Study Outline: The Great Multitude of Revelation 7:9: Dead or Living Saints?

Overview: The relationship between the 144,000 and the Great Multitude (GM) will be determined in relation to other saints from the beginning of time.

Prayer thought: Christ's Object Lessons, pp. 127, 128

Read: Rev. 7:1-9 (see chart on next page)

Will the 144,000 taste death?

- EW 15-144,000 are "living saints"
- GC 648-9-144,000 will be translated from earth
- PK 227 or DA 421-22-Type/Antitype

The type:

- Elijah was an Israelite (1 Ki. 17:1)
- He wore a long mantle (2 Ki. 2:8, 14)

Antitype:

- 144,000 are from modern Israel (**Rev. 7:4**)
- They also wear long mantles (EW 16-17)

The 144,000 are the first fruits of the living. Rev. 20:5-6, 14

- A first necessitates a second. (e.g. first death, second death, first resurrection, etc.)
- The 144,000 are called the first fruits of the living.
- The first fruits of the dead represented Christ and those who arose with Him at His resurrection (1 Cor. 15:20, Mt. 27:52-3)

Are not the GM the dead of all ages?

• **GC 665.2**—Shows four groups in heaven. The third group is martyrs whereas the fourth group is the GM, so the GM *cannot* be the dead from all ages.

Additional Evidence. Type/Antitype

- Rev. 7:10-14—The GM go through the great tribulation (Dan. 12:1)
- Rev. 7:14—They survive the forth plague (Rev. 16:8-9, GC 649).
- Rev. 7:11—Probation still open since the four beasts and 24 elders remain in the sanctuary, judgment is still in progress, and the plagues have not yet fallen (Rev. 15:1-3, 7-8).

Patriarchs and Prophets, pp. 89-90: Type/Antitype: The type:

- Enoch was not an Israelite, he lived before Jacob
- He bore a palm in his hand (EW 40)

Antitype:

- **Rev. 7:9**—The GM come from all nations, kindreds, tongues and peoples
- They have palms in their hands

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There are two classes of living saints in Revelation 7.

• the 144,000 and the Great Multitude of verse 9.

There is *also* two classes of dead saints.

- **PK 227**—Moses is a type of those who come up in the general resurrection of the righteous.
- **GC 665**—Abel is a type of the martyrs.

Living Saints Gathered in Two Harvests:

- **9 T 28-29**—Shows a gathering from every city and village around the world. They are the GM coming out of Babylon.
- **Isa. 66:15-20**—Those that escape the purification in the church go to complete the gospel and gather their brethren from all nations.

Conclusion: God will first seal a remnant from the SDA church (144,000) who will be used as consecrated servants of God to proclaim the last message of mercy to the world by calling His people (the GM) out of Babylon. When Jesus returns there will be millions of living saints gathered awaiting translation.

Further Study: <u>Tract No. 3</u>, *The Judgment and the Harvest*, pp. 86-88, <u>Tract No. 9</u>, *Behold I Make All Things New*, pp. 56-57

