

THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST

"A Great Harvest of Souls"

Revelation 7:9-17

INTRODUCTION:

1. Revelation 7:9-17

2. Vs 9

a) *"After this..."* "After what?"

b) Vs 1-8

1) *"The Great Tribulation Revival"*

3. Revelation 7:4

a) Just think of 144,000 Spirit led, Spirit filled Messianic Jews on fire for Jesus!!!

4. Vs 9

a) *"a great multitude no one could number"*

1) Just means you couldn't just stand there and count them.

b) **NOW WATCH THIS:** *"from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages...."*

5. **WHO ARE THEY?** They are the converts of the 144,000 Jewish Evangelists.

a) **THEY ARE NOT** - The Church

1) 4:4 - The church is in heaven.

6. Revelation 7:13

a) *"Who are these?"*

1) *"sir you know!"*

7. Therefore we read in **Revelation 7:14** that these are those coming out of the Great Tribulation and they have washed their robes and made them white in the Blood of the Lamb.

I. THE STATURE OF THE MULTITUDE

1. Vs 9

a) *"standing"*

2. Cf. 4:4

3. These Tribulation Martyrs are seen in the position of prominence and power and honor before the throne of Almighty God.

II. THE SALVATION OF THE MULTITUDE

1. Vs 9, 13, 14

a) This multitude is clothed in white robes.

2. Revelation 6:11

a) Souls under the alter saved by the Silent Witness.

3. Both these in Revelation 6 and these in chapter 7 are clothed in white robes.

a) White robes always signify one of 2 Things.

1) They have been saved - **INNER RIGHTEOUSNESS**

2) Their works of righteousness - **OUTER RIGHTEOUSNESS**

a. As faithful followers of Christ

III. THE SECURITY OF THE MULTITUDE

(2 Things indicate their safety)

A. WAVING PALM BRANCHES

1. Vs 9

a) "*with Palm Branches in their hands*"

2. So what is the meaning of Palm Branches?

3. Well next week is Palm Sunday.

a) Palm Sunday is the 1st day of Passion week.

b) **John 12:12-13**

1) Jesus Triumphal Entry

4. **Deuteronomy 31:10-12**

5. **John 12:12-13**

B. GOD DWELLING IN THEIR MIDST

1. Vs 15

a) As for God dwelling in their midst, the text says, "*He who sits on the throne will shelter them with His presence*"

1) "*shelter*" - means - to spread His tent.

b) The phrase actually says - "*He who sits on the throne shall spread his tent over them.*"

2. **John 1:14**

a) "*dwelt*" - spread His tent (tabernacled) among us.

3. **DON'T MISS THIS:** The tent is an invitation to dwell together, to be protected by being brought into God's protective dwelling place.

IV. THE SOUND OF THE MULTITUDE

1. Vs 10

a) *"and crying out with a loud voice"*

2. The multitude is standing before the throne of God saying, *"Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the Throne, and to the Lamb."*

3. **Commentator William Barkley** explains the nature of their Salvation experience: "It is not a deliverance which saves a man from trouble but one which brings him triumphantly through trouble.

a) It does not make life easy but makes life Great.

V. THE SERVICE OF THE MULTITUDE

1. **FACT!!!** We are saved to serve God!!! --- even in Heaven.

2. Vs 15

a) Indicates that the Great Multitude saved out of the Tribulation serves Him "day and night" which means "all the time".

3. Serving God continually in His Temple was a privilege accorded to two groups of people in the Old Testament: Levites and priests.

a) **1 Chronicles 9:33**

4. Gentiles were never allowed to serve there!!

a) They could go no further than the **Court of the Gentiles**.

b) **BUT IN HEAVEN**

1) Vs 15

a. *"And serve Him day and night in His temple."*

5. Serving God continually.....without respect to time, is going to be the chief occupation of all who enter into the heavenly kingdom of God.

6. **LISTEN UP:** Those Christians who at this time don't think serving God will be very much fun, especially for all of eternity, *have never discovered the joy of serving on earth.*

CONCLUSION:

1. Vs 16-17

a) Cf. **Psalm 23**

2. This Multitude of Martyred believers will be taken care of by the Good Shepherd.

3. *Isaiah 49:10*

4. Without the mark of the beast believers will be deprived of all of life's essentials.

5. Vs 17

a) ***"and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes"***

1) God will literally take their tears out of their eyes.

6. Cf. *Revelation 21:4*

7. TWO TIMES WE WILL CRY

a) #1 - Because of the things we should have done and we didn't.

b) #2 - Because of the people we should have told about Jesus and we didn't.