

<b>Series</b>	Gamma 16 – Study 8
<b>Topic</b>	The Tribulation Period
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Good evening. Welcome to Gamma 16. Today is study eight, Revelations 6 and 7. So for this part of the Gamma series, we are going to be going quickly if we're going to finish all 22 chapters. So therefore, sometimes we will be doing two chapters in a row. So, you must have had read all this before you take in this video. So please go back if you haven't and read through the chapter because we don't really have time to do that in this particular video. So, let's start with a word a prayer,

Lord we ask that you speak to us this evening, help us understand your word that in doing so it may transform our lives. We ask Jesus sake. Amen.

Now this is where we are now. We are looking at Revelations 6 to 9, where with a seal 19. Seals, trumpets, witness woman, and the dragon, beast and all that. So, all the exciting stuff, the tribulation and suffering that the church will encounter will come here. We have just finished the center of control in the universe. The worship of the Father and Son. And that gives us a confidence to go through the difficult future here.

And this is actually the spiritual battle behind all the difficulties that the seven churches are undergoing behind the scenes. The reason for that is a spiritual battle. And this is described, we have issues with Revelations divided into sevens and there are seven seals, seven trumpets and seven bowls. And each of them describe a set of judgments upon the world.

Now, there are several views on the structure of the book of Revelations. You can have seals, trumpets and bowls. They happen sequentially, but that's a bit difficult because we know some of these signs are actually repetitive to recapitulate. So therefore it's not likely to be sequential. They're often seals, trumpets and bowls, they repeat each other sometimes, so they can be seen as parallel, but not really parallel because you can have seals 1 to 6 and then the seventh seal is actually comprise of this six trumpets, which then the seventh trumpet is comprised of the one to seven bowls.

So there's no real structure that we could very neatly apply all this to, but as long as we are aware, it is somewhere in parallel and the seven seals actually is six trumpets and seven trumpet is actually the seven bowls after that.

Now today's study, we are going to be looking at Revelation 6 and 7. Revelation 6 talks about the six seals. Seal 1 to 4, horsemen of the apocalypse. Seal 5, the martyrs. Seal 6, final judgment and Revelation seven, two sets of believers. On one the 144,000 and then you've got the redeemed from every nation. Then the next study will be looking at Revelations 8 and 9, we are talking about the seventh seal, which then open the room for us to discuss the seven trumpets after that in Revelations chapter 9. So let's start off today this exciting two chapters. Revelations that begins with actually chapter nine when they sing the new song.

**When they sang a new song, “worthy are you to take the scroll and open its seals for you were slain and by your blood you ransomed the people for God from every tribe.**

And here they sing about this seal and only person to open these seals and bring God's purposes to bear upon the world is the lamb and he opens a seal in chapter 6 verse 1.

**Now I watched when the Lamb opened one of the seven seals, and I heard one of the four living creatures say with a voice like thunder, "Come!"**

Now who opens the seals that unleashes the horseman of the apocalypse. It is actually the lamb. It is Jesus who opens the seal. Only he is empowered in all heaven and earth and under the earth and under the sea. Nobody can open it only Jesus and Jesus opens the seal and the four living creatures around the throne say, come.

And the first you could have the first six seals, Revelation 6. Then the vision of the triumphant church in Revelation 7, the seven seals, silence, and then the trumpets go on. Now you've got the four horsemen off the apocalypse. There's white representing war. Red, civil unrest. Black economic collapse, and the pale horse is death.

The first horse is a little bit controversial. Who is this person on the first white horse?

**And I looked and behold a white horse and his rider had a bow and a crown was given to him and he came out conquering and to conquer.**

So here we have a picture of a, someone riding a white horse, and he has given a crown and a bow. So therefore he is there to conquer. He is basically to wage war. Who is this? The question is, is this Jesus. Is Jesus one of the four horsemen, the first one and the reason why some people think it's Jesus is because Revelation 19:11,

**11 Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! The one sitting on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness**

And if you look down in verse 13

**He is clothed in a robe dipped in blood, and the name by which he is called is The Word of God.**

So, Word of God the white horse is Jesus, it must be Jesus isn't it. However, this is the conquering person on the white horse. If you look at Psalm 45: 3 to 4

**Gird your sword on your thigh, O mighty one, in your splendor and majesty. In your majesty ride out victoriously for the cause of truth and meekness and righteous.**

So white is used in Revelation always for good and the Messiah actually conquers. So with all this evidence, is this Jesus talking about gospel conquering. However, the beast also conquers. Revelations 11,

**When they have finished their testimony, the beast that rises from the bottomless pit will make war on them and conquer them and kill them.**

Revelation 13:7

**And it was allowed to make war on the saints and to conquer them**

So the word conquering doesn't necessarily have to mean Jesus. The context also suggests it is not Jesus because you've got the seals and the trumpets and bowls are all parallel depictions of judgment. How can Jesus open the seal and be the first horseman riding out. Most probably is satanic forces for deception because white does not necessarily have to mean Jesus or Christian because satanic forces can actually appear righteous because they are deceptive.

