**144,000** — In the end-time 144,000 people will be *protected* from the "Day of the Lord" (the punishment of Jesus upon an unrepentant and defiant mankind). This will occur during the *final year* preceding Christ's return. These 144,000 people who will be protected and spared from the "Day of the Lord" are "servants of God"—converted, faithful Christians who have not worshiped the BEAST, his statue, or received his mark (Revelation 7:1-4, 9:3-4, 14:1-5; Ezekiel 9:4-6).

Ezek 9:1-6 — Then He called out in my hearing with a loud voice, saying, "Let those who have charge over the city draw near, each with a deadly weapon in his hand." And suddenly six men came from the direction of the upper gate, which faces north, each with his battle-ax in his hand. One man among them was clothed with linen and had a writer's INKHORN at his side. They went in and stood beside the bronze altar. Now the glory of the God of Israel had gone up from the cherub, where it had been, to the threshold of the temple. And He called to the man clothed with linen, who had the writer's INKHORN at his side: and the Lord said to him, "Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and put a mark on all the foreheads of the men who sigh and cry over all the abominations that are done within it." To the others He said in my hearing, "Go after him through the city and kill; do not let your eye spare, nor have any pity. UTTERLY SLAY OLD AND YOUNG MEN, MAIDENS AND LITTLE CHILDREN AND WOMEN: BUT DO NOT COME NEAR ANYONE ON WHOM IS THE MARK; and begin at My sanctuary." So they began with the elders who were before the temple.

**Rev 7:1-4** — After these things I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, on the

sea, or on any tree. Then I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal [or mark—see Strong's Concordance; Today's English Version of the Bible] of the living God. And he cried with a loud voice to the four angels to whom it was granted to harm the earth and the sea, saying, "Do not harm the earth, the sea, or the trees till we have sealed [marked] the servants of our God on their foreheads." AND I HEARD THE NUMBER OF THOSE WHO WERE SEALED [MARKED]. ONE HUNDRED AND FORTY-FOUR THOUSAND of all the tribes of the children of Israel were sealed [marked]. [Out of the 13 tribes of Israel: 12,000 from each of 12 tribes; the tribe of Dan is left out; the tribe of Joseph and the tribe of Manasseh are stated separately].

**Rev 9:3-4** — Then out of the smoke locusts came upon the earth. And to them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power. They were commanded not to harm the grass of the earth, or any green thing, or any tree, but only those men who do not have the seal [mark—see Strong's; TEV; LB] of God on their foreheads.

Rev 14:1-5 — Then I looked, and behold, a Lamb standing on Mount Zion, and with Him 144,000, having His Father's Name written on their foreheads. And I heard a voice from heaven, like the voice of many waters, and like the voice of loud thunder. And I heard the sound of harpists playing their harps. And they sang as it were a new song before the throne, before the four living creatures, and the elders; and no one could learn that song except the 144,000 who were redeemed from the earth. These are the ones who were not defiled with women, for they are virgins. These are the ones who follow the Lamb wherever He goes. These were redeemed from the Lamb wherever He goes. These were redeemed from the Lamb among Men, being firstfruits to God and to the Lamb. And in their mouth was found no guile, for they are without fault before the throne of God