THE BOOK OF REVELATION

A REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST

REVELATION CHAPTER 7:13-17

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

"SALVATION IN THE MIDST OF HEAVEN"

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Salvation, Tribulation, End Times, Wrath, Judgment

INTRODUCTION to the text Revelation 7:13-17

Someday All That We Are Living for and Doing will No Longer be Important at All – Our Time on Earth, here will have been Completed...

We're Looking at the Closing Events of Human Government

Revelation 7:13

Then one of the elders answered, saying to me, "Who are these arrayed in white robes, and where did they come from?" **:14** And I said to him, "Sir, you know." So he said to me, "These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. **: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 dwell among them. **:16** They shall neither hunger anymore nor thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any heat; **:17** for the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them and lead them to living fountains of waters. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

The Ministry of the 144,000

Revelation 7:3

saying, "Do not harm the earth, the sea, or the trees till we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads."

Their Ministry Successes

Revelation 7:9

After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands, **:10** and crying out with a loud voice, saying, "Salvation *belongs* to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

Looking Ahead to the Future;

We See a Sneak Preview of The Evangelistic Successes of Those 144,000 Jewish Preachers of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

...And if that wasn't exciting enough, we've got a zoom-in shot of the "Situation Room" located in Heaven, where we see the results of spirit-filled ministry

The Situation Room?

Well – It's None Other Than God's Holy Throne Room

Revelation 7:11-12

All the angels stood around the throne and the elders and the four living creatures, and fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, **:12** saying: "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom, Thanksgiving and honor and power and might, *Be* to our God forever and ever. - Amen."

Jesus Confirms This for Us When He Said...

Luke 15:4,10

"What man among you, owning a hundred sheep, that if he loses one of them, will he not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness, and go after the one which is lost and seek it out until he finds it? **:5** And when he has found *it*, he lays *it* on his shoulders, rejoicing. **:6** So that when he comes home, he calls together all *his* **friends** and **neighbors**, saying to them, "Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep which was lost!' **:7** I'm telling you the truth – there is more joy in heaven over one **sinner who repents** than over ninety-nine just people... **:10** Likewise, I say to you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one **sinner who repents**."

> But Pastor Jack – I Thought the Word "Repent" Was a really scary and spooky word? // Not At All –

Angels Rejoice and Celebrate Over Every Person Who "Changes Their Mind" about Jesus Christ!

(That's Repentance) To Turn Away from Your Sin and to Turn Towards Jesus Christ!

So Chapter 7 gives us that look into the events that will come during the last half of the great tribulation period.

Where Now We See an Amazing Scene

SALVATION IN THE MIDST OF HEAVEN

I.) Means that heaven will be well attended vv. 13-14a

Then one of the elders (24) answered, saying to me, "**Who** are these arrayed in white robes, and **where** did they come from?" **:14** And I said to him, "Sir, you know." So he said to me...

Where is John, in the spirit, at the time of this heavenly vision? (Heaven)

So Adjust Your Vision Friend, we are peeking into a futuristic moment of heaven

Heaven will be well attended

1st By those who have suffered for Jesus Christ v.13-14a

Then one of the elders (24) answered, saying to me, "**Who** are these arrayed in white robes? - **:14** And I said to him, "Sir, you know."

John Didn't Know Who They Were (he couldn't identify them)

Here is a Greek Idiom "I don't know, How Could I Know?

Heaven will be well attended

1st By those who have suffered for Jesus Christ v.13-14a

CHRISTIAN, MAKE NO MISTAKE ABOUT IT. This Group is not the Church but a Separated Group of Tribulation Saints Dan

THE DISTINCTIONS BETWEEN THESE TWO GROUPS OF SAINTS

The Church Age Believers Come to Faith in Jesus Christ **Prior** to the Tribulation. These People Find Their Faith in Jesus Christ **During** the Tribulation

The Church Age Believers are **Kept From** the Tribulation Period. These People Must **Go Through** the Tribulation Period

The Church Age Believers are Seen in Heaven Wearing **Fine White Linen** These People are Seen in Heaven Wearing **White Robes**

The Church Age Believers are Called to Express Their Faith by **Living for Jesus** These People are Called to express Their Faith by **Dying for Jesus**

