

Study 5: The glorious gathering (Revelation 7:1-17)¹

Read Revelation 7:1-17

Q.1 What assurance is given in vv.1-8 concerning God's watchful care over His people?

Q.2 Who do you think the great multitude and 144 000 are? (Note what John 'hears' then 'sees'). Justify your answer.

Before looking at Rev 7:9-17, read the following:

- *Genesis 12:1-3*
- *Isaiah 49:5-6*
- *Luke 24:46-47*
- *Acts 1:8*

Q.3 What do the above passages tell us about God's places for the nations?

Q.4 Describe the crowd that John sees, and what is its importance (7:9)?

Q.5 What are the worshippers wearing, and what do you think this attire symbolises (7:9)?

Q.6 The servants are sealed and numbered, and before God's throne (7:15). How did they come to be there (7:10-15)?

¹ This study on Revelation 7 borrows from Paul Borthwick, *Missions: God's heart for the world*, pp.37-40

Q.7 Make a list of the blessings that they enjoy (7:15-17). What do these blessings mean for us?

Q.8 How does the Revelation 7 'worship' compare with what we do at 5:17 church?

Q.9 What does this passage say to the church of Jesus Christ today in light of facts like 1) there are over a billion people who have never heard of Jesus, 2) there are still several thousand languages with no written translation of the Bible, and 3) whole ethnic groups (what John calls peoples or tribes) still have no witnessing church?