

The Lion and The Lamb

Revelation 7:1-17

- We left off with the sixth seal being opened, and that which has been held back is now without restraint, things like deception, war, famine, disease, and death,- as a fourth of the world's population dies. Natural catastrophes, earthquakes, tsunamis, eclipse- the sun blackened, the moon turns blood red, everything that we know that was once calm and in place is now in an uproar and causing mass destruction.
- At the end of the chapter, it says people will seek death but cannot find it, meaning rather than suffer through all these terrible things people will try and kill themselves, but part of God's judgment is they will not be able to die. Similarly when people are suffering in hell and want it to be over, but it will never end this is a preview of that. This is called the wrath of The Lamb, **1Thess 5:9** we're not appointed to God's wrath

V1-17

- **V1-4** at the end of chapter six in **V17** the question was raised whether any would be saved during this terrible time called the tribulation. That is answered here in chapter seven, and interestingly there are two groups mentioned specifically.
- One group is **1**. Those who are saved in Israel, the other group is **2**. Those of all nations who although they are saved will be martyred for the gospel sake. Notice four Angels are told to withhold total judgment of the earth until the servants of God are sealed. The seal mentioned here symbolizes not only protection but of ownership, interestingly Satan will imitate this by making those who will follow him to accept a mark on their foreheads as well, for he is a imitator, and a counterfeiter.
- In **Ezek 9:4** a similar protective seal was given to the righteous before Jerusalem was judged also. This goes back to **Gen 18:23-26** Abraham asked God would He judge the righteous with the wicked and He would not. **Gen 19:22-23** the Angel said He could not do anything until Lot was out and safe from harm. **Gen 7:16** says after The Lord gathered Noah and his family with the animals then The Lord shut him in. Later in Revelation we'll see the unsaved judged apart from those who are redeemed.

- We are told exactly how many will be sealed, and where they come from, and yet even though we have this information straight from scripture you will still hear teaching that someone other than what we read here is really the hundred and forty four thousand. I've heard the Jehovah witnesses say it's them, the Hebrew Israelites think it's them, early Mormon theology taught it was them, and so on and so forth.
- **V5-7** tell us exactly who it is and where they're from so that we don't have to guess > The tribes of Judah, Reuben, Gad, Asher, Naphtali, Manasseh, Simeon, Levi, Issachar, Zebulun, Joseph, and Benjamin, twelve thousand from each tribe.
- The seal will protect this Jewish remnant during the tribulation period from the judgments that are hurting and destroying the earth and sea. As we'll see they are singular in their goal, as their job will be to evangelize the world and glorify The Lord, they are not here to restore order, run for political office, bring unity to the nations and people, it's simply to preach the gospel and give praise to The Lord period!
- **V9-10** you cannot read the book of Revelation and miss how global the people of God are, emphasizing how Jesus died to redeem people out of every kindred, tongue and nation just as **5:9** says, and what we see right here.
- People from all nations, tribes and tongues standing before the throne in white robes with palm branches just like those in which the crowd waved when Jesus entered into Jerusalem **Jn 12:13**. Shouting that "**salvation belongs to The Lamb**"
- **V11-12** another song breaks out between the Angels, the elders, and the four Living creatures, falling on their faces before the throne and worshipping saying > "Amen, Blessing and glory and wisdom, Thanksgiving and honor, and power and might, be to our God forever and ever Amen!" There is a repertoire of songs to sing to our God.
- **V13-14** this shows we can ask questions in heaven as one of the elders ask "who are these clothed in white robes and where did they come from"? This was a rhetorical question because it was John who didn't understand so the elder asks for him and then answers the question also.
- Telling John these are those who were saved in the great tribulation, and notice like everybody else they are saved by the blood of The Lamb. Even being martyred their martyrdom doesn't save them, only through the blood of Jesus can we be cleansed.

- **V15-17** shows there will be things to do in glory, as for those who go through the tribulation and get saved they are before the throne of God day and night, serving Him in His temple. We are told in **Jn 14** that there are mansions, well apparently there is a temple of God also, in that temple Jesus is there as well.
- All the pains of this world hunger, heat, pain, disappointment, is taken away, as we will no longer have need of anything else except fellowship with our Savior. Every tear wiped away, every need and concern taken care of, because we are now in the everlasting presence of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, for He is Shepherding us and leading us to living fountains of waters- meaning every day we are refreshed and filled with His joy Amen!