

The Great Multitude

Rev 7: 9-17

The Great Multitude

- Whenever we study the Book of the Revelation of Jesus Christ, we would do well to remember the chronology of events.....
 - We are now living in the Church age
 - Also know as the “age of Grace”
 - This age will end at the “Rapture of the Church”
 - John 14: 1-3; I Thess 4: 13-18; I Thess 5: 9-11; I Cor 15: 51-53; II Thess 2: 7; Rev 4: 1
 - Some time after this event the Tribulation period will commence.....

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- The Tribulation is prescribed as a 7-year period
 - Dan 9: 27...called the 70th week of Daniel
 - That 7-year period is divided into 2 sections
 - First....a 3 ½ period of worldwide events
 - This is the period where the seal judgments and the trumpet judgments are manifested on earth
 - Rev 6-9
 - The second half which is an another 3 ½ period is known as the “Great Tribulation”
 - This event will unfold as the 7 bowls of God’s wrath are poured on the earth...Rev 16.....
 - Matt 24: 22.... And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened.

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- At the end of the Tribulation....
 - Jesus will return with the armies of heaven
 - Rev 19: 11-19
 - The beast and the false prophet will be cast into a lake fire
 - Satan will be bound for a 1,000 years
 - Jesus will set up His millennial kingdom on earth
 - Isa 11: 6-10...Isa 65: 20-25.....
 - Satan will be released at the end of the 1,000 years.....Rev 20: 7-10
 - Shortly after that the wicked will be judged at the great white throne.....(Rev 20: 11-15)

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- Then a new heaven and a new earth will be revealed.....Rev 21-22.....
 - Forever we will be basking in the glory of God
- So then, why should we study this Book if the plan is already laid out for us?
 - Rev 1: 3.....Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of the prophecy, and heed the things which are written in it; **for the time is near.**
 - Rev 22: 7..... Behold, **I come quickly:** *blessed is* he that keepeth the sayings of the prophecy of this book.

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- Question.....
 - How are we blessed by this book?
- First.....
 - We see that the blood of Jesus has never/will never lost its power to save people who come to Him in faith.
 - Rev 7: 4-8.....there are 144,000 anointed Jews proclaiming the Gospel....
 - The result is a multitude of Gentiles being saved
 - How do we know they are Gentiles?....
 - Vs 9....from every nation, tribe and tongue...

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- They are wearing white robes.....
 - How were those robes made white?
 - Vs 14.....”made them white by the blood of the Lamb”
 - This is the same way people are declared righteous before God today.....
 - I John 1: 7...But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.
 - I John 1: 9.... If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

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- Secondly.....
 - We are blessed through the fulfillment of His Word....
- Vs 17.....”to springs of the water of life”
 - We see this water revealed in Rev 22: 1-2....
 - What is the origin of this ”water of life?”
 - John 19: 34-35.... but one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately there came out blood and water. And he who has seen has borne witness, and his witness is true; and he knows that he is telling the truth, so that you also may believe.

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- John follows up on this fountain of water of life
 - I John 5: 6-8...This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ; not with the water only, but with the water and with the blood. And it is the Spirit who bears witness, because the Spirit is the truth. For there are three that bear witness, the Spirit and the water and the blood; and the three are in agreement.
 - The Spirit is revealing the truth of eternal life, the water sustains it (Rev 22: 1-2) and the blood secures eternal life for all who believe

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- While this water is physical in description, it is also spiritual...
 - John 4: 10-14.....
 - “will become IN him”
 - “a well springing up to eternal life”
 - Ezek 47: 1-5
 - A symbol of the great river of life in Christ.....
- Question.....
 - Vs 13....who are these?
 - Vs 14....”they are the one who come out of the great tribulation.....these are people saved during the Tribulation period

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- This tells us something very important...
 - These people are/were the unsaved prior to the Rapture of the Church
 - These are people who had never heard the Gospel prior to the Tribulation period
 - Why do we say or think this?
 - II Thess 2: 10-12....
 - Heb 3: 15.... while it is said, “TODAY IF YOU HEAR HIS VOICE, DO NOT HARDEN YOUR HEARTS, AS WHEN THEY PROVOKED ME.”

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- What is our lesson to learn today?
 - It is this.....
- We should never take this Gospel of grace lightly
- We should hold and care for it with great tenderness for it is the “power of God for salvation to everyone who believes.”
- Question.....
 - Where does your salvation rank in priority?