

# REVELATION

The Hope of Heaven  
(Revelation 7:9~17)

*Acts 5:38-39: "So in the present case I tell you, keep away from these men and let them alone, for if this plan or this undertaking is of man, it will fail; but if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow them. You might even be found opposing God!" So they took his advice.*



Caledonia

Hibernia

**BRITANNIA**

Germania Inferior

**Germania Magna**

**Sarmatia**

*Oceanus Atlanticus*

Belgica

Lugdunensis

**GALLIA**

Germania Superior

Rhaetia

Oblia

**BOSPORUN KINGDOM**

Aquitania

Alpina

Noricum

Pannonia

Tyras

Gallaecia

Nabonensis

Lusitania

Tarraconensis

Corsica

**ITALIA**

Moesia Superior

Moesia Inferior

*Pontus Euxinus*

Baetica

Balearic Is.

Sardinia

*Dalmatia Illyricum*

Macedonia

Thacia

Bithynia

Pontus

Armenia

**PARTHIAN EMPIRE**

Assyria

Mesopotamia

Mauretania Tingitana

Mauretania Caesariensis

Numidia

Africa Proconsularis

Sicilia

Epiru

Achaea

**ASIA**

Galacia

Cappadocia

Lycia

Cilicia

**SYRIA**

Cyprus

*Mare Internum*

Creta

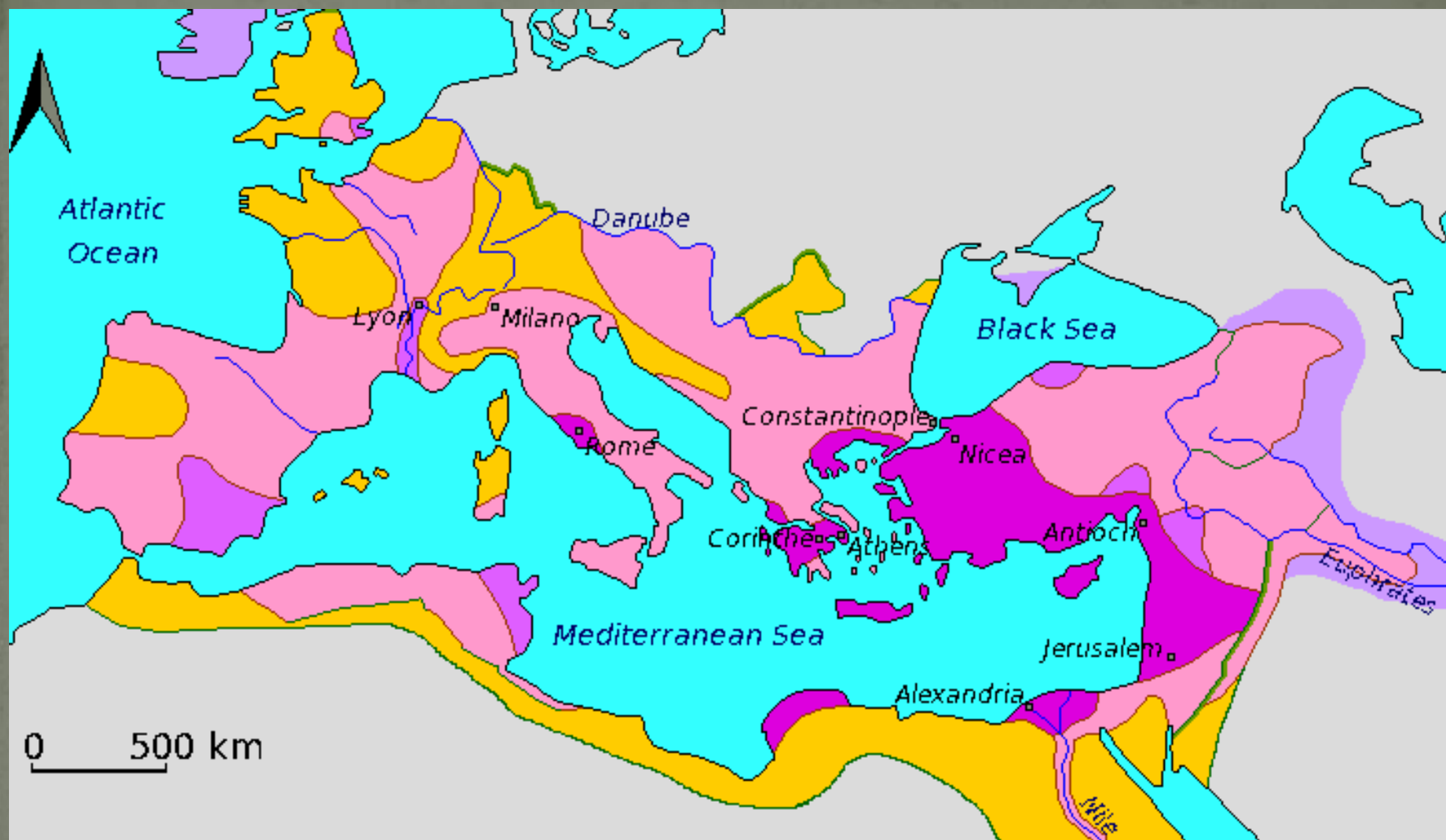
**JUDEA**

Arabia Petraea

Cyrenaica

Aegyptus

**Arabia Magna**



1st century  
2nd century

3rd century  
Roman Empire (Christian since 313)

6th century

*Revelation 7:9-17: 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, and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, saying,*

*“Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.” Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?” 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. 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.*

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

The hope of heaven should encourage  
and motivate us as we live our lives  
today.

