

The Salvation of the Lamb

Revelation 7:9-17

INTRODUCTION

- A. Illustration about man using his body to rescue men from a fire, Encyclopedia of 7700 Illustrations, #5231.
 - 1. Just as those men were saved through the actions of a man, we, too, have been saved through the actions of a man--Jesus Christ.
 - 2. Let's examine and learn about the salvation of the Lamb.
- B. When this was written, the church was facing severe persecution.
 - 1. Many saints were being killed for their faith, and they needed some hope that enduring was really worth the price.
 - 2. God intends to display hope by showing heaven to these Christians.

THE LAMB BROUGHT SALVATION FOR ANYONE, v. 9

- A. John looked and saw a great multitude no one could number.
 - 1. Those in this multitude came from all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues.
 - a. People from every nation, tribe, and language can be saved by the Lamb.
 - b. God did not specify one group to receive salvation and another group to be lost.
 - c. Anyone who desires to be saved can be, because salvation is for all people.
 - 2. Those in this multitude are standing before the throne and the Lamb--Since God's throne is in heaven (4:2), this multitude is standing in heaven.
 - 3. These individuals are clothed with white robes.
 - a. Since white denotes purity, these individuals are pure.
 - b. Nothing impure or unclean will enter heaven (Rev. 21:27).
 - 4. This multitude carried palm branches in their hands.
 - a. Palm branches were often used in celebration, e.g., when Jesus triumphantly entered Jerusalem, many laid palm branches in front of him (Jn. 12:13).
 - b. This group is celebrating their salvation.
- B. Salvation is a gift which can belong to anyone--Anyone who chooses can be saved.
 - 1. The Great Commission was to make disciples "of all the nations" (Mt. 28:19).
 - 2. "In truth I perceive that God shows no partiality. But in every nation whoever fears Him and works righteousness is accepted by Him" (Acts 10:34-35).
- C. God will save anyone who comes to him. Has God saved you?

THE LAMB BRINGS SALVATION FROM THE ALMIGHTY, v. 10

- A. This great multitude cried out, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne and to the Lamb."
- B. Salvation originates with God.
 - 1. "Truly, in vain is salvation hoped for from the hills, And from the multitude of mountains; Truly, in the LORD our God Is the salvation of Israel" (Jer. 3:23).
 - 2. "The salvation of the righteous is from the LORD; He is their strength in the time of trouble" (Ps. 37:39).
- C. Salvation comes through the Lamb, Jesus.
 - 1. There is no other name besides "Jesus" by which people can be saved (Acts 4:12).
 - 2. "Through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved" (Acts 15:11).

- D. Salvation's belonging to God has some practical applications.
 - 1. God is able to set the requirements for salvation--God can determine who is and who is not saved.
 - 2. Only God can save--Money, power, and the like cannot save from sin.
- E. Illustration about interview with astronaut, Illustrations for Biblical Preaching, pp. 310-11.

THE LAMB'S SALVATION BRINGS ADORATION, vv. 11-12

- A. As the redeemed praise God, the heavenly beings begin praising him as well.
 - 1. All the angels, the 24 elders, and the four living beings assemble around God's throne.
 - 2. They worship God by ascribing to him blessing, glory, wisdom, thanksgiving, honor, power, and might.
- B. God's salvation of man causes the heavenly beings to worship.
 - 1. "There will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety nine just person who need no repentance" (Lk. 15:7).
 - 2. "There is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents" (Lk. 15:10).
- C. If these heavenly beings worship over man's salvation, man surely should worship God for salvation.
 - 1. "Let all those who seek You rejoice and be glad in You; And let those who love Your salvation say continually, 'Let God be magnified!'" (Ps. 70:4).
 - 2. "Oh come, let us sing to the LORD! Let us shout joyfully to the Rock of our salvation" (Ps. 95:1).
- D. Are you praising God because of your salvation?

THE LAMB'S SALVATION IS FROM HIS BLOOD, vv. 13-14

- A. One of the elders asked John where this multitude came from, v. 13.
- B. John confesses that he does not know.
- C. The elder answers that they came from the great tribulation and washed their robes in the Lamb's blood.
 - 1. These saints endured great tribulation.
 - a. When Revelation was written, the saints were enduring great persecution--These Christians had to endure in spite of these persecutions.
 - b. We may suffer persecution because of our salvation—"All who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution" (2 Tim. 3:12).
 - 2. These saints had made their robes white in the Lamb's blood.
 - a. When the Lamb first appears in Revelation, he appears as though he had been slain (Rev. 5:6).
 - b. Salvation is impossible without the Lamb's blood.
 - 1) "Without shedding of blood there is no remission" (Heb. 9:22).
 - 2) "The blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin" (1 Jn. 1:7).
- D. Illustration about Martin Luther, Illustrations for Biblical Preaching, p. 311.
- E. Have you been cleansed by the Lamb's blood?

THE LAMB'S SALVATION BRINGS BLESSING, vv. 15-17

- A. John portrays the blessings of heaven.
 - 1. Those in heaven are before God's throne, v. 15.
 - a. They are with the Lord.
 - b. "We shall always be with the Lord" (1 Thess. 4:17).
 - 2. The saved serve God day and night--In heaven, we will worship and serve God.
 - 3. God will make his home with us, v. 15.
 - 4. We shall have no need--we shall not hunger, thirst, nor have any heat, v. 16.
 - 5. The Lamb shall shepherd us, v. 17.
 - a. "Shepherd" carries the idea of "to care for;" Jesus will take care of us.

- b. The Lamb will lead us beside waters of life--We shall live eternally.
- 6. God will wipe every tear from our eyes--There will be no cause for sorrow.
- B. Do you have these blessings to which you can look forward?

CONCLUSION

- A. Illustration about Satan holding a strategy session, Illustrations for Biblical Preaching, pp. 312-13.
- B. Are you waiting? Are you delaying?