

Revelation Lesson 74
How Many Angels Are There?
(This Will Tell Us When The Rapture Is Too!)

Revelation 5:11 And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the beasts and the elders: and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands;

Boy what an awesome service that was last night! I sure am happy to be in Revival! I am looking forward to what the Lord is going to do tonight! Well, yesterday, we noted the New Song of the Elders and tonight we're going to look at how many angels are there and how that will show us when the Rapture will occur! Say what? Just hang on for the ride! Oh Boy!

And I beheld, - John here is telling us that he indeed saw the scene he is describing. This is the first of 7 occurrences of this phrase "I beheld"

and I heard – John now declares unto us that he also heard what he is describing. The late Oliver B. Greene says: "I heard occurs 27 times. The [term] denote[s] undivided attention on the part of the beloved disciple."

the voice of many angels – The wording here speaks of "the voice" of "many" angelic beings. Now Some might conclude that it ought to read "the voices" since we are dealing with "many." Yet that is not what our Bible reads, because the "many angels" are singing in harmony and unison, thus blending their separate voices into "one voice." Nothing wrong or erroneous here.

round about – This refers to the fact that the angels "were encircling" or in a "circular fashion" as the Greek word is KUKLOTHEN (G2943) which literally means a circle; and yes this is the Greek word where the infamous Ku Klux Klan derived their name from in 1866.

Now I want you to see the proper division here of this verse, for we must carefully read it to ensure a proper interpretation. If such is not done, one might conclude – erroneously I might add – that the Elders are part of the angelic host. Or even some might wrongfully conclude that these "singing ones" are the redeemed. I mean consider what Tim LaHaye's Prophecy Study Bible states in his notes on this verse: "An incredible number of souls have been saved during the history of man and, at this point in John's Vision, are in heaven. Then there is the "innumerable" host (Heb. 12:22) from the seven-year Tribulation's soul harvest." WHAT!?? How crazy can you get with this?

Notice the unified sound of the angels is coming from them as they (the singing angels) are encircling what? Notice:

the throne – The Very throne of God is surrounded and encircled by this band of angels.

and the beasts – As are the 4 Living Creatures or "Beats" those Seraphim who represent the orders of Creation (minus the Reptile and Amphibian Order).

and the elders: - And lastly the 24 Elders – the rotating bands of 24 representatives of the Church – on duty before the Lord, praising, worshipping and bearing the prayers of the saints to the Altar of Prayer, they too are encircled by these angels. Look at your Handout (or the Transparency).

and the number of them – Now that we have rightly divided the Word of Truth, we note that

the Angels (singing at this point) have encircled the throne, the beasts and the elders. I say this because of the following notion: the current phrase we have in front of us right now: “and the number of them” does NOT refer back to the last “noun” - as that would be the Elders, we know there are 24 of them, likewise this number cannot refer back to the “beasts” as there are 4 of them. Nor can it refer to the “One” upon the Throne (imagine if it did we'd have Polytheism – or possibly 330 million Gods as in Hinduism). Thus by working our way backwards in the text, this “them” refers back to the ANGELS ROUND ABOUT the Throne, Beasts and Elders. So now, how many angels are there anyhow and how does this tell us when the Rapture will take place?

was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands; - Well yall know Im no good with math so I'm relying on the computations of others here. First off, heading back in to the Greek we find the following: MURIAS (G3461) which means 10,000 listed twice. Then we have (also listed twice) CHILIAS (G5505) which means thousands (1,000 is CHILIAD G5507) but you know what? You already knew that because your King James Bible is 100% accurate!!

Now, Pastor D. A. Waite says this: “If you multiply 10,000 times 10,000 you get a hundred million 100,000,000.” That's a 1 with 8 zeroes behind it. But then Waite continues: “Then this verse says “and thousands and thousands.” In other words, there are myriads of angels.” That Greek word (G3461) is where we get that English words Myriad from – you might be wondering is a Myriad like a Googol (That's a 1 with 100 zeroes behind it! I know we are Trillions of Dollars in debt as a nation right now, but God help us if we get into Googol dollars of debt!) well a Myriad is a large company or number.