And then if you think about it, white, red, black and pale. They all come together in a quartet. It'd be very odd. You could have bad horses, red, black, and white and pale, and they're all bad and then we go to one good horse. So it is more thematically consistent if all four are taken together to bring judgment upon the world and represent malign or evil forces. The background that will support this is Zechariah chapter 6. Zechariah chapter 6, that the horses drawing chariots are basically white, red, black, and dappled. They are actually instruments of judgment, which God uses to punish the surrounding pagan nations who have actually conquered Israel.

So here, if you're using the imagery from Revelations, sorry from Zechariah, all the four horses and drawing chariots, they are used as instruments of judgment. In the same way here you have to have the four horseman of the apocalypse being used to judge the world. And so therefore the four horsemen are commissioned by Jesus. They are there to vindicate his saints, to purify his saints, because the saints also go through this judgment tribulation and they are there to judge the nations and you have got a parallel theme in Zechariah 6 and Revelation 6. So this is most probably, the white horseman is also one of the four.

Now, so the white horseman represents the judgement of war. The second seal is open and this is the red horse and this is easier.

**When he opened the second seal, I heard the second living creature say, "Come!" And out came another horse, bright red. Its rider was permitted to take peace from the earth, so that people should slay one another, and he was given a great sword.**

Here you have a red horse with a rider coming to remove piece. So therefore, it is civil unrest. Restraint is removed. The Holy Spirit restrains the sinfulness of men and the horse comes and is remove. Remember in our own country, Never Again, restraint is removed. And people from opposing races kill each other in a national catastrophe, the likes of which we've never seen before again. And Rwandan genocide where almost half a million to a billion Tutsis were killed by the Hutus. Now, so this red horse is civil unrest and the civil unrest that we experience in the world today is also basically the result of the second horse, which is a different kind of judgment.

The black horse is next.

**5 When he opened the third seal, I heard the third living creature say, "Come!" And I looked, and behold, a black horse! And its rider had a pair of scales in his hand. And I heard what seemed to be a voice in the midst of the four living creatures, saying, "A quart of wheat for a denarius, and three quarts of barley for a denarius, and do not harm the oil and wine!"**

To put in context, here is someone coming up with this pair of scales, which are used for commerce, because you measure your goods versus its value. And so therefore it says, a quart of wheat, which is enough for one man's meal for a day for denarius. A denarius is one person's a wage for a day. So therefore, if you eat enough wheat for yourself one day, what about your family? So your family is going to be starving. So therefore you actually have to use the same denarius and break it down and buy three quarts of barley and that is hardly sufficient for your family, right? So therefore collapsing values of

food, ration by skills and we know in Roman times when there is recession or depression, and then there is also inflation and in inflation food prices could go up eight to nine times as well.

And so you have all over the world in countries where they've undergone this great inflation of prices. You've got starving billionaires in Rhodesia. In Malaysia, we used to have the Japanese banana notes, where it is basically worthless. And the funny thing is here, luxury goods are not affected. Do not harm the oil and the wine. The wine, you don't need wine. It's a luxury food. And so therefore the wealthiest are not affected in this particular crisis. And famines often effect Christians the most. The other horse would be the black horse, which is basically the fourth horse.

The black horse indicates economic collapse. Sorry the third horse indicates economic collapse. And the last horse is basically the fourth horse, which is basically the pale horse. Now the pale horse is a summary of all the previous three horses. It causes in the death. The end result is death for some. And here we look at the fourth seal.

**7 When he opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature say, "Come!" 8 And I looked, and behold, a pale horse! And its rider's name was Death, and Hades followed him. And they were given authority over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword and with famine and with pestilence and by wild beasts of the earth.**

And here we have the summary of all the seals. The result of your war, civil unrest and economic disaster, which is basically violence of war, famine, pestilence and even wild animals coming to your cities to devour you. So the last horse is basically the summary of all the seals, and this is actually a partial judgment because it basically kills one quarter, this is basically a small amount of people. Revelations 6 says, one quarter of people are actually killed. Revelations 8 to 12, the trumpet kill one third of the people. When it comes to Revelation 16, the bowls killed everybody. It is complete.