The Church Age Believers are **Found Seated** in Heaven during the Tribulation These People are **Found Suffering** on Earth because of the Tribulation

The Church Age Believers **They are the Heavenly Wedding** Scene These People Find Themselves **invited to attend the Wedding**

The Church Age Believers will be **Married to Jesus Christ** in Eternity These People are **Servants of Jesus Christ** forever in Eternity

The Church Age Believers are Seen in Heaven **wearing Crowns** These People wear **no such crowns** in heaven

The Church Age Believers in Heaven have **Harps and Vials** These People are Seen having **Palm Branches**

Heaven will be well attended

2nd By those who have come out of this world v.13-14a

This heavenly elder asked a second question: ...John - where did they come from?" **:14** And I said to him, "Sir, you know."

What Do We Know?

That John Knows Intuitively that This Elder Knows Both "Who they are and Where they have come from.

This is a Significant Truth Here

Why? Because These Are The Ones Mentioned in Revelation 6

Revelation 6:11

Then a white robe was given to each of them; and it was said to them that they should <u>rest a little while</u> <u>longer, until both the number of their fellow servants and their brethren, who would be killed as they</u> *were*, was completed.

Because We Know Proof Positive

That 144,000 are actually Converted Jews & That Their Converts Do Not Belong to the Church-Age-Believers

The Preaching of the Gospel will be Prolific in the Earth at that Time.

Church, Make No Mistake About It

"There is not one prerequisite that remains for Jesus Christ to return right now for His church - - not one!

The Bible Teaches the Doctrine of The Immanency of Christ

It Means The Instantaneous, Immediate, Without Warning That There are No Required Events or Actions Needed Prior to the RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH

SALVATION IN THE MIDST OF HEAVEN

II.) Means it's the gathering of God's faithful vv. 14b-15

14... So he said to me, "These are the ones who (A) come out of the great tribulation, and (B) washed their robes and (C) made them white in the blood of the Lamb. :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 dwell among them

Means - it's the gathering of God's faithful

1st A faithful believer is one who – has his course set v.14b

So he said to me, "These are the ones who (A) come out of the great tribulation, Heaven – it's going to be filled with God's faithful people !!!

Can You Today Say – I am Faithful in This or That Thing !!!

1st A faithful believer is one who – has his course set v.14b

Matthew 24:45

"Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his master made ruler over his household, to give them food in due season? **:46** Blessed *is* that servant whom his master, when he comes, will find so doing.

Matthew 25:21

His lord said to him, "Well *done,* good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.'

1 Corinthians 4:2

The one thing required of such servants is that they be faithful to their master.

1 Timothy 1:12

And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord who has enabled me, because He counted me faithful, putting *me* into the ministry,

Colossians 1:2

To the saints and faithful brethren in Christ *who are* in Colossae:

Matthew 7:20

Therefore by their fruits (faithfulness to a task) you will know them. :21 "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. :22 Many will say to Me in that day, "Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' :23 And then I will declare to them, "I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!' :24 "Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man

"These are the ones who (A) come out of the great tribulation,

> Literally, The Tribulation, The Great One

> > Matthew 24:21

For then there will be great tribulation (or tribulation, the great one), such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be.

Means - it's the gathering of God's faithful

2nd A faithful believer is one who – is committed to it v.14b

So he said to me, "These are the ones who (B) washed their robes...

proper clothing and attire is needed for heaven above.

It may surprise you as to what that outfit must be like.

His Blood Makes Things White to God

Means - it's the gathering of God's faithful

3rd A faithful believer is one who – secure in the Lord v.14b-15

So he said to me, "These are the ones who (C) made them (their robes) white in the blood of the Lamb. **: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 dwell among them

"These Are The Ones"

Remember Back to Revelation 6 Where it was Said...

Revelation 6:11 Those who had died in the opening scene of the tribulation period should... rest a little while longer, until both *the number of* their fellow servants and their brethren, who would be killed as they *were*, was completed.

So he said to me, "These are the ones who (C) made them (their robes) white in the blood of the Lamb.

Science 1A This is Difficult for Us to Grasp in Our Minds. That Blood Could Have Cleansing Properties.

First of all - know this.

That we know that the further back you go toward creation, the more pure blooded mankind was. The gene pool hadn't long been polluted since creation and Eden. It's gotten worse and more polluted as time moves out from man's origin.

