

## INTRODUCTION

1. Lamb's choir - Rv 14:1-3. We are a NCov temple: royal priestly sons - tactic.
2. v4-5. heavenly choir described by lived lived while on earth.
3. The 144K - privileged worshipers - singers [Ps 95:1].

**1st: Singers Purchased to Sing - v3c & 4c**

1. *A purchased* choir [bought w/ blood] *from earth & men to God & to the Lamb*.
2. *Redemption* - OCov Israel; freed slaves, purchased w/ blood of P.O. Lamb & now owned by Lord - acknowledged in sacrifices of 1st fruits
3. NCov worshipers travel thru wilderness to Sabbath Rest: w/ Christ/HS.
4. Babylon's music will be silenced - Rv 18:22

**2nd: Worshiping Singers Who Are Faithful to Jesus - v4a**

1. Described by life they lived on earth: already living life of resurrection vitality.
2. Specific: *these* [3x in v4]: moral & ceremonial terms: *not defiled* [cer'al vocab] w/ *women, kept selves chaste* [lit "virgins"]:
  - i. literal interp? - *made themselves eunuchs* [Mt 19:12]? 1Cor 6 pagan defilement? Ceremonial purity [Ex 19:15; Lv 15:16-18, esp'ly prior to military combat [Dt 23:9-10; 1Sam 21:5].
  - ii. figurative interp? metaphor - cov fidelity - Christ's betrothed Bride
    - a. Rv 19:7-9 wedding clothes = *righteous acts as saints* -> 21:2.
    - b. OCov Israel = YHWH's betrothed *virgin*. Babylon = Harlot who entices w/ the immorality of idolatry - apostasy = cov'al infidelity.
  - iii. *defile* = cer'al impurity disqualified admission to temple: [Rv 3:4 *soiled*].
3. Challenge for converted pagans. *Spiritual* refers to age to come [1C 15:46].
  - i. Lingering gnosticism: ascetic or licentious - 1C 6:18-20 *bought w/ price*
  - ii. 2C 11:2-4. *Virgin* => covenant fidelity as Christ's betrothed Bride

**3rd: Worshiping Singers Who Are Followers of Jesus - v4b**

1. *ones who follow* [are following] *the Lamb wherever He goes*. Disciples follow Jesus to the cross [Mt 10:38; Mk 8:34]. Jn 21:19 - Peter, *you follow Me*.
2. Remember, THE overcomer [Rv5] - Lion of Judah = slain/res'd Lamb
3. LT: *this is My body* - follow Him: bodily.

**4th: Worshiping Singers Who Refuse Falsehood - v5**

1. v5 - *lie* [IXth] in OT = idolatry: Jer 13:25; 23:14; Isa 44:20. 2<sup>nd</sup> Beast = false prophet [Rv 16:13; 19:20; 20:10]. Satan liar/murderer.
2. *no lie in mouth* = believing remnant on Zion - Zeph 3:11-14 [Zech 8:3]
3. *no lie in mouth = follow Lamb*. Isa 53:9 -> 1 Ptr 2:21-22; Rv 12:11
4. *they are blameless*: ceremonial term. *1<sup>st</sup> fruits* [v4] offered to God in worship
  - i. OT: *blameless* sacrifice - [Rm 12:1]. The lives we live.
  - ii. Integrity; whole-heart [not 1/2 heart]; genuine, real, thoroughly devoted.
  - iii. Psa 15 - v2 NASB *integrity*; ESV *blamelessly*; NKJ *uprightly*.
  - iv. What is our hope? Jd 1:24-25.

**5th: Worshiping Singers Who Are the First Fruits of Resurrection Harvest - v4c**

1. Choir defined by age to come. Resurrection = harvest. *1stfruit* begins harvest. Jesus = *the 1stfruit* [1C15:23]; HS [1stfruit of inheritance]. Church testifies, by her worship, of the resurrection & glory to come! Jms 1:18
2. Parable of wheat & tares - Mt 13:24-30; 36-43. To what will we be harvested: the barn or the burning?
3. Rv 14:1-5 John sees heavenly choir & lets us know how to spot them while they're still living on earth, in this age.