So we actually see a graduation, a ramping up of the intensity of the judgment in which the world will undergo. It is a ratcheting up of this intensity, which is basically judgment recapitulated, but each time it is recapitulated, it becomes worse and worse. Times are getting worse. Now the fifth seal is an unusual seal. We have got the four horsemen. They have come. They have ridden to the world and the fifth seal is an altar.

**9 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.**

So here obviously is the souls of all the under the altar of God, which is basically right next to where God is, is the souls of all who have been killed they are precious to God. They are each given a white robe, which indicates victory. And they are slain for their faith. And what did they do? They cry out. This is a very important seal because it is in the answer to this seal that further judgment comes to the world. They cry out with a loud voice.

**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?"**

So justice is required because they have been malign. They have been ostracized. They've been

persecuted. They have been killed. And what they are doing is that they are helpless. So therefore they apply appeal to the righteous God for vindication to reestablish the righteousness in this world, which is so broken. We live in a world that is so broken. Christians are being persecuted all over the world. Will there be an answer.

**11 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.**

So the white robe indicates righteousness, holiness, purity, victory, and God gives that to them. You have the victory, rest a little while, which indicates there is more persecution to come and there is a certain number that actually have to die for the faith before the world wraps up, before God actually answers this particular plea. And this is important because their plea is important, and is cast this way as incredible love. Psalm 56 expresses this sentiment.

**5 All day long they injure my cause; all their thoughts are against me for evil. 6 They stir up strife, they lurk; they watch my steps, as they have waited for my life. 7 For their crime will they escape? In wrath cast down the peoples, O God! 8 You have kept count of my tossings; put my tears in your bottle. Are they not in your book?**

So what the saints are trying to remind us is that God bottles our tears in a bottle. God's altar before him every single day are the souls of every saint that has being killed and they are crying out for justice and the seals and the trumpets are a response to this. The sixth seal therefore comes. This is huge. The sixth seal

**12 When he opened the sixth seal, I looked, and behold, there was a great earthquake, and the sun became black as sackcloth, the full moon became like blood, 13 and the stars of the sky fell to the earth as the fig tree sheds its winter fruit when shaken by a gale. 14 The sky vanished like a scroll that is being rolled up, and every mountain and island was removed from its place. 15 Then the kings of the earth and the great ones and the generals and the rich and the powerful, and everyone, slaved and free, hid themselves in the caves and among the rocks of the mountains, 16 calling to the mountains and rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the face of him who is seated on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb, 17 for the great day of their wrath has come, and who can stand?"**

And the question here at the end is who can stand. This describes a catastrophic climactic judgment, and there is cosmic judgment language features every single person in the world, because there is a great earthquake. There is black sun, blood moon, falling stars, vanished sky, every mountain island removed like a scroll. This is total. Is this description literal? Will all the islands and the mountains be wrapped up? Will the sun actually turn black and the moon blood? Well, this is basically cosmic imagery of end time judgement. You have got to understand a lot of the language we have in Revelation is actually taken from the Old Testament and if you look in Isaiah chapter 13,

**10 For the stars of the heavens and their constellations will not give their light; the sun will be dark at its rising, and the moon will not shed its light.**

Further on

**4 All the host of heaven shall rot away, and the skies roll up like a scroll. All their host shall fall, as leaves fall from the vine, like leaves falling from the fig tree.**

Isaiah 24

**19 The earth is utterly broken, the earth is split apart, the earth is violently shaken.**

So this is cosmic imagery. Whenever you come to end time judgment in the Old Testament, you talk about catastrophe and judgment of mankind, God uses cosmic imagery. Matthew chapter 4. This is what Jesus says,

**29 “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 heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken.**

Now Mark 13

24...in those days, after that tribulation, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light,  
25 and the stars will be falling from heaven,

So this is cosmic language or imagery and the judgment spares no one. All classes of society; kings, great ones, generals, rich, powerful, everyone slave and free. So this is a total kind of judgment.

**Now, is this a temporary tribulation or is it actual final judgment?**

Well, this is a response to chapter 5. All the saints were under the altar, they are crying out, when are you going to vindicate us God. Actually seal six is also a response to seal five. And you can see this is total devastation because the stars of the sky fell to the earth. The sky vanished, the whole sky vanished like a scroll. Every mountain, not one, every mountain and island was removed. If you look at Revelation chapter 8 further on, you can see the fourth angel blew its trumpet and at one third of the sun was struck, one third to the moon, and a third of the stars. So it is partial devastation.