Example:

Genesis 6:9

These are the generations of Noah: Noah was a just man and **perfect** in his generations, and Noah walked with God.

Perfect MyIm; Dt tamiym, taw-meem'; from 8552; still intact, entire without defilement

In Earlier Days of Medicine – If Someone was Deathly ill and Their Blood is contaminated, they would Bleed the Patient and then add Healthy blood, cleansing blood

"Ya Know — Ever Since I got that Transfusion, I haven't had a bad thought or cross word"

Verse 14

So he said to me, "These are the ones who (C) made them (their robes) white in the blood of the Lamb.

Church – Notice, Their Own Blood wasn't Required for Salvation.

Their Blood was Given in Service to Our God as Martyrs

Not as cultists who fly airplanes into buildings or lunatics strapped to bombs! It's hard to believe that in the 21st Century there are people who still think that the sacrificing of a human life brings paradise.

God Does Not Require Your Human Blood for Devotion or Your Life for Salvation.

#1 Reason is God can't use it because it is corrupted.#2 Second reason is, it cannot perform anything#3 Because it has no Power

Romans 12:1 – Amplified Version

So then, my friends, because of God's great mercy to us - I appeal to you: Offer yourselves as a living sacrifices to God, not died ones, dedicated to his service and callings being a blessing to him. This is the true worship of God - that you offer yourself to Him each day.

Hebrews 9:22

And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, For without **shedding of blood** there is no remission.

Acts 20:27

For I have not shunned to declare to you the whole counsel of God. **:28** Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God, which He purchased with **His own blood**.

Romans 3:25

For God set forth Jesus as a propitiation (sacrifice) by His blood...

Romans 5:8

But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. **:9** Much more then, having now been **justified by His blood**, we shall be saved from wrath through Him.

Ephesians 1:7

In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace

Colossians 1:19

For it pleased God *the Father that* in Jesus Christ, all the fullness of God should dwell, **:20** and that by Him, He reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether they be things on earth or things in heaven, by having made peace through the **blood of His cross**.

1 Peter 1:18

knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, *like* silver or gold, from your aimless conduct *received* by tradition from your fathers, **:19** but with **the precious blood of Christ**, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.

Revelation 1:5b

... To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood,

AND IN THE GREAT SECOND COMING OF JESUS CHRIST;

Revelation 19:13

Jesus Christ *was* clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called "The Word of God."

ACCORDING TO GOD - JESUS HAD TO DIE!

Exodus 12:1-13

Now the LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, saying, :2 "This month *shall be* your beginning of months; it *shall be* the first month of the year to you. :3 Speak tnow o all the congregation of Israel, saying: "On the tenth of this month every man shall take for himself **a lamb**, according to the house of *his* father, **a lamb** for a household. :4 And if the household is too small for the lamb, let him and his neighbor next door to his house take *it* according to the number of the persons; according to each man's need you shall make your count for **the lamb**. :5 Your lamb must be without any flaws, it must be a male - of the first year. :6 Now you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of the same month. Then the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it in the even hours. :7 And they shall take *some* of the blood and put *it* on the two doorposts and on the lintel of the houses where they eat it. :8 Then they shall eat it having been roasted in the fire, with unleavened bread *and* with bitter *herbs* they shall eat it...: 12 "For I will pass through the land of Egypt on that

night, and will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I *am* the LORD. **:13** Now the blood of the lamb shall be a sign for you on the houses where you *are*. And when I see the blood, I will "pass over" you; and the plague of death shall not be on you to destroy *you* when I strike...

According to God - Jesus Had to Die!

Isaiah 53:6

All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

2 Corinthians 5:19

that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation.

The Blood of God is the Only Approved Cleansing Agent for Sin.

And the fact that sin exists – is proof that God is holy a pure and salvation is needed for all.

Verse 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 (the Lord) will **dwell** among them

(the Lord) will **dwell** among them

Dwell / skhno/w skenoo, skay-no´-o; to spread wide a tent or estate. to make an encampment, to occupy either a tent or a mansion. As God did in dwelling in either the Tabernacle of old, or the Temple in Jerusalem.

