Thanksgiving in Heaven

Revelation 7:1-17

I. <u>Redeemed</u> People Have Been <u>Spared</u> From God's Wrath vv. 1-8.

After this I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding back the four winds of the earth, that no wind might blow on earth or sea or against any tree.² Then I saw another angel ascending from the rising of the sun, with the seal of the living God, and he called with a loud voice to the four angels who had been given power to harm earth and sea, ³ saying, "Do not harm the earth or the sea or the trees, until we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads."

I. <u>Redeemed</u> People Have Been <u>Spared</u> From God's Wrath vv. 1-8.

⁴ I heard the number of the sealed, 144,000, sealed from every tribe of the sons of Israel:

⁵ 12,000 from the tribe of Judah were sealed, 12,000 from the tribe of Reuben, 12,000 from the tribe of Gad,
⁶ 12,000 from the tribe of Asher, 12,000 from the tribe of Naphtali, 12,000 from the tribe of Manasseh, I. <u>Redeemed</u> People Have Been <u>Spared</u> From God's Wrath vv. 1-8.

⁷12,000 from the tribe of Simeon, 12,000 from the tribe of Levi, 12,000 from the tribe of Issachar,
⁸12,000 from the tribe of Zebulun, 12,000 from the tribe of Joseph,
12,000 from the tribe of Benjamin were sealed I. <u>Redeemed</u> People Have Been <u>Spared</u> From God's Wrath vv. 1-8.

A. The 144,000 spoken of here are <u>Jewish</u> people who will come to receive Jesus as their Messiah during the time of the Great Tribulation (Matt. 24; Rom 9-11).

- B. Salvation is when we who have <u>earned God's wrath</u> are spared from His wrath.
- C. Christian, you can rejoice in hope because we are no longer children of wrath.

II. Redeemed People Worship God vv. 9-12.

⁹ After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, ¹⁰ and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

II. Redeemed People Worship God vv. 9-12.

¹¹ And all the angels were standing around the throne & around the elders & the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne & worshiped God, ¹² saying, "Amen! Blessing & glory & wisdom & thanksgiving & honor & power & might be to our God forever & ever! Amen."

A. All human beings have sinned & earned God's wrath.B. Redeemed people know they deserve God's wrath.C. There is no room for arrogance for redeemed people.

III. Redeemed People are Redeemed <u>Only through</u> <u>Christ</u> vv. 13-14.

¹³ Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?" ¹⁴ I said to him, "Sir, you know." And he said to me, "These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

Worshipping God is a priority in heaven therefore it should be our priority on earth.

IV. Redeemed People Will Enjoy the Presence of God Forever vv. 15-17.

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 shelter them with his presence.

¹⁶ They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat.

IV. Redeemed People Will Enjoy the Presence of God Forever vv. 15-17.

- ¹⁷ For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."
- A. A day will come when we will enjoy perfect peace & rest in the presence of God.
- B. When we worship God out of hearts of gratitude, we get a taste of heaven on earth & God's presence (Psalm 22:3)