

FIRST FRUITS

The Saints of the End Times

Revelations 14:1-5

Cenacle 11/21/19

The Lamb and the 144,000 – Revelations 14:1-5

Then I looked, and there was the Lamb, standing on Mount Zion! And with him were **one hundred forty-four thousand** who **had his name and his Father's name** written on their foreheads. 2 And I heard a voice from heaven like the sound of many waters and like the sound of loud thunder; the voice I heard was like the sound of harpists playing on their harps, 3 and **they sing a new song** before the throne and before the **four living creatures** and before the elders. **No one could learn** that song except the one hundred forty-four thousand who have been **redeemed** from the earth. 4 It is these who have not defiled themselves with women, for they are **virgins**; these **follow the Lamb wherever** he goes. They have been redeemed from humankind **as first fruits** for God and the Lamb, 5 and in their mouth **no lie** was found; they are blameless.

Commentary of Rev 14

❖ The Lamb and His companions (144,000).

- **The Lamb is standing** = the beast is powerless against Him and His companions because they are intimately united.
- While they suffer they are in Mt. Zion worshipping: united to God, the angels and saints in heaven.
 - Heb 12:22–24 *You have come to **Mount Zion** and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood.*

❖ This vision follows that of the dragon and the 2 beasts (Rev 13). **Persecution and union with Christ occur simultaneously.**

❖ The SEAL on the saints: On their foreheads is written the names of Jesus and His Father.

- Not only the scroll is sealed. We are too. Only Christ can set us free. Only He should have ultimate access and authority over us.
- In Ezequiel 9:3-6 the angel marks (seals) the Greek letter **tau**, shaped like a cross, on the foreheads of the righteous.
- In Rev 14: 1, the **144,000 are sealed on their foreheads with the names of Jesus and His Father.**
- **The beast also marks** his followers with his seal: his name or number, 666 (Rev 13:14).
 - **In the end there are two ways** = choose God or belong to the beast. There will be no middle ground. The lukewarm Christians either repent or will be assimilated in the world and damned.
- The seal is sign of **belonging** (soldiers of roman army were sealed with the mark of their commander).
- Those sealed with the name of Jesus and His Father **belong to God**, are united to Him, and are attentive to His Word. They are under His **anointing and protection**, enabling them to endure the trials of the Cross and obtain the final victory.
 - But God does **not to spare them from trials**. The book of Revelation speaks of many martyrs.
 - Luke 21:16–18: "They will put some of you to death, . . . but not a hair on your head will be destroyed."
- Christians are sealed in **Baptism**. That seal is the Holy Spirit (2 Cor 1:22).

- Making the **sign of the cross** means we are professing our baptism, total belonging to the Trinity.
- **But we must live it.** Christ makes his grace fully available, but “the fruits of the sacraments also depend on the **disposition** of the one who receives them” (Catechism 1128).
- **The introduction of the Simple Path states:**

The new life we received in baptism is like a tiny seed meant to grow into a full life in Christ. The purpose of our time on earth, then, is to pursue this growth along a path of continuous transformation. This is the path to Calvary where we partake in Christ’s sacrifice of love to the Father and partake of the life of the Holy Trinity.
- **Our covenant before the Blessed Sacrament is the seal of our relationship with the Lord and our commitment to grow in fullness of Christ.**
 - The covenant begins with these words:
*Heavenly Father, moved by Your love and Your grace,
in union with the Blessed Virgin Mary, my Mother,
and the family of Love Crucified,
I (name) resolve to deny myself, to take up my cross daily,
and to follow Jesus, Love Crucified.*
 - And ends with these:
*Every movement of my soul shall say with Christ:
“Suffer all with Me, no longer two but ONE, in My sacrifice of love.”—Amen.*
- ❖ **A theophany** (Experience of the presence of God): **Music**, Harps, rushing waters, thunder
 - The saints sing **New hymn** before the thrown of God = A new language (new way of seeing everything in light of the grace received) This leads to a new life in Christ, Salvation, Freedom.
 - This is the fulfillment of Is 51:11 “Those whom the Lord has ransomed will return and enter Zion singing”
 - **No one could learn** the new hymn except the 144,000 who had been ransomed.
 - Because it requires an intimate relationship with Christ. Those who don’t have this intimacy cannot learn nor understand nor sing the hymn.... It is nonsense to them, specially the cross. Is this not what so many think of the grace we have received?
- ❖ **Lamb and the 144,000** standing at Mt Zion= Temple = first fruits.
 - (12X12X1000). 12=tribes of Israel, 12=apostles, 1000= largest military unit under a single commander in Israel.
 - Thus they are **warriors** to withstand persecution and not fall for Satan’s **deception and the seduction of world.**
 - **“Not defiled with women”**= During a military campaign, Israel’s soldiers were required abstinence from sexual relations. Here it means full attention to the mission.
 - **They Follow the Lamb wherever he goes** = laying down their lives unto the Cross.
- ❖ **First fruits for God and the Lamb**
 - **First fruits in OT = first and best of harvest, GIVEN TO GOD.**
 - Those who, having been ransomed, give themselves totally to God.
 - **Victim souls.**
 - **First fruits of the human race** = We offer ourselves to **prepare the way for those who will follow.**
 - **The first fruits are unblemished** = something worthy of being offered to God. NOT unblemished on their own but by having been washed in the Blood of the Lamb.
 - **No deceit** = Unlike the Satan who is the deceiver. They do not compromise with the lies of the world but hold firm to the truth willing the pay the price.

