

SERMON OUTLINE

In Revelation 7:9-17 we are given 3 descriptions of the eternal inhabitants of the heavenly throne room.

- I. The people of God are shown as:
 - A. Innumerable (v. 9a).
 - B. Diverse (v. 9b).
 - C. Victorious (v. 9c, d, e).
 - D. Praising (v. 10).
- II. The angels, elders, and living creatures are shown as worshiping (vs. 11-12).
- III. The people of God are described as:
 - A. Coming out of the great tribulation as those redeemed by the Lamb's blood (vs. 13-14).
 - B. In the protective presence of God as His perpetual servants (v. 15).
 - C. Under the care of their Shepherd (vs. 16-17).

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, August 12, 2018

Passage: Revelation 7:9-17

Memory Passage: Revelation 7:9-10

DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Revelation 7:9-15.** To what does “After this” refer?
- (b) Compare Rev. 5:1-6 with 7:1-10. How does the former help you understand the latter (notice especially what was “heard” and then “seen,” the relationship between the two, and the presence of the Lion of Judah and the Lamb)?
- (c) How does the makeup of this group fulfill OT promises (cf. Gen. 13:16; 15:5; 16:10; 17:4-6; 22:17; 26:4; 32:12; et. al.)?
- (d) What is the significance of this group “standing before the throne and before the Lamb?”

DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Rev. 7:9-15.** What do the palm branches represent in this vision, and how does this relate to the entire chapter (c.f. Lev. 23:33-44; Zech. 14:16; John 12:13)?
- (b) What do you remember from your previous study about the angels, four living creatures, and elders around the throne?
- (c) Compare the worship in 7:12 with the same group’s worship in 5:12. What similarities do you notice? What differences? Are the differences significant, and if so, significant of what?
- (d) Why do you think the elder asks John these 2 questions in v. 13?

DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Rev. 7:9-17.** John does not answer the elder’s question (v. 13). Should he have known the answer? Explain.
- (b) What do the “white robes” represent, and why are they so important in this passage (mentioned 3x)?
- (c) Explain why “Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!” in v. 10 yet those wearing the robes are credited with washing and making them white in v. 14 (“*they have* washed their robes and *made* them white”). Are these 2 statements contradictory? Why or why not?
- (d) Why was the blood of the Lamb required to make these robes white?

DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Rev. 7:9-17.** The phrase “great tribulation” only occurs 3 times in the NT: Matthew 24:21, Revelation 2:22 & 7:12. Our usage in Revelation most likely has Daniel 12:1 (“a time of trouble”) as its background. Read each of these references, along with the surrounding context of each, and then answer the following questions.
- (b) To what does the great tribulation refer in Revelation 7:14, and on what basis do you make your assertion?
- (c) Who is in charge of this tribulation, and what purpose does it serve for both believers and non-believers?

DAY 5 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Rev. 7:9-17.** Explain the “therefore” that begins v. 15.
- (b) What is the source of the tears that will be wiped away? Are they from sorrow (i.e. over sin)? From suffering?
- (c) Who are the people that make up this group in vs. 9-17, and are they different from or the same as the groups mentioned in 5:9 and found in 7:1-8, 14:1-5, 19:6-10, & 22:1-5? Explain and defend your answer.
- (d) Meditate on the description of our eternal state found in 7:15-17. Write at least 5 ways these truths will encourage, strengthen, empower, convict, and/or sustain you in your daily walk.
- (e) Meditate on Psalm 23 in light of Revelation 7:17 and (1) write a description of what it means for Jesus to be your Shepherd and you to be a sheep in His flock, and (2) write at least 3 ways you will better apply these truths this week.

DATE: August 12, 2018

PASSAGE: Revelation 7:9-17

Standing before the Throne and the Lamb