They Shall Be Safe Under His Care

All Their Doubt and Fears and Insecurities that a Wicked and Godless Generation can Bring Against a Believer... Jesus Himself will Comfort!

> **1 Corinthians 3:16** Do you not know that you are the temple of God and *that* the Spirit of God dwells in you?

2 Corinthians 4:6

For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. **:7** But we have this **treasure in** earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us.

SALVATION IN THE MIDST OF HEAVEN

III.) Means heaven is a place of absolute reality vv.16-17

:16 They shall neither (A) hunger anymore nor (B) thirst anymore; (C) the sun shall not strike them, (D) nor any heat; **:17** for the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them and lead them to living fountains of waters. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Heaven is a place of absolute reality

1st Earthly perils will no longer trouble us v.16

They shall neither (A) hunger anymore nor (B) thirst anymore; (C) the sun shall not strike them, (D) nor any heat;

Recorded Here are The Causes of Death: Starvation/Depravation/Neglect and Exposure

Remember Chapter 7 breaks Chronology,

So we are probably looking ahead to the sufferings imposed by the government of the antichrist...

Revelation 13:16

He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads, :17 and that no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.

John 16:33

These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."

2 Timothy 3:12

Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.

John 18:36

Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would fight, so that I should not be delivered to the Jews; but now My kingdom is not from here."

Heaven is a place of absolute reality

d Heavenly blessings will never escape us

v.17

for **the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne** will shepherd them and lead them to living fountains of waters. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Looking Back at Revelation 7:9

Revelation 7:9

I saw a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, <u>standing</u> <u>before</u> (not seated) the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, **with palm branches in their hands**,

The "palm branches" in their hands

Palm Branches have always been a symbol of peace and security

to the nation of Israel...

Leviticus 23:34

"Speak to the children of Israel, saying: 'The fifteenth day of this seventh month *shall be* the Feast of Tabernacles *for* seven days to the LORD.... **:40** And you shall take for yourselves on the first day the fruit of beautiful trees, and branches from the palm trees, **:42** You shall dwell under them in like tents for seven days. All who are native Israelites shall dwell in these tents made of palm branches

:43 that your generations may know that I made the children of Israel dwell in tents when I brought them out of the land of Egypt: I *am* the LORD your God.' "

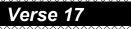
From the Days of Nehemiah and the Return of the Captives, As they celebrated their freedom in returning to their homeland - Israel

"palm branches" & Palm Sunday

John 12:12

The next day a great multitude that had come to the feast, when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, **:13** took branches of palm trees and went out to meet Him, and cried out: "Hosanna! *'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD*!' The King of Israel!"

A Symbol of Liberation and Independence



for **the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne** will shepherd them and lead them...

Psalm 23:1

The LORD *is* my shepherd; I shall not want. :2 He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters. :3 He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness For His name's sake. :4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; For You *are* with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. :5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over. :6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me All the days of my life; And I will dwell in the house of the LORD Forever.

HIS ABILITY TO SAVE US FROM WRATH = DELIVERANCE HIS WILLINGNESS TO INSTRUCT US = Shepherding HIS DESIRE TO HAVE US WITH HIM = Fellowship HIS HEART TO COMFORT US = SATISFY

Heaven is a place of absolute reality

3rd Eternity will remove this former world

v.17

Consider Now; The Joy and Excitement That Heaven will Be Occupied With

Hebrews 12:1

Therefore we also (those of us still here on earth with our ministries to perform), since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses (those who have gone to heaven ahead of us), let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares *us*, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,

Weight = stupid things Sin = Things that Cause us to miss God's mark

let us run with endurance

endurance uJpomonh/ hupomone, hoop-om-on-ay'
cheerfulness = this is great / hopefulness = I'm gonna win /
constancy = let's keep going / waiting = the finish line is coming up any time now

SALVATION IN THE MIDST OF HEAVEN

When That Day Comes, And It Will Come;

We Are Going to be Able to **Sit Comfortably** *and be at Peace* We Are Going to be Able to **Stand Firmly** *and be Confident*. We Are Going to be Able to **Walk Securely** *and be Rejoicing*

The Fulfillment of Jesus' Promise When He Said;

Matthew 24:14 And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.

But You Have The Opportunity to Hear It Now and To Accept It Now

2 Thessalonians 2:11

END OF STUDY