- **They do not fool themselves.** They know their nothingness and the power of God = humility

Message to LC

–Called to be among the saints, first fruits, one with Christ, formed by *The Simple Path*.

–11/1/19, All Saints Day

*My little one, the **holy saints of God – past, present and future – are one in God.** They are **the first fruits as one with Me, the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.** These souls at the designated time will rise up to establish the Kingdom of God on earth. These are the souls **you are helping to form** through **The Simple Path to Union** I have been leading you through. This **formation for the saints of the end times** will be **blessed and protected by Abba** our Father who desires to be glorified and loved by all His creation... God Himself has come to earth through His little mustard seed to form and raise up His saints of the end times to fight the great battle...*

Commentary:

- ❖ **The saints of all times are united (heaven and earth) –one in God.**
 - This unity is the work of Christ's redemption.
 - We are called to be saints: the **first fruits of Christ**.
- ❖ We, as saints, have a **mission**: to form more saints for these decisive times.
 - To establish the Kingdom (gather the rest of the fruit)
 - Christ is already with us in the Church, specially the Eucharist.
 - The Lord told us to spread the kingdom to the ends of the earth.
- ❖ **HOW? First by allowing Christ** to transform us by HS:
 - **This process of transformation is the Path.**
 - It is not enough to do holy practices. We must go with Mary to Jesus crucified, come to repentance (through self-knowledge) and to a new way of life (through knowledge of Christ).
 - Go to Jesus-Eucharist to become one with Him, living hearts, victims of love.
- ❖ This is a blessing and protection we need. For this we were created.
- ❖ **Formation for the saints of the end times with** *The Simple Path to Union*.
- ❖ St Louis De Montfort wrote:

35 Mary has produced, together with the Holy Ghost, the greatest thing which has been or ever will be – a God-Man; and she will consequently produce the **greatest saints that there will be in the end of time.** **The formation and education of the great saints who shall come at the end of the world are reserved for her.** For it is only that singular and miraculous Virgin who can produce, in union with the Holy Ghost, singular and extraordinary things.

47 This would come to pass, particularly at the end of the world and indeed presently, because the Most High with His holy Mother has to **form for Himself great saints** who shall **surpass most of the other saints in sanctity** as much as the cedars of Lebanon outgrow the little shrubs... 48 These great souls, full of grace and zeal, shall be chosen to match themselves against the enemies of God, who shall rage on all sides; and they shall be singularly devout to our Blessed Lady, illuminated by her light, strengthened with her nourishment, led by her spirit...

54 They shall be great and exalted before God in sanctity, superior to all other creatures by their lovely zeal, and so well sustained with God's assistance that, with the **humility** of their heart, in **union with Mary**, they shall **crush the head of the devil and cause Jesus Christ** to triumph". – True Devotion to Mary, #35;47;48;54¹

¹ [True Devotion to Mary](#)

This is the work of Mary, our part is to allow her to work. In the process our hearts will be pierced until we are humble, poor of spirit.

28. My Mother's Pierced Heart Was Fused to Mine —Diary of a MOC. P.84

The piercing with the lance created your passage into My Heart. My Heart was opened for all to enter with the piercing of the lance. My mother received this same piercing in her heart and suffered the pain and sorrow I could no longer suffer. This piercing fused our hearts together as ONE for all eternity. This is why Mary is the gate to enter My Love Crucified and My Heart. The Holy Spirit lifts you from My feet into the passage in My side. It is in this passage created by the spear that you are perfected in My virtues.

Your soul needs to be clothed in the virtues of true humility and purity before entering the furnace of My Heart. It is the work of the Holy Spirit, with My mother, that forms these virtues in your heart and soul.

Humility is acquired through constant knowledge of your misery and My mercy and love. You received the gift of knowledge at My feet, and you must always maintain yourself wrapped in this gift.

Purity of mind, heart, soul, and body is attained as you come in contact with Me, Who am all pure and holy. My mother is all purity, and it is she who will dress you in the white gown of purity.

She will cleanse you, little by little, of all the mud that remains on you after I pulled you out of the quicksand of your misery with the wood of My Cross. Through humility and purity, you will quickly attain perfection in all the other virtues if you persevere in prayer. (03/04/11)

Addendum

❖ **"first fruits" in other Bible passages:**

Leviticus 2:14

If you bring a grain offering of first fruits to the Lord, you shall bring as the grain offering of your first fruits coarse new grain from fresh ears, parched with fire.

Leviticus 23:20

The priest shall raise them with the bread of the first fruits as an elevation offering before the Lord, together with the two lambs; they shall be holy to the Lord for the priest.

Corinthians 15:20

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

Thessalonians 2:13

But we must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the first fruits for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and through belief in the truth.

James 1:18

In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

James 3:17

But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy.