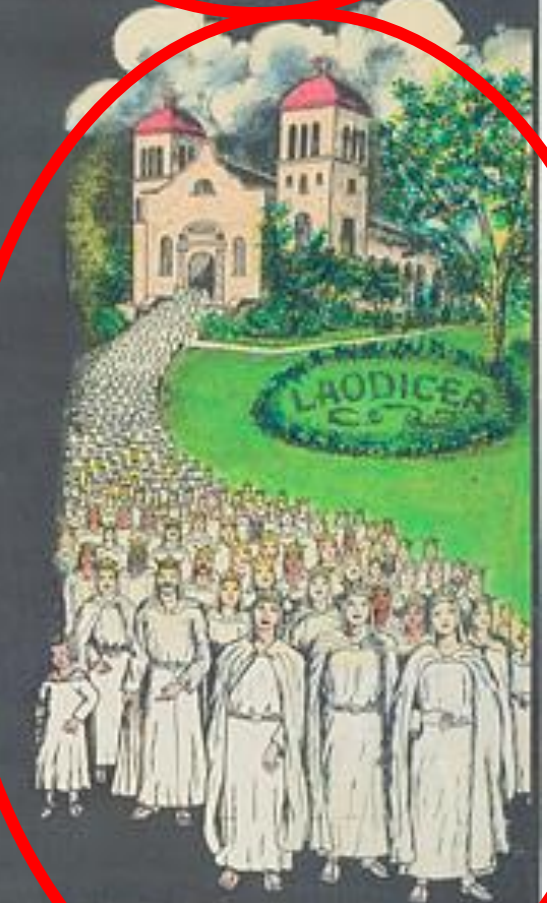
- A numbered company, the **144 000** from the tribes of Israel (SDA Church)
- An unnumbered company, the great multitude from **all nations** (The world, Babylon)

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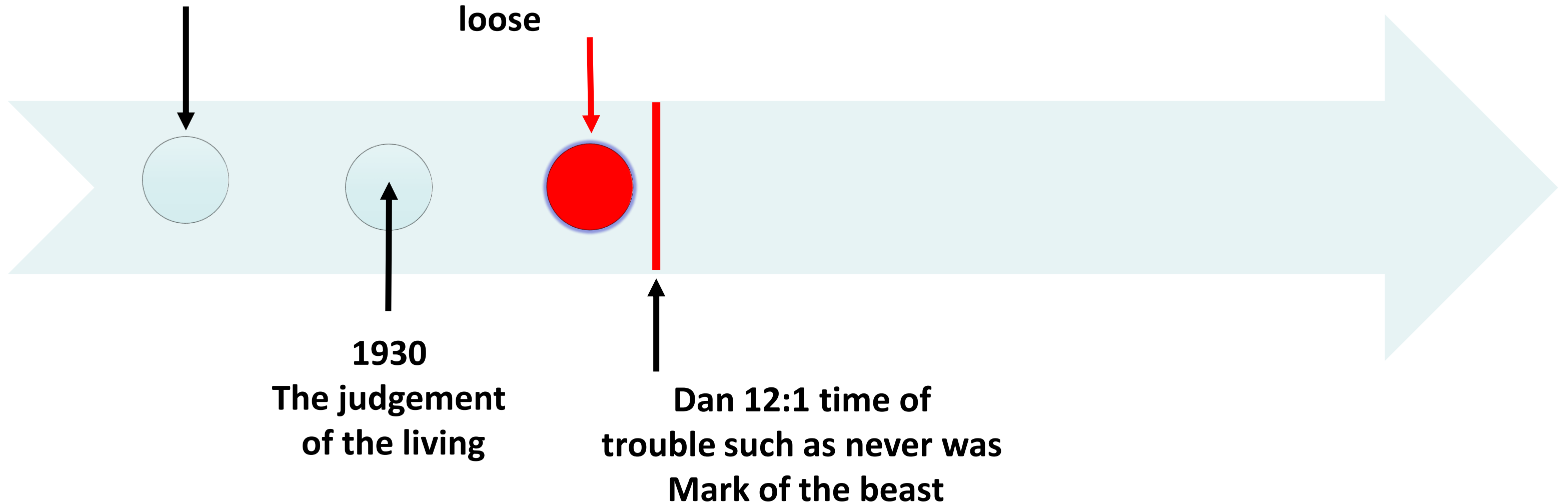
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REV. 11:18

THE JUDGMENT OF THE DEAD

# Timeline of the sealing of the servants of God and the time of trouble such as never was

1. Ezekiel 9
2. 144 000 sealed
3. Rev 7:1 four winds are let loose



1844  
judgment of  
the dead

1930  
The judgement  
of the living

Dan 12:1 time of  
trouble such as never was  
Mark of the beast

# Study Summary

- The 144 000 are sealed **before** the Sunday Law
- The 144 000 are Israelites, they come from the **Seventh-day Adventist Church**
- The number is **literal**  $12000 \times 12 = 144\ 000$
- The seal is for those that sigh and cry for the abominations done in the church, they will already have the Sabbath seal.
- The **closing work for the church** is the sealing of the 144 000
- The ancient men (church leaders) are the **first** to feel the stroke of the wrath of God
- The sealing of the servants of God TM 445, 5T 210-216, 3T 266-7
- The sealing of the 144 000 is the separation of the faithful from the disloyal ones; the purification of the church.
- Those who do not keep the truth, and indulge in the sins and abominations, who try to throw a cloak over existing evils, will fall under the figure of the five men with slaughter weapons.

# For more information

If you have any further questions, comments, or would like to:

- Request an outline of this study as a PDF document.
- Obtain a print copy of the original tract literature that gives the complete details on this most important subject.
- To arrange for a formal Bible Study at your convenience.