

Sunday, December 11, Revelation 7

The Purification of the Saints, The Presence of God, the End of Suffering, and the Work of Christ on Behalf of the Saints;

Revelation 7:9-17--

Revelation 7:13 Then one of the elders responded, saying to me, "These who are clothed in the white robes, who are they, and where have they come from?"--

Revelation 7:14 I said to him, "My lord, you know." And he said to me, "These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb."--

Revelation 3:4-5 But you have a few people in Sardis who have not soiled their garments; and they will walk with Me in white, for they are worthy. The one who overcomes will be clothed the same way, in white garments; and I will not erase his name from the book of life, and I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels.--

Not just martyrs for they are distinguished by "they have washed their robes..." meaning they have remained morally unstained by the fallen world around them. They have walked with Christ in integrity despite the enormous pressure on them.--

Revelation 3:10-11 Because you have kept My word of perseverance, I also will keep you from the hour of the testing, that hour which is about to come upon the whole world, to test those who live on the earth. I am coming quickly; hold firmly to what you have, so that no one will take your crown.--

Protected from God's wrath but not from the persecution of the rebellious.--

Revelation 7:14 I said to him, "My lord, you know." And he said to me, "These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb."--

Matthew 10:28-31 And do not be afraid of those who kill the body but are unable to kill the soul; but rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell. Are two sparrows not sold for a cent (an assarion)? And yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. But even the hairs of your head are all counted. So do not fear; you are more valuable than a great number of sparrows.--

Revelation 6:9-10 When the Lamb broke the fifth seal, I saw underneath the altar the souls of those who had been killed because of the word of God, and because of the testimony which they had maintained; and they cried out with a loud voice, saying, "How long, O Lord, holy and true, will You refrain from judging and avenging our blood on those who live on the earth?"--

Daniel 12:1-2 "Now at that time Michael, the great prince who stands guard over the sons of your people, will arise. And there will be a time of distress such as never occurred since there was a nation until that time; and at that time your people, everyone who is found written in the book, will be rescued. And many of those who sleep in the dust of the ground will awake, these to everlasting life, but the others to disgrace and everlasting contempt. --

Matthew 24:27-28 For just as the lightning comes from the east and flashes as far as the west, so will the coming of the Son of Man be. Wherever the corpse is, there the vultures will gather.--

Matthew 24:29-30 "But immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will fall from the sky, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. And then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky with power and great glory.--

Matthew 24:31 And He will send forth His angels with a great trumpet blast, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of the sky to the other.--

Revelation 7:14 I said to him, "My lord, you know." And he said to me, "These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb."--

Psalms 51:7 Purify me with hyssop, and I will be clean; Cleanse me, and I will be whiter than snow.--Isaiah 1:18 "Come now, and let us debate your case," Says the Lord, "Though your sins are as scarlet, they shall become as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, they shall be like wool.--

Revelation 7:15-17, three themes: the presence of God, the removal of suffering, the work of Christ on behalf of the saints.--

Revelation 7:15 "For this reason they are before the throne of God, and they serve Him day and night in His temple; and He who sits on the throne will spread His tabernacle over them."--

Revelation 7:16-17 They will no longer hunger nor thirst, nor will the sun beat down on them, nor any scorching heat; for the Lamb in the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and will guide them to springs of the water of life; and God will wipe every tear from their eyes."--

Revelation 21:1-2 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth passed away, and there is no longer any sea. And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.--

Revelation 21:3-4 And I heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is among the people, and He will dwell among them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself will be among them, and He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will no

longer be any death; there will no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away.”--