

**WHAT DO THE TERMS “MOUNTAIN”  
AND “ISLAND” SYMBOLIZE?**

(Excerpt from my book, “The Book of  
Revelation Decoded”, pages 223-226)

In Revelation 6:14<sup>b</sup>, we read:

*“and every mountain and island was moved from their  
places.”*

**Explanation of verse 14<sup>b</sup>**

**What do the terms “*mountain*” and “*island*” symbolize?**

Let us consider the following:

**“Mountain”**

The symbolic term “*mountain*” pictures a kingdom or a government, **whether it is political or religious**. Nebuchadnezzar, the king of Babylon, had a dream. In that dream, he saw a “*stone*” which struck an image and broke it into pieces (Daniel 2:34). Then, that “*stone*” became “*a great mountain*” and it filled the whole earth (Daniel 2:35). Let us read the words of Daniel as he explained the dream to the king:

«<sup>31</sup>*You, O king, were seeing. And, behold, a certain great image! That great image stood before you with a brilliant brightness, and its form was dreadful.* <sup>34</sup>*You continued until a stone was cut out without hands, which struck the image on its feet of iron and clay, and broke them to pieces.* <sup>35</sup>*Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver, and the gold were together broken to pieces, and they became like the chaff of the summer threshing floors. And the*

**WHAT DO THE TERMS “MOUNTAIN” AND “ISLAND” SYMBOLIZE?..... 2**

---

*wind carried them away so that no place was found for them. And the stone that struck the image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth.»* (Daniel 2:31,34,35)

And in verse 44, Daniel explained that this “*great mountain*” symbolized **God’s kingdom**. He said,

*“And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever.”* (Daniel 2:44)

The symbolic term “*mountain*” was also used by the prophet Isaiah. In Isaiah 2:2, he wrote:

*“And it shall come to pass in the latter days, that the mountain of Jehovah's house shall be established on the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills;”* (ASV)

Using the previous symbolic language, the prophet Isaiah simply said that in the last days, **the kingdom** of Jehovah will be exalted above all other kingdoms, whether these kingdoms are big like mountains or smaller like hills.

**“Island”**

As the symbolic term “*earth*” symbolizes “**all those who claim to know and believe the True God of the Bible, the Judeo-Christian community**” (please read the explanation of Revelation 1:5<sup>c</sup>) and as the “*islands*” are not part of the symbolic “*sea*”, it is logical to conclude that the term “*islands*” refers **to pockets of believers wherever they may be around the globe**. For instance, Jewish syna-

**WHAT DO THE TERMS “MOUNTAIN” AND “ISLAND” SYMBOLIZE?..... 3**

---

gogues were found not only in Israel, but also in Pagan nations (Acts 6:9; 13:14; 17:1).

Based on the above understanding, we realize that whatever applies to the symbolic term “*earth*” must also apply to the symbolic term “*islands*”. For example, in the case of ancient Israel, the words of Psalms 97:1 could apply to both the whole nation of Israel (the symbolic “*earth*” of that time), and to all the Jewish synagogues (pockets of believers or the symbolic “*islands*”) wherever they may have been located in the world. There, we read:

***“Jehovah reigns! Let the earth rejoice; let the multitude of islands be glad.”***

As Jehovah was the God of Israel only, it would only be fair to say that the unbelieving in Him Pagan nations (the “*sea*”) would not “*rejoice*” neither would they be “*glad*” if one had told them that “*Jehovah reigns*”!

Now that we have a better understanding of the symbolic terms “*mountains*” and “*islands*”, we can appreciate how badly the symbolic “*earth*” with its “*mountains*” and “*islands*” must have been “*shaken*” when their enemies, Satan and his angels, were cast down to the planet earth because **there was no place found for them in heaven** (Revelation 12:8).