Revelations chapter 12,

**His tail swept down a third of the stars**

So it's very clear in other parts of Revelation, when you talk about judgment and devastation. It is partial. Here it is absolutely talking about final total devastation in this seal. Now this sixth seal is a picture of a catastrophic end time wrapping up of whole world. It ends with a question when everyone is running and hiding under the rocks to protect themselves from the mountain, who can stand on this day. If every mountain and island is gone and the sun falls from the sky and all turns black who can stand, which is then therefore Revelations answers the question who can stand. Well, who can stand? Two sets of people, 144,000 and the redeemed from every nation.

**Are they two sets of people or are they one?**

All right, so let's look Revelations chapter 7.

**1 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.”**

So God withholds judgment. All that, as it were, all hell is going to break loose, but before all hell breaks loose God gives command. Again sovereignty of God each time is there. Do not touch anything until we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads. Now this seal is protection. The seal is the same thing. The same seal on Exodus, where on the last plague, the first born would be killed from every family in Egypt. But the blood seal of the lamb was on the lintel, on the doorway of every Israelite home and that protected them. Everybody else, first son was killed, but not the Israelites.

144,000 difficult. Are they actually literally 144,000 or are they actually symbolic? There are two sets of people, 144,000.

**And I heard the number of the sealed, 144,000, sealed from every tribe of the sons of Israel:  
12,000 from the Judah,  
12,000 from Reuben,  
12,000 and goes on**

And then at Revelation verse 9 onwards, there is a different set of people.

**9 After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number,**

We are talking about 144 here and here

**A great multitude that 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,**

Are they the same group or are they different group?

All right, so let's look at 144,000. There are really two options here. Either we are talking about this 144,000 is a church or is it Israel. All right. So let's take the possibility that this is actually ethnic Israel. Right. Now straightforward it says there is 144,000 seal for every tribe of the sons of Israel. So it's literal, isn't it. So we should take it like that. So 12 tribes times 12 is 144, which is completion. All right. And if you look at all these tribes, 12,000, 12,000, 12,000 and you've got 144,000 very simple, and you can make that diagnosis as it were. For the people who believe in the pre-mill futuristic dispensational view their view is that the church has raptured or taken up and in Revelation 6 to 19, the tribulation actually goes through seven years suffering and going through that will be gentiles who are non-believers and ethnic Israel. And out of this ethnic Israel, they will come out as believers and the gentiles, some will be actually believing and then when you got the second coming of Christ and then you go to the millennium.

Now these are two sets of people. So therefore they believe that these are the ethnic Israelite believers who are going into the tribulation and the multitude from other nations will be the gentile believers who have coming out of suffering, they actually converted during the time of tribulation. And so therefore this is what they think. Now the second option, which I think is more likely. You can, I'm just giving you option for both. Is that this is probably the church and there are several reasons why we say the church here.

First of all, we are thinking that 144,000 is the church portrayed symbolically as Israel and the multitude from all the nations are actually, the church, all of us. There's two ways of looking at the same thing. Let's look at the evidence for this.

First of all, you've got the seals, 1 to 5 seals and then the 6 seals. And the question is who can stand God's judgment. If this is going to be so bad, it is so catastrophic who can stand. Answer to the question is the 144,000 and the redeem from every nation. Okay. These are the ones, okay, must be seal,

**“Do not harm the earth or the sea or the trees, until we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads.”**

And then who has been sealed, the 144,000. So therefore, if you are sealed, it means you must be a believer, isn't it. In Revelations, there are only two seals. One, 666 is sealed with a devil's sign. Two, the name of the father. There can be no two other ways. All right. And so therefore, the use of numbers in Revelation, I believe it's 144,000 is symbolic. You've got completion and multiply it by 1000 is a very large number. There are two places in Revelations where there is a mention 144,000 and one is Revelations chapter 7, which we looked at,

and then I heard 144,000 seal. Okay. And then you've got Revelation 14.

