

## Revelation 7

### God's Faithfulness to All Peoples

#### Revelation 7:1-8 (CSB): God's Faithfulness to the Israelites.

*After this I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, restraining the four winds of the earth so that no wind could blow on the earth or on the sea or on any tree. <sup>2</sup> Then I saw another angel rising up from the east, who had the seal of the living God. He cried out in a loud voice to the four angels who were allowed to harm the earth and the sea, <sup>3</sup> "Don't harm the earth or the sea or the trees until we seal the servants of our God on their foreheads." <sup>4</sup> And I heard the number of the sealed: 144,000 sealed from every tribe of the Israelites: <sup>5</sup> 12,000 sealed from the tribe of Judah, 12,000 from the tribe of Reuben, 12,000 from the tribe of Gad, <sup>6</sup> 12,000 from the tribe of Asher, 12,000 from the tribe of Naphtali, 12,000 from the tribe of Manasseh, <sup>7</sup> 12,000 from the tribe of Simeon, 12,000 from the tribe of Levi, 12,000 from the tribe of Issachar, <sup>8</sup> 12,000 from the tribe of Zebulun, 12,000 from the tribe of Joseph, 12,000 sealed from the tribe of Benjamin.*

**Genesis 17:3-8 (CSB):** <sup>3</sup> Then Abram fell facedown and God spoke with him: <sup>4</sup> "As for me, here is my covenant with you: You will become the father of many nations. <sup>5</sup> Your name will no longer be Abram; your name will be Abraham, for I will make you the father of many nations. <sup>6</sup> I will make you extremely fruitful and will make nations and kings come from you. <sup>7</sup> I will confirm my covenant that is between me and you and your future offspring throughout their generations. It is a permanent covenant to be your God and the God of your offspring after you. <sup>8</sup> And to you and your future offspring I will give the land where you are residing—all the land of Canaan—as a permanent possession, and I will be their God."

**Ezekiel 37:20-28 (CSB):** <sup>20</sup> "When the sticks you have written on are in your hand and in full view of the people, <sup>21</sup> tell them, 'This is what the Lord God says: I am going to take the Israelites out of the nations where they have gone. I will gather them from all around and bring them into their own land. <sup>22</sup> I will make them one nation in the land, on the mountains of Israel, and one king will rule over all of them. They will no longer be two nations and will no longer be divided into two kingdoms. <sup>23</sup> They will not defile themselves anymore with their idols, their abhorrent things, and all their transgressions. I will save them from all their apostasies by which<sup>[b]</sup> they sinned, and I will cleanse them. Then they will be my people, and I will be their God. <sup>24</sup> My servant David will be king over them, and there will be one shepherd for all of them. They will follow my ordinances, and keep my statutes and obey them. <sup>25</sup> "They will live in the land that I gave to my servant Jacob, where your ancestors lived. They will live in it forever with their children and grandchildren, and my servant David will be their prince forever. <sup>26</sup> I will make a covenant of peace with them; it will be a permanent covenant with them. I will establish and multiply them and will set my sanctuary among them forever. <sup>27</sup> My dwelling place will be with them; I will be their God, and they will be my people. <sup>28</sup> When my sanctuary is among them forever, the nations will know that I, the Lord, sanctify Israel.'"

**2 Samuel 7:12-16 (CSB):** <sup>12</sup> When your time comes and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up after you your descendant, who will come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. <sup>13</sup> He is the one who will build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. <sup>14</sup> I will be his father, and he will be my son. When he does wrong, I will discipline him with a rod of men and blows from mortals. <sup>15</sup> But my faithful love will never leave him as it did when I removed it from Saul, whom I removed from before you. <sup>16</sup> Your house and kingdom will endure before me forever, and your throne will be established forever.'"

**Jeremiah 23:5-8 (CSB):** <sup>5</sup> "Look, the days are coming"—this is the Lord's declaration— "when I will raise up a Righteous Branch for David. He will reign wisely as king and administer justice and righteousness in the land. <sup>6</sup> In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely. This is the name he will be called: The Lord Is Our

*Righteousness. <sup>7</sup>“Look, the days are coming”—the Lord’s declaration—“when it will no longer be said, ‘As the Lord lives who brought the Israelites from the land of Egypt,’ <sup>8</sup>but, ‘As the Lord lives, who brought and led the descendants of the house of Israel from the land of the north and from all the other countries where I had banished them.’ They will dwell once more in their own land.”*

**Jeremiah 30:9-11 (CSB):** *<sup>9</sup>They will serve the Lord their God and David their king, whom I will raise up for them. <sup>10</sup>As for you, my servant Jacob, do not be afraid— this is the Lord’s declaration— and do not be discouraged, Israel, for without fail I will save you out of a distant place, your descendants, from the land of their captivity! Jacob will return and have calm and quiet with no one to frighten him. <sup>11</sup>For I will be with you—this is the Lord’s declaration—to save you! I will bring destruction on all the nations where I have scattered you; however, I will not bring destruction on you. I will discipline you justly, and I will by no means leave you unpunished.*

**Luke 1:31-33 (CSB):** *<sup>31</sup>Now listen: You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus. <sup>32</sup>He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of his father David. <sup>33</sup>He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and his kingdom will have no end.”*

### **Revelation 7:9-17 (CSB): God’s Faithfulness to the Gentiles.**

*<sup>9</sup>After this I looked, and there was a vast multitude from every nation, tribe, people, and language, which no one could number, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were clothed in white robes with palm branches in their hands. <sup>10</sup>And they cried out in a loud voice: Salvation belongs to our God, who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb! <sup>11</sup>All the angels stood around the throne, and along with the elders and the four living creatures they fell facedown before the throne and worshiped God, <sup>12</sup>saying, Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and strength be to our God forever and ever. Amen.*

*<sup>13</sup>Then one of the elders asked me, “Who are these people in white robes, and where did they come from?” <sup>14</sup>I said to him, “Sir, you know.” Then he told me: These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. <sup>15</sup>For this reason they are before the throne of God, and they serve him day and night in his temple. The one seated on the throne will shelter them: <sup>16</sup>They will no longer hunger; they will no longer thirst; the sun will no longer strike them, nor will any scorching heat. <sup>17</sup>For the Lamb who is at the center of the throne will shepherd them; he will guide them to springs of the waters of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.*

We are introduced to a new group of people from every nation, tribe, people and language. This particular group of people are a vast multitude. Who are these people? These are the ones coming out of the tribulation.

We have two particular groups in chapter 7. Those from the tribes of Israel and those from the nations. This is in keeping with **Romans 1:16 (CSB):** *<sup>16</sup>For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, first to the Jew, and also to the Greek.*

**Romans 2:9-10 (CSB):** *<sup>9</sup>There will be affliction and distress for every human being who does evil, first to the Jew, and also to the Greek; <sup>10</sup>but glory, honor, and peace for everyone who does what is good, first to the Jew, and also to the Greek.*

**Acts 1:6-8 (CSB):** *<sup>6</sup>So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, are you restoring the kingdom to Israel at this time?” <sup>7</sup>He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. <sup>8</sup>But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come on you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”*