

**Valley Bible Church**  
**Sermon Notes for November 10, 2013**

**“A Vision of the Exemplary”**  
**Revelation 14:4-5**

Here in Revelation 14:1-5, John shares three facets of a vision of those purchased from the earth, which would encourage his readers to persevere through hardship, trials, and persecution.

I. John shares that he saw an exalted company (Revelation 14:1).

II. John shares that he heard an exultant company (Revelation 14:2-3).

III. John shares that he knows of an exemplary company (Revelation 14:4-5).

A. John knows that the 144,000 are exemplary in their conduct (2 Thessalonians 2:1-2; 1 Thessalonians 4:3-5; 2 Timothy 2:22).

The Greek term (PARTHENOS) has been translated in various ways. This term is used in the New Testament to refer to a young woman, a virgin, or an unmarried woman. Here it carries more the sense of being chaste or pure in one's conduct.

B. John knows that the 144,000 are exemplary in their commitment.

The Greek term (AKOLOUTHEO) means to follow, accompany or be a disciple. The majority of the occurrences of this verb speak of following Jesus (Mark 5:24; Luke 5:27-28; Matthew 4:19).

C. John knows that the 144,000 are exemplary in their calling.

The word “purchased” (AGORAZO) means to “buy,” “redeem,” or “ransom,” and reflects back to the statement of verse 3 where John says that the one hundred and forty-four thousand had been purchased from the earth.

In the Old Testament the first fruits were the first part of the crop to be harvested and offered to God (Deuteronomy 26:1-11).

D. John knows that the 144,000 are exemplary in their conversation.

The Greek noun (PSEUDOS) is translated “lie” and refers to that which is false. The one hundred and forty-four thousand will not propagate Satan's lie, but will speak God's truth.

E. John knows that the 144,000 are exemplary in their character.

The term “blameless” [AMOMOI] literally means “faultless” or “without blemish.” It has its root in the Old Testament sacrifices. This does not mean that the one hundred and forty-four thousand are sinless, but simply that they will be sanctified, leading holy lives before all who see them.

May we strive to be exemplary in our conduct, commitment, calling, conversation, and character regardless of the circumstances, trials, or difficulties that we face.