**Then I looked, and behold, on Mount Zion stood the Lamb, and with him 144,000 who had his name and his father's name written on their forehead.**

So this sealing is actually the name of the lamb and the father's name written on the forehead. So therefore the people here, 144,000, and this saved \$144,000 chapter 7 and chapter 14 are the same. All right. So therefore let's look, they both have the same seal. 144,000 in Revelation 7 sealed, and also Revelation 14, the father's name written on their forehead sealed. Unbelievers are sealed with the mark of the beast. Believers are sealed with a mark of Jesus. And they are redeemed. Look at chapter 14, verse 3,

**No one could learn that song except the 144,000 who had been redeemed from the earth. It is these who have not defiled themselves with women, for they are virgins. It is these who follow the Lamb wherever he goes. These have been redeemed from mankind as firstfruits for God and the Lamb, 5 and in their mouth no lie was found, for they are blameless.**

So therefore the 144,000 are redeemed from, who is redeemed from the earth. If you look in Revelations chapter 5, they say, this is a song.

**Worthy are you to take the scroll and open its seals, for you were slain and by your blood you ransomed or redeemed people from God, from every tribe, every language, every people, every nation.**

Clearly the redeemed in Revelations, five refer to what? The entire church. Okay. And here, same thing, Revelations 14.

**No one could learn that song except the 144,000 who had been redeemed from the earth...These have been redeemed from mankind as firstfruits**

So they are redeemed from the whole of mankind. So therefore they must be talking about the church and then you've got this unique phenomenon or mixed metaphors, the lion and the lamb. What John hears is the lion. Revelations five,

**One of the elders said to me, “Don't cry weep no more, behold the lamb of the tribe of Judah.**



He never saw the lion of the tribe of Judah. He never saw the lion, he heard the lion of the tribe of Judah root David has conquered so that he could open the scroll and its seven seal.

So if he hears, Oh, the lion is coming, he would look and see for lion. He has heard the lion is coming, you know what he saw

**And between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders I saw a lamb.**

He heard it is a lion but actually what he saw was a lamb. You see what I mean? Mixed metaphors. What he hears and what he sees are two different things. And that's a very unique way where John cast his metaphors. What John hears, Revelations 7:4

**And I heard the number of the seal, 144,000 sealed from every tribe of the sons of Israel.**

So what he heard 144,000, they will be sealed from every tribe of sons of Israel. And then after this I looked and behold, you know, what he saw a great multitude that no one could number from every nation, all tribes and all peoples and all languages. Mixed metaphor, what he hears and what he sees is two different things, but they are speaking of the same thing. Right.

Now, so here you actually have the 144,000. Why does he say 144,000? Because the church is portrayed symbolically as the true Israel, 144,000 is a number that is symbolic for the true Israel. Israel is a true Israel which are basically the church who has believed in Jesus Christ and then the redeem of every nation. Why? This is the dimensions of the true Israel, the church, which is coming from every single nation.

Now, how do we prove this? You look at the two churches that have been persecuted; Smyrnan church and the Philadelphian church. Now, if we're so interested that this 144,000 are so special then we'll be basically focusing that their Jews, but if you look at how Jesus describes the Jews,

**I know your tribulation and your poverty, you are rich and the slander of those who say they are Jews and are not, but are the synagogue of Satan**

Jesus already described these Jews as no Jews, ethnic Jews were not Jews. They are the synagogue of what? Satan. You look at the Philadelphian Jews who were being cast out of the synagogue by all the Jews and Jesus is equally unimpressed and he says to them,

**Behold, I will make those of the synagogue of Satan who say that they are Jews and are not.**

So if Jesus's attitude towards the Jews that they are synagogue of Satan and say they are Jews, but actually did not, why would he favor 144,000 and the special place reserved for the Jews alone? It doesn't make sense. All right. So therefore, this is John's way of stating. Revelations 2 to 3, ethnic Jews, unbelievers were the ones who are opposed to the church of Jesus Christ. Revelation is saying that true Jews, the true Jews are the church of Jesus Christ.

Paul says this in Galatians chapter three, when he wrestles with this issue.

**There is neither Jew nor Gentile or Greek. There is neither slave, nor free. There is no male or female. You are all one in Christ and if you are Christ's, the you are Abraham's offspring.**

There is a question raised. Who is Abraham's offering? Every single one of us. We are the true Jews. The church is a fulfillment of all of what ancient Israel was meant to be. And if you look at this list of 144,000. Look, all right, you'll find Simeon is supposed to be number one and who is number one. Judah. Why does he put Judah first? Because Jesus comes from the tribe of Judah. Jesus is the lion of Judah and you notice something, whereas Dan, Oh, hello, original 12 tribes. Dan is missing. So obviously, you know, this is not the authentic 12 tribes of Israel. And then you find it in the world today, the vast majority of Jewish people do not even know which tribe they are from anymore.

