

Having the Seal of the Living God

Rev 7: 1-10

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- The 7th chapter of Revelation is a unique chapter in that it is sandwiched between the 6th and 7th seal judgments
 - The 7th chapter is oftentimes referred to as a (parenthetical chapter)
 - The reason for this is the following
 - First...it shows us things occurring in heaven which trigger things on earth (Vs 1-3)
 - Secondly....it allows us to see some of the angelic realm

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- Thirdly...it shows us a pause in judgment to allow grace to flourish (Vs 4-10)
- Fourthly...it shows us that God is not through with the Jews (Vs 4-8)
- Rev 7: 1.....after this.....
 - After what?
 - Rev 6: 12-17
 - I saw four angels.....
 - Standing at the 4 corners of the earth
 - Holding back the 4 winds of the earth

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- Angels.....
 - Angels are created beings endowed with a free will
 - All angels were created holy and uncorrupted
 - Ezek 28: 12-16
 - That free will gives us two classes of angels
 - Holy angels who behold the very face of God
 - Fallen angels who rebelled against God
 - Holy angels are messengers of God
 - Judges 13: 3-5....angel appears to bring news of the birth of Samson
 - I Kings 19: 5-7....an angel brings food to Elijah

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- II Kings 19: 35....one angels kills 185,000 Assyrians in one night
 - Gen 19....angels usher Lot and his family out...
 - Luke 16: 22...it could be their mission to carry the righteous dead to heaven..."and it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried"
 - Luke 22: 43.... And there appeared an angel unto Him from heaven, strengthening Him.

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- Matt 26: 53.... Thinkest thou that I cannot now pray to my Father, and he shall presently give me more than twelve legions of angels?
- Rev 7: 1.....these four angels have the authority to stop any wind from blowing
 - Why is this significant to us today?
 - The hydrological cycle of earth is dependent on wind
 - This would explain the third trumpet (Rev 6: 5-6)
 - This would also aid in understanding (Rev 11: 6)

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- Standing at the 4 corners of the earth
 - Some have said that this proves a flat earth???
 - The same Greek word “gonia” is used in Rev 20: 8
 - Literally it means from all directions
 - East, west, north and south
- Rev 7: 2....I saw another angel.....
 - Bringing a message of grace....
 - Do not harm....
 - Rev 9: 3-6....
 - Only men who do not have the seal of God on their foreheads???
 - Who would that be?

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- Rev 7: 3-8....the 144,000 Jewish evangelists
 - There are two views concerning this seal
 - First....it is analogous to the Israelites during the time of the 10 plagues
 - Some of the plagues did not fall on Israelites
 - They would have be “marked” by circumcision
 - So, it will be for these 144,000 Jewish evangelists
 - They would have be “marked” by the seal of God
 - Second...
 - Believers today are sealed by the Holy Spirit
 - II Cor 1: 22...”who also sealed us and gave *us* the Spirit in our hearts as a pledge.”

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- Eph 1: 13..... “In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation—having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise”
- Eph 4: 30.... “And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.”
- What we are seeing in Rev 7 is the Holy Spirit is still sealing new believers even in the Tribulation
 - Not in the same way as the 144,000 (Rev 7: 16-17)
 - Hab 3: 20.... LORD, I have heard thy speech, *and* was afraid: O LORD, revive thy work in the midst of the years, in the midst of the years make known; in wrath remember mercy.

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- We should also find it interesting....
 - Satan is always wanting to emulate the Almighty
 - Isa 14: 13.... For you have said in your heart, “I will ascend to the heavens; above the stars of God I will raise my throne. And I will sit on the mountain of assembly, in the far reaches of the north.
 - Rev 13: 16-17...And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.
 - An identifying mark of the beast

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- Rev 7: 1-8 is a message baptized in grace
 - II Pet 3: 9...The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.
- The result of this grace....
 - Rev 7: 9-10.....
 - “Hosanna””Salvation to our God”
 - Waving palm branches.....
 - This is the real...”Palm Sunday”
 - “For it is by grace are you saved not through works lest any man should boast” (Eph 2: 8)