Some have attempted to be more dogmatic and try to pinpoint an exact figure. Consider what the famous late Dr. Lewis Sperry Chafer (founder of Dallas Theological Seminary) wrote in his Systematic Theology (Kregel 4 volumes, unabridged – Section on Angelology): “Tts allusion to the number of the angels is one of the superlatives of the Bible. They are there described in multitudes “which no man could number.” It is reasonable to conclude that there are as many spirit beings in existence as there will have been human beings in all their history on the earth. It is significant that as the phrase “the host of heaven” describes both the material stars and the angels, the latter may be as much beyond number as the former ([Gen 15:5](#)). To quote Dr. Cooke, again, where he gathers Biblical testimony on the number of the angels:

Hear what Micaiah says, “I saw the Lord sitting on his throne, and all the host of heaven standing by him, on his right hand and on his left.”—[1Ki 22:19](#). Hear what David says, “The chariots of God are twenty thousand, even many thousands of angels.”—[Psa 68:17](#). Elisha saw one detachment of these celestial beings sent to be his bodyguard, when “the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire round about him.”—[2Ki 6:17](#). Hear what Daniel saw, “Thousand thousands were ministering unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand were standing before him.” —[Dan 7:10](#). Behold what the watchful shepherds saw and heard on the morn of the Redeemer's birth, “A multitude of the heavenly host, praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest.”—[Luk 2:13](#). Hear what Jesus says, “Thinkest thou that I cannot now pray to my Father, and he shall presently give me more than twelve legions of angels?”—[Mat 26:53](#). Look again at the magnificent spectacle which John saw and heard as he gazed into the heavenly world, “And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne, and the living ones and the elders; and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands, saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain,” etc.—[Rev 5:12](#). If these numbers be taken literally, they indicate 202 millions, yet they were only a part of the celestial host. It is probable, however, these figures were not intended to indicate any precise number, but that the multitude was immense, beyond what usually enters into human computation. Hence in [Heb 12:22](#), we read not of any definite or limited number, however great, but of “an innumerable company of angels.”—*Op. cit.*, pp. 614-15”

Oh and by the way, the phrase listed in Hebrews 12:22 “an innumerable company of angels” is merely the interpretation and application of MURIAS (G3461) as Myriads. Also note Daniel denotes this point as well in Daniel 7:10 as we previously saw in Chafer's quote: “Thousand thousands were ministering unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand were standing before him.”

You say well, we don't know how many angels there are, so how does this relate to the Rapture? Turn over to 1 Corinthians 6:3a “Know ye not that we shall judge angels?” Here in First Corinthians, Paul is speaking to the Church (the Saved) and refers to them as “YE” then he states at a future time “WE shall JUDGE angels.” Hold that thought.

First off who are the angels that are going to be judged? They are the Demons (not all the Demons, for there are an unknown number held in the Angelic Prison called by many Tatarus within the heart of the Earth – but separate and distinct from Hell. See Jude 1:6; 2 Peter 2:4 and 1 Peter 3:19) so these demons that will be judged are then classified as ACTIVE Demons.

We know that in the Luciferian Rebellion, that Lucifer/Satan drew 1/3 of the angels of God away in his doomed revolt against God.

Now IF the angels could ALL be numbered we could divide such a number into third and gain our required information. Now, some have stated that such is the case of the Elect Angels shown here in Revelation 5:11. Normally stating the number of 202 million or some other larger figure.

Again, to those who claim to be able to tabulate the number of angels, I say they are wrong on two counts: 1.) This band of Angels are innumerable per Scripture (Heb. 12:22) and 2.) If their number WERE deduced (here in our text) this would only refer to the angels encircling God's Throne and would NOT account for those “Guardian Angels” (see Matthew 18:10) away on duty upon the earth.

Now let's tie this all together, go back to 1 Cor. 6:3a – what Paul is referring to here is akin to the Roman Military Triumph where 1 Roman Soldier took one captured POW or slave and would in the town square execute them. As Paul applies this analogy to the Church, what this signifies is that 1 Believer (one who is saved, a part of the Body of Christ from circa 30AD to the Rapture) will take 1 Active Demon at the 2nd Coming or 2nd Advent (per Zechariah 13:2) and toss such an one into the Lake of Fire (as they have already been judged per Matthew 25:41).

Therefore the Rapture will take place when the number of Saved believers within the Body of Christ is equal to the number of Operational Demons. This is another reason why the devil seeks to keep people lost, it will lengthen his time here, for once the Rapture happens he will know his time is short – see Revelation 12:12.