

CHRIST APOSTELIC CHURCH OF PENNSYLVANIA [Mount of Redemption]

5200 PASCHALL AVENUE, PHILADELPHIA, PA 19143. P. O. Box 2294, Upper Darby, PA 19082

TEL/FAX: (215) 724- 5711

BIBLE STUDY

May 23, 2012

TEXT: REVELATION Chapter 75

We have just seen Jesus Christ break open 6 of the seals that bind the book. We have seen how the horsemen represent the wars and killing, famine and pestilence, hunger and starvation, death and hell that will be unleashed upon the earth.

Question: Why has God given us a glimpse of the things to come?
Answer: They are to warn us to turn to His Son. Christ alone is the only one who can save us from the judgment to come.

Chapter 7 is an interlude between the 6th and 7th seals

And interlude is anything that fills time between two events. How long this interlude that God has chosen to wait we don't know. The Bible does not say. The winds of judgment are in the hands of God and His angels, not in the hands of evil.

Verse 1: The "after" in this verse is after the happenings of the first six seals. The angels were to do something to the whole earth (four corners of the earth). These angels were waiting for orders from God. The wrath is held back until those who must be sealed are sealed.

Rev. 7 v.1-4 Suggest that before the world is plunged into disasters ushered in by the sixth seal judgment at the end of the first quarter of the Tribulation, God will raise up an army of 144,000 Jewish evangelists to spread across the globe and bring in a soul harvest of unimaginable proportions. Each of them will receive a "SEAL" on his forehead. While we don't know exactly what this seal will be, the text seems to suggest it will be visible. Whatever the seal is, it affords them some kind of supernatural protection, at least until the great soul harvest in Rev. 7 v.9 can be accomplished.

What is the significance of the East in verse 2?

This is the same location from which the light comes. This angel coming out of the east has authority over the other four angels.

Remember that the Star of the Christ child that the wise men followed was from the east. When Christ comes back after the tribulation, He will come from the east – **Matthew 24:27**

144,000 Jews will miraculously become devout believers in Jesus as their promised Messiah and Savior. This will occur much the same as Saul of Tarsus (Paul) was miraculously brought to faith on the road to Damascus. I don't know what will cause the conversion, other than the power of the Holy Spirit.

At the very end, the 144,000 witnesses will stand triumphantly on Mount Zion with Jesus. Jesus refers to them as "these brothers of mine". (Mat. 25 v.31-46). Keep in mind; it will be extremely difficult for people to aid and abet these evangelists at this tribulation period. They will no doubt be risking their lives. But the lesson inherent here is that God's man or woman is indestructible until God is finished with him here on earth. No power can destroy the children of God. What a marvelous thing to be on the Lord's side!

Rev. 7 v. 5 – 8 Notice that 12,000 witnesses come from each tribe of Israel. Most Jews alive today do not know which tribe they come from; but God does! And He purposely selects 12,000 from each of the 12 tribes. You may also notice when you read Rev. 7 v.4-8 that Dan's tribe is missing and Manasses was substituted in his place. Why? Some scholars believe that the Jewish Antichrist, known as the False Prophet, will be Dan's descendant.

Let's see Gen. 49: "Dan will be a serpent in the way, a venomous viper by the path that bites the horse's heels so that his rider falls backward". He was omitted because of his evil ways.

Manasses was substituted in Dan's place. Manasses and Ephraim are sons of Joseph. Remember Jacob's blessing on both of them when he crossed his hands and blessed the younger Ephraim before the older Manasses Gen. 48:5. Now God remembers Manasses - God chooses whom He will.

Rev. 7:9 - These are obviously the believers in Jesus Christ (Lamb) who have been washed in the blood of the Lamb and raptured into heaven.

One comforting truth from Revelation is that although Antichrist will have power over all peoples and languages, but he will not be able to deceive every individual. Verse 9 makes it clear that the preaching of the gospel by the 144,000 Jewish witnesses will reach a multitude that no one can number, from every language, tribe, and people. Therefore, even Satan's control will not keep people from receiving Christ individually.

Nations and peoples have rejected Christ, but individuals have received Him. According to John 1 v.10-11, "He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him." But the text continues: "Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God." (v.12)

Rev. 7:10 *"And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lam".*

We cannot take credit for our salvation. Our salvation is a free gift through grace. Jesus deserves all the credit. He purchased our salvation with His precious blood. We must

praise and worship Jesus for He alone deserves all the credit. Of course, with God (Elohim) sitting upon the center throne!

Rev. 7: 11 This is another view of the throne area. God is on the center throne and Jesus is sitting at the right hand of the Father. The four living beings are very near the throne. The twenty-four elders are very near as well. The angels encircle the throne. All fall before the throne of God in total adoration and worship

Re. 7:12 *"Saying, Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, [be] unto our God for ever and ever. Amen"*

The "Amen" is saying, "so be it", to the praise and worship of Almighty God. This blessing here is seven fold.

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

Spiritually complete blessings are spoken here in this heavenly setting

Rev. 7:13 - 14 This elder probably asks the question in this verse to teach those who do not understand who these are.

This is certainly a group of believers. They have been taken out of the great tribulation on the earth. Christians will know tribulation, but will be saved from the wrath to come. I Thessalonians 1:10 "And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, [even] Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come."

The white robes portray a standing of righteousness, and the multitude praises God especially for their salvation. Note the sevenfold praise of verse 12.

Rev 7: 15 We, Christians, are before the throne of God because we decided to follow Jesus, to accept His salvation, to be washed in His blood, and to believe in the resurrection. We are to be His servants and to dwell with Him forever. It speaks of "day and night" here, but there is no night in heaven with Jesus. We are in the presence of the Light, and there is just one eternal day with Him. Revelation 21-3 speaks of this very thing.

Rev. 7: 16 - Isaiah 49:10 we will read, "They shall not hunger nor thirst; neither shall the heat nor sun smite them: for he that hath mercy on them shall lead them, even by the springs of water shall he guide them." Both of these remind us of the 23rd Psalm. Jesus is the Shepherd. He sees to the needs of His flock. Jesus is the Light, and there will be no need for the sun or the moon. There will be a presence of Light continuously

Rev. 7:17 *“For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes”*

This is surely heaven where there is eternal peace and joy. Here again, we see Jesus as the Shepherd of His sheep, providing for all our needs, and making us blissfully happy. We have tears on earth but not in heaven.

PRAISE GOD ALMIGHTY FOR HIS LOVE AND MERCY!!!

References:

- Holy Bible: King James Version
- [Http://www.discoverrevelation.com](http://www.discoverrevelation.com)
- <http://revlu.com>