After the destruction of the temple in AD 70, they have been dispersed and not many at all can actually trace their ethnicity or the tribal linkages back to the original 12 tribes.

So, let's look at the multitude and of the study today.

**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.**

And here you have the redeemed from all nations. The redeem of all nations is the same whether in Revelations 5, redeemed in Revelation 7 or the 144,000, they are all redeemed. See, redeemed.

**Worthy are you to take the scroll, open its seals and by your blood you ransomed or redeemed people for God from every tribe, every language, every nation.**

Right. These are the church. Redeem in chapter seven verse nine.

**I saw a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages,**

144,000 in Revelations 14,

**No one could learn that song except 144,000 had been redeemed from the earth. Those have been redeemed from mankind as firstfruits for God and the lamb and in their mouth was no lie,**

et cetera and it goes on.

So this is basically, this multitude must be the church because the language used to describe the redeem from the world is the same. Now, if you actually look at the final people of God in heaven. When you actually fast forward to Revelation chapter 21 and 22, you look at a description of this multitude when you actually read in Revelation chapter 7. All right. And you'll find they're almost exactly, exactly the same description of the final people in Revelations 21-22. The multitude described in Revelation 7 is they are all before God's throne, the final people in Revelations chapter 21-22, dwell in God's temple. They've got white washed robes. Here you have got white robes, washed with the blood of the lamb and in chapter 7 you have got no more scorched by the earth. In chapter 21 verse 23, the final people of God have got no sun, because God is there. You've got springs of living water in chapter seven, springs of living water in Revelation 21. And God will wipe away all tears in chapter seven and God will wipe away all the tears in chapter 21 verse 4.

See, if the picture of the multitude in Revelation chapter seven is the same as the picture of people in Revelation chapter 21 and 22. So these are the final church in heaven. And not only that the language

described to this multitude. These are people who basically God will wipe away all the tears. And where do you get that from Isaiah 49. Isaiah 49 says,

**They shall not hunger or thirst, nor scorching wind or sun shall strike them, for he who has pity on them will lead them and by the springs of water will guide them.**

**He will, he will swallow up death and the Lord, God will wipe away the tears from all their faces and the reproach of his people will take away from all the earth for the Lord has spoken.**

This is a promise meant for God's chosen people. Isaiah talks about that. God will wipe away your tears, all of the suffering you have gone through and now in Revelations chapter 7, God takes that particular promise meant for Israel and applies it to the church. So, this is basically the new Israel, all of us standing before the throne, before the lamb clothed in white robes. Why do I underline the word standing, you know why? Because if you go back to Revelations chapter six, you remember that a huge judgment or the mountains all spread and everybody is hiding, the question at the end of this of the sixth seal was for the great day of their wrath has come who can stand. The answer is chapter three,

Those who are sealed can stand, right? And then those were standing before the throne from every multitude, the ones who are sealed.

So you have the scene there on the throne that was end in verses 11 and 12, all the angels standing around throne, around the elders and the for 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 might be to our God forever and ever. Amen.

**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.”**

So here is again the metaphor. You can actually have the lamb and the shepherd at the same time, just like there is a lion and as well as a lamb at the same time, mixed metaphor. Here you can have shepherd and a lamb at the same time. How can you be Shepard and lamb at the same time? Very funny it is. because what they're doing is they're using Old Testament imagery in Ezekiel that talks about false shepherds and one day God will come and he says,

**I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David. He will feed them. He will feed them and he will be their shepherd.**

When Jesus came in John chapter 10, you know what he said, I am the good shepherd. And this picture of the last multitude for the lamb is in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, the lamb is also their shepherd. So this is a picture of it. So, what are the lessons that we've learned from these two chapters, which we have gone through and lightning speed while the world will experience tribulation there is no way out of it. Right. But all the tribulation and trouble that we go through and suffering are under the explicit control of the lamb, God will recognize the role and presence of his saints. There is a delay in the final judgment because the due number of martyrs have not been fulfilled, God will ultimately judge in response to the persecution of saints and the people of idol, the world of idol worshipers will lose everything they have found their security in, and the most important lesson that comes out from this particular two chapters is that, although we go through tribulations, there is a group of people. They are the 144,000. They are the chosen new Israel who have inherited all the promises of God that God actually promised and planned for Israel. They are the multitude from every single nation. They're the ones where God holds back the forces of nature in order to seal their

foreheads, so that spiritually, they will not be harmed because they are his people. When judgment comes to vindicate his people, he will save his people. He will preserve his people. He will be with his people.