

## Revelation: Chapter 7

**Opening Question:** What is the identity of those clothed in white robes described in this chapter?

### **Key Takeaways:**

1. The template for the story of the Bible is set in Deuteronomy 32, plays out throughout the Old and New Testaments, and culminates in the Book of Revelation.
2. The “Great Tribulation” refers to the second three and a half year period of the Tribulation, the seventieth week of Daniel 9, where God’s wrath is poured out on the inhabitants of the earth.
3. “Sealing” in chapter 7 refers to the receiving of the Holy Spirit by the now-believing Israelites and may or may not be accompanied by a physical, visible seal.
4. Revelation chapter 7 opens with four angels holding back the Great Tribulation until 144,000 Jewish believers are sealed.
5. In this chapter, believers from every nation, tribe, and tongue are described, worshiping before the throne and before the Lamb.
6. These worshipers are clothed in white robes.
7. The identity of these worshipers is revealed to be those believers who come out of the Great Tribulation where they have been killed for their belief in Christ.

### **Discussion Questions:**

1. Together read aloud Deuteronomy 32, and discuss the “template” Moses lays out for the biblical story. Which part of the story remains to be told? How does the Book of Revelation contribute to the telling of the rest of the story?
2. Together, read aloud Revelation 7 and discuss the scene. Who is mentioned in this scene and where is this scene occurring?
3. Recall what is meant by a “literary” reading of the Scriptures and how this approach is being applied to the Book of Revelation in this study. See the small group guide “Revelation Overview Part One” for the definition, if needed.

### **Practical Application:**

1. Re-read the first “after these things” section of Revelation including chapters 4-8. Summarize what is taking place in this first pass through the seventieth week of Daniel 9, or the seven year tribulation period.
2. Re-read Deuteronomy 32. Practice telling the story of the Bible from Moses’ description of events that will take place in history.
3. Link what is happening to this point in Revelation with Moses’ telling of Israel’s history.

### **Closing Prayer:**

Father, Thank You for the hope we have in Your Word. Help us to approach Scripture with humility and a desire to understand Your truth. Give us wisdom as we study Revelation and other challenging texts. May our understanding of Your plans for the future inspire us to live faithfully in the present. Amen.