

The Revelation Song

The air bites at your cheeks, and the only sound is the crunch of snow under your boots. Suddenly, the sky above you begins to ripple with colors, green, purple, red waves of light dancing as though heaven itself has torn open a curtain. You can't explain it. No one could reproduce it. It's terrifying in its grandeur and yet breathtakingly beautiful. You find yourself whispering, "Wow... God is here." (Aurora and Milky-way)

That's the kind of moment John was trying to capture in Revelation: visions that can't be fully explained but leave us in awe of God's majesty

Sometimes God gives us glimpses of His majesty that logic can't fully wrap around. And maybe that's the point, because when you can't explain it, you can only worship

Chapter 7 pauses the cascade of judgments to reveal God's mercy and protection

The vision shifts from the sealed 144,000 on earth **7:1-8** to the innumerable multitude before the throne **7:9-17**

The great multitude worships **7:9-10**

Angels respond with a doxology (**7:11-12**)

An elder interprets the scene (**7:13-17**)

After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands Revelation 7:9 NKJV

Hearing vs. Seeing John **hears** the numbered 144,000 **Revelation 7:4**, and then **sees** a countless multitude **7:9**

Hearing and seeing function together to expand our understanding

The multinational, victorious assembly

Great multitude which no one could number

Suggests the fulfillment of promises to Abraham innumerable descendants **Genesis 15:5** and **22:17**

The vision emphasizes **abundance** and **renown**

Of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues Fourfold formula

Then to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, That all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion, Which shall not pass away, And His kingdom the one which shall not be destroyed Daniel 7:14 NKJV

This highlights the worldwide, ethnic, and linguistic diversity of God's people

His redeemed community is beautifully and intentionally multi-ethnic

Standing before the throne and before the Lamb

Perfect participle, **permanent, established standing**. To stand in God's presence is a mark of **vindication**. Contrast the terror of **For the great day of His wrath has come, and who is able to stand?" Revelation 6:17 NKJV**

Clothed with white robes which symbolizes **purity, victory, and priestly dignity Revelation 3:4–5; 6:11**

Palm branches OT background in the **Feast of Tabernacles Leviticus 23:40** and NT echo Jesus' **triumphal entry John 12:13** is imagery that is used to indicate a festival or victory

When the crowds cried out "**Hosanna to the Son of David!**" as Jesus entered Jerusalem, **Matthew 21:9 NKJV**, they were literally saying "**Save us, we pray**" or "**Lord, save now!**"

Appealing for salvation, recognizing Him as the promised Messiah

Praising Him as King, declaring that salvation belongs to Him

Why Palm branches? The palm branches aren't random; they were and are tied to expectation. The people were recognizing Jesus as the promised King

The Palm Branches symbolize **victory, triumph, and celebration**. When a king or conquering hero returned from battle, people would wave palms as a sign of honor

By laying them before Jesus, the people were treating Him like a victorious king

This signals a **joyful, royal celebration**

Song: Hosanna

Verse 9 paints the redeemed as a countless, global people, vindicated, purified, and celebrating messianic victory in the presence of God

The source of celebration

And crying out with a loud voice, saying, Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb Revelation 7:10 NKJV

Crying out with a loud voice an acclamation marked by **unity and intensity**

Salvation belongs to our God This is the “**dative of possession**” this is a grammatical way of shouting, Salvation isn’t ours to earn or invent, it belongs to God, and He gives it freely through the Lamb. **God owns salvation**; He is the **author and source** of salvation **Jonah 2:9** and **Salvation belongs to the LORD. Your blessing is upon Your people Selah Psalm 3:8 NKJV**

Who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb

Salvation is **jointly ascribed** to the Father and the Lamb (Jesus); the Lamb shares the throne’s prerogatives **Revelation 5:13 and 22:1–3**

Verse 10 centers soteriology. Soteriology is the theological study of salvation, and how it is achieved, what it saves us from, and its ultimate purpose

In **Verse 10** the redeemed proclaim not their achievement but God’s gift which is salvation **Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb**

Song: Behold Our God

All the angels stood around the throne and the elders and the four living creatures, and fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God Revelation 7:11 NKJV

Stood around... and fell on their faces In heaven’s worship, everything is arranged in layers that circle outward

At the center is the throne, surrounded by the living creatures, then the elders, then the angels, and finally the redeemed

The angels’ **prostration** signals **utter submission** and **adoration**

Worshiping God leads directly into the **sevenfold doxology** of **verse 12 blessing, glory, wisdom, thanksgiving, honor, power, might** which underscores the **totality of praise**

Song: Holy Forever

Amen. Blessing and glory and wisdom, thanksgiving and honor and power and might, be to our God forever and ever. Amen. Revelation 7:12 NKJV

The word **Amen... Amen** surrounds the doxology, confirming it with a solemn and weighty affirmation

When we hear the words **Amen** at the beginning and end of this doxology

It's like heaven's way of putting a double exclamation point on it, saying, **This is true, this is certain, this will stand**

Seven attributes: In Scripture, the number seven represents fullness and completeness. In **Revelation 5:12 saying with a loud voice: "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain To receive power and riches and wisdom, And strength and honor and glory and blessing!" Revelation 5:12 NKJV**

This is a sevenfold praise is directed to the Lamb (Jesus)

In this passage, the angels offer a sevenfold praise to God

Together, these acclamations show that heaven's worship is fully centered on both God and the Lamb

Amen. Blessing and glory and wisdom, thanksgiving and honor and power and might, be to our God forever and ever. Amen. Revelation 7:12 NKJV

Forever and ever: When John describes worship in heaven as unending, he is showing us that praise is not just a momentary response

It's the constant atmosphere of eternity. Worship never fades because God's glory never dims, which establishes the eternal horizon of this vision

This reminds us that in Revelation, worship stretches as far as the eye can see, like a horizon without end

It anchors the entire vision of heaven in the reality that everything revolves around God and the Lamb forever

Worship is perpetual: it has no starting or stopping point; it flows like a river that never runs dry

Worship is eternal: the horizon of John's vision is not limited by time; it extends into eternity where God's people will forever adore Him

Worship is central: it's not a background activity in heaven, but the very heart of life before God's throne

Perfect praise precedes perfect peace. The scene sets the tone for the elder's explanation—those in white robes share in this worship because of the Lamb.

Song: Is He Worthy