

Now all the people of God, from Adam to the close of the gospel dispensation, will go into that city through some one of those twelve gates; hence, all will be reckoned, both Jews and Christians, as belonging to some one of the twelve tribes.

No genealogy is kept of those tribes here upon earth, as it is not necessary that men should now understand these distinctions. But Paul speaks of the church of the first-born written in heaven, giving us to understand that the record is kept there. The only object of preserving the tribes distinct in the former dispensation was that men might understand the fulfillment of the prophecies concerning Christ, Who was to spring from a particular tribe; and the Jews might thus be able to identify the Messiah. But since Christ has come, that necessity no longer exists; and hence the genealogy of the tribes has been irrecoverably lost.

This company, the 144,000, are again brought to view in Rev. 14:1-5. And here we have indisputable evidence that they are gathered from the last generation of the living. John says, "A Lamb stood on the Mount Sion, and with him a hundred and forty and four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads." This name is the same as the seal of God brought to view in Revelation 7; hence this company is the same as the 144,000 of chapter 7.

And of these it is said, that they were "redeemed from the earth," and "redeemed from among men." This can mean nothing else but translation from among the living. These first five verses of Revelation 14 belong to chapter 13, and are the closing portion of the line of prophecy beginning with chapter 12. These 144,000 are the ones who pass through the terrible conflict with the power symbolized by the two-horned beast described in Rev. 13:11—17. But we have shown that this power is a symbol of our own government, is now upon the stage of action, and is the last power which persecutes the church of God. Therefore the 144,000 are the ones who are developed by the third angel's message, and who will be translated from among men at the second coming of Christ.

The sealing work of Revelation 7 results in sealing the number here specified; but as this is identical with the third angel's message, this sealing work has for many years already been going forward; and some whose whole religious experience has been connected with, and is owing to, this work, have fallen asleep since the message commenced. Will they be reckoned with this 144,000? If so, how can it be said that they will be redeemed from among men, or be translated?

We answer, Before Christ comes, there is a partial resurrection to take place, according to Dan. 12:2 and Rev. 1:7. Daniel says, "Many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt." This is not the general resurrection of either class; for at the general resurrection of the righteous there are no wicked ones to be raised, and at the general resurrection of the wicked there are no righteous ones included. But here is a mixed resurrection, taking some, a few, of both classes; and this occurs in connection with the standing up of Michael, and the closing time

of trouble. We therefore infer that at this time, probably when the voice of God is heard (Joel 3:16, Heb. 12: 27, and Rev. 16:17), some of the pre-eminently wicked, and some of the pre-eminently good, including all those who have died in the third angel's message, will be raised from the dead, but raised only to mortal life. Being then raised from the dead, and taking their place with those who have not died under this message, they are translated when the Lord appears; and hence, with the others, may also be said to be redeemed from among men.

—Uriah Smith, *Synopsis of the Present Truth*, 1884



News From Abroad

We are happy to report that the second missionary journey of Pastor "Chick" in Rwanda, Africa—commenced in late May—has been experiencing great success in both the evangelism and educational aspects of the ministry. As Mrs. White told us, the health work is the right hand of the gospel,

and this continues to prove true on the African continent. With Yah's blessing, work has spread to the surrounding countries, with free schools being opened in Rwanda and pending in at least one other country, with requests abounding for more labor in other nearby fields. As is to be expected, the cost of providing free health counseling and education to the public far exceeds our intake from that work, and we continue to give thanks to Yahweh for the provisions He has made to enable us to continue. We are blessed as well by the generosity of those within our movement and without towards this cause.

One of our brethren has traveled to her native home of South Korea recently, taking the message with her in her own language. She commonly reports at great length of great success and interest, and our prayers continue for her in what is a new field for our movement. For those interested, Korean materials are available online at:

www.csd-korea.org

Brother Abraham and the Canadian brethren have completed the first translation of a CSDA publication into the German language. Many more materials are expected to be completed shortly, as we continue to make the present truth available for those of every nation and tongue.

More Spanish materials continue to be made available online at the Spanish mirror to our website, located at: www.csdachurch.org/spanish or at the mirror: www.csd.us/spanish

Questions and comments are welcome, and may be published in upcoming issues of the Signet. Please write to the address in the contact section, or email the editor at claimvictory@hotmail.com

