

Summit Woods Baptist Church
Sermon Study Equipping Class

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Revelation 7:1-8

Remember to begin your study early in the week so that you have time to really think (and keep thinking) about the passage without being rushed.

❖ Day 1

Read Revelation 7:1-8

For these lessons, the sermon text is provided in a format that visually helps display the structure of the paragraph or section of text. The main verbs are underlined. Commands are double-underlined. Generally, the main indicative clauses remain to the left, and the other clauses are either directly underneath when they have equal priority to what comes before or are tabbed to the right when the clause supports, develops, or draws a conclusion from a neighboring clause.

Read Revelation 7:1-8

After this I saw four angels
standing
at the four corners
of the earth,
holding back the four winds
of the earth,
so that no wind would blow
on the earth
or on the sea
or on any tree.

And I saw another angel
ascending
from the rising
of the sun,
having the seal
of the living God;
and he cried out
with a loud voice
to the four angels
to whom it was granted
to harm the earth
and the sea,
saying,
"Do not harm the earth
or the sea
or the trees
until we have sealed the bond-servants
of our God
on their foreheads."

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And I heard the number

of those who were sealed,

one hundred and forty-four thousand sealed

from every tribe

of the sons of Israel:

from the tribe of Judah, twelve thousand *were sealed*,

from the tribe of Reuben twelve thousand,

from the tribe of Gad twelve thousand,

from the tribe of Asher twelve thousand,

from the tribe of Naphtali twelve thousand,

from the tribe of Manasseh twelve thousand,

from the tribe of Simeon twelve thousand,

from the tribe of Levi twelve thousand,

from the tribe of Issachar twelve thousand,

from the tribe of Zebulun twelve thousand,

from the tribe of Joseph twelve thousand,

from the tribe of Benjamin, twelve thousand *were sealed*.

1. 'After' what event is John referring to in v 1? (read Ch 6:12-17) What dire question is asked at the end of verse 17 that leads into chapter 7?
2. Describe the contrast between God's actions in chapters 6 and 8 and God's actions in chapter 7?
3. How many angels did he see? Where were they located? Why is this?

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4. What are they holding back? What do they symbolize? Look up Jeremiah 49:36; Ezekiel 37:9; Daniel 7:2, Zechariah 2:6 to see other uses of this phrase in context.

5. What was the wind withheld from blowing on?

6. Is there any significance about the fifth angel 'ascending from the rising of the sun' in verse 2? Explain. (Which direction does the sun rise? Is there any significance to this direction?)

7. What did the angel from the east have in his possession? Who else has this? (John 6:27)

8. Do you see a parallel between the sealing here and the mark put upon the faithful in Ezekiel 9:1-11? Explain.

❖ Day 2

Read Revelation 7:1-8 again.

9. Who was the third angel crying out to?

10. What power or authority did the four angels possess?

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11. What needed to happen before the angels could perform this action?

12. What is the significance of the sealing? Why is it on the forehead?

13. What command did the angel from the east give to the four angels? Why?

14. When we see the sealing and its relationship with God's people, does that mean they are now exempt from earthly suffering during God's wrath poured out?

15. What other seal of significance is described in Revelation 13:16-18?

❖ Day 3

Read Revelation 7:1-8 again.

16. There are other scriptures that refer to a person or object 'sealed by God'.
Look up and compare John 6:27; 2 Timothy 2:19; Revelation 9:4.

17. How many of those are sealed? How many tribes and how many from each tribe?

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18. Who are 144,000? Support your answer from scripture.

19. Which of the twelve tribes of Israel is missing? Discuss why that may be. Look at Judges 18:1-31 and 1 Kings 12:25–33 for possible reasons.

20. How has God marked or sealed His people in NT? See Ephesians 1:13-14

21. What should our response be as believers to this protection that God has placed on us?

In preparation for Sunday, pray grateful for God's protection of his people. Pray trusting in the assurance of Christ and anticipating God keeping his promises to the end.