Revelation 7:9-17

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 7:9-17.

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.

⁹ After these things I looked, and behold,

a great multitude which no one could count, from every nation and all tribes and peoples and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, and palm branches were in their hands; ¹⁰ and they cry out with a loud voice, saying, "Salvation to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb." ¹¹ And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures; and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹² saying, "Amen, blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might, be to our God forever and ever. Amen." ¹³ Then one of the elders answered, saying to me, "These who are clothed in the white robes, who are they, and where have they come from?" ¹⁴ I said to him, "My lord, you know." And he said to me, "These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. ¹⁵ For this reason, they are before the throne of God; and they serve Him day and night in His temple; and He who sits on the throne will spread His tabernacle over them. ¹⁶ They <u>will hunger</u> no longer, nor thirst anymore; nor will the sun beat down on them, nor any heat; ¹⁷ for the Lamb in the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and will guide them to springs of the water of life; and God will wipe every tear from their eyes."

1. What does "after these things" refer to in vs. 9?

- 2. Who all is present during this account?
- 3. How do those present respond to the circumstances unfolding?
- 4. Where are those worshiping God located?
- 5. Where is God in this scene? Who is with him?

- 6. What does it mean that this group was holding palm branches? What purpose did that serve? Also see Lev. 23:40, John 12:12-13
- 7. What is stated about God?

8. How is the group in this passage different than the group described in the previous passage?

Day 2

Read Revelation 7:9-17 again.

- 9. What event or period precedes this account? How do you know?
- 10. Describe what those in white robes can expect from God?
- 11. What gives this "great multitude" an opportunity to be present here?
- 12. Describe how God is worshiped in this passage.
- 13. Describe the contrast between what they will experience in vs. 15-17 and what they had experienced in chapter 6 (also see Matt 24:16-22).

14. What will the shepherd do for this group? Describe the significance of this in light of what they had previously experienced.

Day 3

Read Revelation 7:9-17 again.

- 15. What is the significance of their robes being washed in blood? Why would this be noted at this point?
- 16. What all is ascribed to God as praise in this passage?

17. What would it mean for God to "spread His tabernacle over them"? Also see 21:3, Lev. 26:11-12, Ezekiel 37:27.

18. Specifically describe the security received in vs. 15-17, particularly in light of what they previously experienced.

19. How does (or how can) this passage provide hope to you as a believer in the midst of your current circumstances?

20. Describe how the power of God is at work through what will take place in this passage. Think about this particularly in light of what you previously read in chapter 6.

21. Where is the Lamb located according to verse 17. What is the significance of the Lamb's location?

22. Explain the relationship between the lamb and the shepherd. Consider Psalm 23 and John 10.

23. How can this passage specifically be used in your witness of the gospel to an unbeliever?

24. Summarize this passage in 21 words or less.

In preparation for Sunday, ask the Lord to prepare the hearts of our congregation for the preaching of the Word. Ask for the Holy Spirit to work among us in conviction over sin, encouragement to righteousness, and unity among those who are looking forward to these things to come.