

Revelation Study ~ Chapter 7 Part 2

Revelation 7:9-17 ~ The Tribulation Redeemed

The grand result of the 144,000 is the next view of John. Throughout the period of tribulation upon the earth, God's plan for redemption has not been suspended. The resulting fruitfulness of the 144,000 is a multitude of people who are redeemed.

The multitude was a number beyond counting. The description of their origins gives rise to the understanding that heaven is undiscriminating in reaching the world.

Consider what it might mean about where the multitude came from:

- Nation -
- Tribes -
- Peoples -
- Languages -

In verse 9, three descriptions are given of the great multitude concerning their after-redemption condition.

Think about these descriptions and write what you think they signify:

1. Standing before the throne and the Lamb

2. Clothed in white robes

3. Palm branches in their hands

In verse ten, the cry of the multitude is the cry of the redeemed, declaring in solidarity that salvation is from Almighty God and the Lamb. This is the perpetual voice of all the saints of all time, but the significance of this moment is unparalleled as these are the saved out of the Great Tribulation.

They are not the only ones around the throne. As we gaze upon the throne room of God, the angels, the elders and the four living creatures are still there. Their response is to proclaim in prostrated worship their praise to the Almighty.

These words of praise are repeated by this group and again find their voice here.

Consider: what is the meaning of each:

- **Amen -**
- **Blessing -**
- **Glory -**
- **Wisdom -**
- **Thanksgiving -**
- **Honor -**
- **Power -**
- **Might -**

After the chorus of praise subsides, one of the elders speaks to John and asks about those in the white robes. John replies by putting the question back to the elder and receiving the answer.

Speculate: Why did the elder ask this question? Why did John reply as he did?

The dichotomy of Christianity is frequently found in the Scriptures. For example: you have to die to live, you have to give to gain, you have to lose to find, etc. The idea of washing in blood to become white is another of these dichotomies.

What does it mean to have washed their robes in the blood of the Lamb?

The final section of chapter seven is a testimony concerning the fulfilled promises of God. There are several considerations to make in these final three verses as the elder voices this song of praise. Let us look upon these last three verses individually and fill in the observations.

Verse 15 observations of the redeemed:

- **Their Position -**
- **Their Purpose -**
- **Their Protection -**

Verse 16 observations of God's providence:

Consider: how important would it be for those coming out of the tribulation to have the promise of never hungering or thirsting again?

What is the importance of their protection from the sun or scorching heat?

Verse 17 observations of the total redemption fulfilled:

Make a comparison of verse 17 with Revelation 21:4-7 with two questions in mind. How would this encourage the readers of the day? How does this encourage you?

Key Words:

Multitude - (Greek: "ochlos") meaning: "a crowd, the common people"

Great - (Greek: "polus") meaning: "much, many (numerically)"

Number - (Greek: "arithmesai") meaning: "to count, to number"

Nations - (Greek: "ethnous") meaning: "race, people, gentiles"

Tribes - (Greek: "phulon") meaning: "tribe or clan"

Peoples - (Greek: "laon") meaning: "a crowd or people-group"

Languages - (Greek: "glosson") meaning: "language, tongue, distinguished by speech"

Washed - (Greek: "eplunan") meaning: "to plunge"