

4-D-7
144,000

Q. & A. File No. 4-D-7

Loughborough's
question on the
Sealing
message

BM

S - .I.B.W

December 16, 1954

With the Season's Greetings and the best of wishes,

Coalfield, Tenn.

Dear Brother

You write concerning the J.N. Loughborough pamphlet entitled "Questions on the Sealing Message." This was published privately and represented his views. It is not a standard denominational publication and was not studied by any book committee appointed to look over proposed publications. I must be frank to tell you that I cannot agree with some of the views Elder Loughborough has presented, and I would have some occasion to question the absolute accuracy that the statement Sister White is reported to have made in response to the question on the 144,000. The reason I question this accuracy is that it seems to be somewhat at variance with the published statements from Sister White's pen, as she set them forth in Early Writings and Great Controversy. On pages 648 and 649 of Great Controversy we find that the 144,000 are a company that have gotten the victory over the beast and over his image and over his mark. They are those who have come out of great tribulation, "they have passed through the time of trouble such as never was since there was a nation; they have endured the anguish of the time of Jacob's trouble; they have stood without an intercessor through the final outpouring of God's judgments." To my mind this would eliminate those who have died in the faith of the third angel's message, for such, although they will be raised in a special resurrection, will not be raised until after the time of Jacob's trouble. Therefore they could not have passed through the experience referred to here.

I think that we would do well to hold to the clear statements as we find them in the published record. I believe that while the Lord has made clear the qualifications of the 144,000, He has purposely veiled in mystery the exact identity of the group, lest we number Israel.

I am enclosing a mimeographed document which will help in understanding more about what we do not know about the identity of the 144,000 than what we do know. This evidence leads me to question further the absolute accuracy of the statement reported by Elder Loughborough. <

You tell me you have Great Controversy in the 1886 edition. This should be worth a couple of dollars to someone who wishes that particular printing. The Advent Review of 1850, if an original, would be of some value. I would be interested to know if it is an original or if it is a reprint made by Mr. E.S. Ballenger, who publishes The Gathering Call. Volumes I and II of Spiritual Gifts, if original printings, would have some value, but this is limited because of the recent issuance of these books in facsimile form. I would be pleased to have a little further information concerning these particular items

which you have.

With the Season's Greetings and the best of wishes, I am

Sincerely your brother,

Handwritten signature

Dear Brother

You write concerning the J.M.L. Longborough pamphlet entitled "Questions on the Sealing Message." This was published privately and reprinted his beliefs for national publication and was not studied by any body. I would like to look over proposed publications, I was I be frank to tell you that I cannot agree with some of the views which I have presented, and I would have some occasion to question the accuracy of the statement that the statement that the statement that the accuracy of the question on the 14th, 1800. The reason I question this accuracy is that it seems to be somewhat at variance with the published statements from Sister White's pen, as she set them forth in Early Writings and Great Controversy. On pages 618 and 619 of Great Controversy we find that the 14th, 1800 are a company that have gotten the victory over the beast and over his large and over his mark. They are those who have come out of great tribulation, they have passed through the time of trouble such as never was since there was a nation; they have endured the anguish of the time of Jacob's trouble; they have stood without an intercessor through the final outpouring of God's judgments. To my mind this would eliminate those who have died in the faith of the third angel's message, for such, although they will be raised in a special resurrection, will not be raised until after the time of Jacob's trouble. Therefore they could not have passed through the experience referred to here.

Arthur L. White, Secretary
ELLEN G. WHITE PUBLICATIONS