



Heaven's Throne Room Revealed

Chapter 7 (Pause Before the Storm)

Revelations 7:1-10. “After this I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding back the four winds of the earth to prevent any wind from blowing on the land or on the sea or on any tree. Then I saw another angel coming up from the east, having the seal of the living God. He called out in a loud voice to the four angels who had been given power to harm the land and the sea: “Do not harm the land or the sea or the trees until we put a seal on the foreheads of the servants of our God.” Then I heard the number of those who were sealed: 144,000 from all the tribes of Israel.

From the tribe of Judah 12,000 were sealed, from the tribe of Reuben 12,000, from the tribe of Gad 12,000, from the tribe of Asher 12,000, from the tribe of Naphtali 12,000, from the tribe of Manasseh 12,000, from the tribe of Simeon 12,000, from the tribe of Levi 12,000, from the tribe of Issachar 12,000, from the tribe of Zebulun 12,000, from the tribe of Joseph 12,000, from the tribe of Benjamin 12,000.

After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. And they cried out in a loud voice: “Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb.”

Note in the above Scripture: One of the 12 tribes is missing?

Who and Why? Answer: Dan...He worshipped false Gods.

Angels= Special messengers, administering his plan for the earth.

These angels supervise the administration of two (2) things:

- (1) **They control the wind from the 4 corners of the earth**
- (2) **They seal the servants of God, the tribulation (144,000) witnesses.**

The Living God is in contrast to the dead gods of the heathen.

- **Only in the Living God is there satisfaction (Psalm 42:2),**

- It is a privilege of knowing and belonging to a Living God, Hosea 1:10.
 - Open to us the friendship, the fellowship, the help, the power, and the presence of the Living God.

The seal of God.....signifying the King's personal property.

Note: Eastern Kings wore a signet ring whose seal was used to authenticate documents as really coming from the king's hand.
Example: Pharaoh gave Joseph his signet ring in token of the authority which had been delegated to him (Genesis 41:42)

In the early church, sealing meant or was connected with:

- A. Baptism (regularly described as "sealing")...marking the baptized believer as "His" property,
- B. The possession of the Holy Spirit signifying that a man belongs to God. Paul regularly talks about the Christian being sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit.

The 144,000 number is not the number of the faithful in this day.....It is the faithful coming out of the tribulation. The number stands for completeness and that there will be a great number saved coming out of the tribulation.

The Glory of the Saints

The number is beyond all counting.

The shout of the faithful ascribes salvation to God...the great Savior, the great deliverer of His people.

The deliverance...is not of escape, but of conquest.

The God in which they placed their trust has not delivered them from trials and tribulations...but, He has delivered them through those trials and problems (We are more than conquerors through Him who has given us life eternally).

?? The Question: Do we understand the difference between "being delivered from" and "being delivered through" trials and problems that come our way? *It is important to understand the irony of God's children before the tribulation period and the children of God during the tribulation period.*

Remember: Two (2) things:

1. The “rapture” is a rescue, but the tribulation is a judgement

“I have revealed you to those whom you gave me out of the world. They were yours; you gave them to me and they have obeyed your word. (John 17:6)

“Because you have obeyed my command to persevere, I will protect you from the great time of testing that will come upon the whole world to test those who belong to this world. (Revelation 3:10)

2. No mention of the church during the tribulation in Revelation 4-22

There is no mention of the church in the prophetic description of the great tribulation period. The church is mentioned 16 times in chapters 1-3. But, it is not mentioned once in chapters 4-22 from the great tribulation through the battle of Armageddon and the 1000-year reign of Christ on Earth.

Rev. 7:11-12...The Praise of the Multitude

“All the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures. They fell down on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, saying: “Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom and thanks and honor and power and strength be to our God forever and ever. Amen!”

Concentric circles of the inhabitants of heaven.

Note: The angels will worship God along with all the inhabitants of heaven with a consistent and conscious array of vocal praise along with the bowing of each one honoring and giving thanks to the One on the throne.

They ascribe:

- Blessing to God
- Glory to God
- Wisdom to God
- Offer Thanksgiving to God
- Honor to God
- Power to God
- Strength to God

Rev. 7:13-14, “Then one of the elders asked me, “These in white robes—who are they, and where did they come from?” I answered, “Sir, you know.” And he said, “These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.”

Points to remember

- (1) **They are only those who are coming out of the great tribulation.**

(2) They have washed their robes in the blood of Jesus (the Lamb)----- made white (purity)...only for those who have made the decision to wash their robes, giving credit to the fact that they know that they would be unclean without the blood of Jesus making them whole and clean to be in the presence of God.

(3) It is the blood of Jesus:

- **Which cleanses us from all sin (1 John 1:7)**
- **Makes expiation for us (Romans 3:25)**
- **That we are justified (Romans 5:9)**
- **That we have redemption (Ephesians 1:7)**
- **That we have peace with God (Colossians 1:20)**
- **That purges our conscience from dead works to serve the living God (Hebrews 9:14).**

How does a man avail himself of the sacrifice of Christ?

1. **Through repentance (genuine sorrow for his sin)**
2. **Through faith (believe with all his heart that Jesus lived, died, and has performed what was promised [resurrected from the dead]...for the salvation of mankind).**
3. **Realizes that it is only through the grace and mercy of God that our sins are forgiven.**

Rev. 7:15, "Therefore, "they are before the throne of God and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence."

This is the shechinah glory...a visible presence of the glory of God.

Shekinah – a Chaldean word meaning resting-place, not found in Scripture, but used by the later Jews to designate the visible symbol of God's presence in the Tabernacle, and afterwards in Solomon's temple. When the Lord led Israel out of Egypt, he went before them "in a pillar of a cloud." This was the symbol of his presence with his people. God also spoke to Moses through the 'Shekinah' out of a burning bush. For references made to it during the wilderness wanderings, see Exodus 14:20; 40:34-38; Leviticus 9:23, 24; Numbers 14:10; 16:19, 42. It is probable that after the entrance into Canaan this glory-cloud settled in the tabernacle upon the Ark of the Covenant in the most holy place.

Final thought of 7:15...

A promise: The person who faithfully works and witnesses for God has always the glory of God upon his work.

The Key: This is only true if the Holy Spirit is involved in man's work. Man's work must be in line with what the Holy Spirit has revealed to him.

There have been imitators...and,

***There have been genuine believers who faithfully minister the Word of God.
Seek the Truth!***

Revelation 7:17-18, “For the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd; he will lead them to springs of living water. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

THE BLISS OF THE BLESSED

The spiritual promise here is the ultimate satisfying of the hunger and thirst of the human soul. Matthew 5:6; John 6:35; John 4:14

How many of you have had sad events happen in your life...or reasons to cry this week?

Just the fact that there will be no sadness in heaven should be enough!

*BUT, there will be so much more to celebrate and rejoice.
Benefits of knowing Jesus...PURE JOY!*

Summation Hymn

*O Christ, in thee my soul has found,
And found in Thee alone,
The peace, the joy, I sought so long,
The bliss till now unknown.
Now none but Christ can satisfy,
None other name for me!
There's love, and life, and lasting joy,
Lord Jesus, I found in Thee.*

