



House Church Study Questions Based on the SAC Sermon on May 1, 2022

Sermon: Revelation Series #13
Text: Revelation Chapter 7

Take some time to worship

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rn9-UNer6MQ> In Christ Alone

Discussion Questions

Icebreaker Question: One of my (Brian) all-time favorite movies is Lord of the Rings (*all of them!*). What is your favorite movie?

Read

Revelation Chapter 7

Question #1: In this chapter we see the four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, and the 'wind' represents what they are assigned to do. The 'four' corners indicates that these events will occur across the whole earth.

Additional Question: What is the potential danger of imagining that we will be insulated from the events described in Revelation?

Take a moment to absorb this. . .are you able to imagine this happening in our town or does it seem easier to think that the worst of this will take place somewhere else because our little town is so far away from the epicenter of major world events? (You might need to re-read Chapter 6 to remember what will take place.)

Question #2: Verse 3 says that there will be people who are faithful to God that will receive a 'seal' on their foreheads. In ancient times, slaves would often have marks carved into their foreheads to indicate who owned them. In this passage we read that those who belong to God will be sealed with marks on their foreheads as well. What kind of marks do you think this is and why do you think God would mark His children?

Additional Question: Read 1 Corinthians 6:19-20. This speaks of 'ownership' and being bought at a price. How does the idea of being 'owned' sit with you? What price was paid for this ownership? What do you think motivated Jesus to orchestrate this kind of ownership?

Question #3: Verses 4-8 talk about 144,000 people who are given the seal of God. It says in verse 4 that every tribe of the sons of Israel will be included. But there are two interesting things about this list: 1. The tribe of Dan is missing (so not every tribe is included) and 2. Judah is listed first instead of Reuben who is the firstborn. Genealogies in the Bible list the firstborn first, and Judah was born fourth.

Additional Question: Numbers are very symbolic in Revelation. 12 symbolizes completeness as in all those who are different are now included, and 10 represents completeness as in the fullness of total numbers. $12 \times 12 \times 10 \times 10 \times 10 = 144,000$ which may be a way of John saying that completeness x completeness x fullness x fullness x fullness = a multitude beyond counting that includes a wide variety. If you read verse 4 it says John *heard* the number 144,000 and then in verse 9 it says John *saw* a multitude beyond counting that included people from every nation. What do you think of this?

There are some questions as to why Dan was omitted but it's likely that Judah is listed first because Jesus came from this tribe. There are many questions that may arise as you consider this, but read Galatians 3:26-28 to get a sense of what Jesus accomplished. Who makes up the new 'Israel'? Read Galatians 3:7 to get a bit more info on this.

Question #4: Verse 14 speaks of the 'great tribulation'. Many people see this as a period of time that is yet to come, but others believe that this tribulation began as soon as Jesus rose from the dead, and it is getting progressively more intense over time. Either way, verse 9 and verse 14 talk of those who are wearing white robes. What do these robes represent?

Additional Question: Verse 15 says that God will 'spread His tabernacle over them.' NASB or 'tent' in NIV. This means that He will share fellowship with them. What do you think this would be like to share fellowship with a perfect and loving God?

Question #5: Read verse 16-17. Imagine what life is like now for you. Now imagine life as it is described in these two verses. What thoughts arise in you?

Additional Question: The God of verse 16-17 is the same God that is with you and for you now. How might that affect how you approach life today?

Invitation and Mission for this week

The Lord has called you, forgiven you, and put you in white robes. Spend time with the Lord asking Him to talk to you about all this. You might need to hear Him speak to you tenderly about how pleased He is to do this for you. You might need to hear the clear plan He has in mind for you. You might need to hear Him tell you about His incredible power to accomplish His will. Or something else. Allow Him the opportunity to speak to you and guide you. (This isn't easy to do. It's hard to spend time with the Lord if you aren't used to doing that. The simplest thing you can do is to stop, speak briefly to Him, and then just listen for a time. It's the act of submission and listening that is important, He will choose to speak as He sees fit.)

Pray for each other