# 1. Saints who come out of the Tribulation from all nations.

## A. Their identity

1. In John's vision, he sees a great multitude clothed in white.

- ❖ Standing before the throne and Lamb
- ❖ Distinct from the 144,000 unmarried Jewish men
- ❖ This passage does *not* teach the concept of universalism (Rev 7:9: "from" = "out of")



# 1. Saints who come out of the Tribulation from all nations.

## A. Their identity

1. In John's vision, he sees a great multitude clothed in white.

- ❖ The great multitude shows the fulfillment of God's promise.
- ❖ Genesis 12:3: What did God promise concerning all families of the earth?
- ❖ Galatians 3:8: Comes true through preaching of Gospel to Gentiles
- ❖ Revelation 7: Shows it coming true

# 1. Saints who come out of the Tribulation from all nations.

## A. Their identity

1. In John's vision, he sees a great multitude clothed in white.

❖ Revelation 14:4b: . . . These have been redeemed from mankind as firstfruits for God and the Lamb.

❖ Could be a firstfruit of 144,000 witnesses and then a great harvest from every nation and people group.

# 1. Saints who come out of the Tribulation from all nations.

## A. Their identity

1. In John's vision, he sees a great multitude clothed in white.

❖ If the 144,000 are witnesses who reach the nations, this would demonstrate Israel fulfilling their role as witnesses for God in the world.

❖ Queen of Sheba and King Nebuchadnezzar

# 1. Saints who come out of the Tribulation from all nations.

## A. Their identity

### 2. The elder's question

❖ Revelation 7:13-14: Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?” 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.

# 1. Saints who come out of the Tribulation from all nations.

## A. Their identity

### 2. The elder's question

❖ Ezekiel 37:3: And he said to me, “Son of man, can these bones live?” And I answered, “O Lord GOD, you know.”



# 1. Saints who come out of the Tribulation from all nations.

## A. Their identity

### 2. The elder's question

- ❖ They have comes from the Tribulation.
- ❖ Perhaps some died naturally, but many are probably martyrs.



❖ Revelation 6:9-11: When he opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain for the word of God and for the witness they had borne. They cried out with a loud voice, “O Sovereign Lord, holy and true, how long before you will judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?” Then they were each given a white robe and told to rest a little longer, until the number of their fellow servants and their brothers should be complete, who were to be killed as they themselves had been.

# 1. Saints who come out of the Tribulation from all nations.

## A. Their identity

### 2. The elder's question

- ❖ Revelation 7:14: They make their robes white in the blood of the Lamb.
- ❖ The only reason they can stand before the throne and before the Lamb is that they have received this cleansing from the Lamb.



# 1. Saints who come out of the Tribulation from all nations.

## A. Their identity

### 2. The elder's question

❖ Encouragement to the churches

❖ Revelation 2:13 (Pergamum): **I know where you dwell, where Satan's throne is. Yet you hold fast my name, and you did not deny my faith** even in the days of Antipas my faithful witness, who was killed among you, where Satan dwells.

# 1. Saints who come out of the Tribulation from all nations.

## A. Their identity

### 2. The elder's question

- ❖ They can stand before God's throne because they did not bow to Satan's throne.
- ❖ Hebrews 10:19-22: We can come into the holy place by the blood of Christ.
- ❖ Like the great multitude, we can only stand before God's throne because of Christ.

# 1. Saints who come out of the Tribulation from all nations.

## B. Their occupation

- ❖ Revelation 7:10-12: and crying out with a loud voice, “Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!” And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, saying, “Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

# 1. Saints who come out of the Tribulation from all nations.

## B. Their occupation

- ❖ God deserves worship from an innumerable crowd crying out with a loud voice.
- ❖ What were the martyrs in Revelation 6 doing?
- ❖ They were petitioning; now they are praising.

## 2. The elder reveals the hope of heaven.

- ❖ Revelation 7:15-17: 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. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat. 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.

## 2. The elder reveals the hope of heaven.

A. These faithful believers look forward to a future service of God.

- ❖ Serve Him day and night in His temple.
- ❖ Psalm 84:10: For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness.

## 2. The elder reveals the hope of heaven.

B. These faithful believers look forward to the protection of God and rest from trials.

❖ Revelation 21:3-4: And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”

## 2. The elder reveals the hope of heaven.

B. These faithful believers look forward to the protection of God and rest from trials.

- ❖ God promises to dwell with and shelter His people.
- ❖ God promises to guide His people.
- ❖ God promises to take away His people's sorrow and pain.



## 2. The elder reveals the hope of heaven.

B. These faithful believers look forward to the protection of God and rest from trials.

- ❖ Seven churches: face economic hardship as they reject idols around them.
- ❖ Tribulation saints: face economic hardship by refusal of mark to buy or sell.
- ❖ God will provide needs for all of eternity. He proves Himself sufficient.

## 2. The elder reveals the hope of heaven.

B. These faithful believers look forward to the protection of God and rest from trials.

❖ What will the Lamb be for us?



# Conclusion: What do we do with what God has revealed?

- We should be encouraged as we go through life.
- The message begun in a tiny Roman province will reach every nation and people group of the world.
- We also look forward to this beautiful hope of heaven.

# Conclusion: What do we do with what God has revealed?

- We should be motivated as we go through life.
- Ephesians 5:25-27: Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish.

# Conclusion: What do we do with what God has revealed?

- We should be motivated as we go through life.
- We should be motivated to be sanctified, cleansed by God's Word, be made holy, and be without spot, wrinkle, or blemish.
- The hope of heaven should encourage and motivate us as we live our lives today.

NEXT TIME:  
REVELATION 8:1-5

- The Seventh Seal