

Chesswood Baptist Church

Where Everybody is Somebody

Pastor Howard Daniel, Jr.

4357 US Hwy 59 South

P.O. Box 343

Livingston, Texas 77351

936-327-8870



MINISTRY OF THE WORD

THESE ARE THEY WHICH CAME OUT OF GREAT TRIBULATION

PASTOR HOWARD DANIEL, JR.

SUNDAY EVENING, NOVEMBER 3, 2019

SCRIPTURE READING: **REVELATION 7:9-17**

Revelation 7:13-15, *And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they? 14, And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. 15, Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them.*

1. BACKGROUND

- a. The **Book of Revelation** was written by the Apostle John between A.D. 90 and A.D. 96.
- b. John was exiled to Patmos, a small island off the coast of Greece, by the Roman government, for preaching the Word of God.
- c. It was here, on the island, that God gave him the revelation vision of this great book.
- d. John was an eyewitness to these things.
- e. **There are six features about the Book of Revelation.**
 1. **It is the only prophetic book in the New Testament.** There are 17 prophetic books in the Old Testament and only this one in the New Testament.
 2. **John reaches farther back into eternity than any other writer in Scripture.**
 - a. He does this in the **Gospel of John** and it opens with a fantastic statement. **John 1:1**, *In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God.*
 - b. Then he moves to the time of creation. In **John 1:3**, it says, *All things were made by Him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.*
 - c. In the **Book of Revelation**, John talks about the Kingdom that our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ will set up at His Second Coming. **Revelation 12:10**, *And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night. **Luke 1:32**, *He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David:**
 3. **The third feature about this book is that there is a special blessing promised to**

the reader, the hearer, and the keeper of the words.

- a. **Revelation 1:3**, tells us, *Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand.*
 - b. It should serve as both a promise and a warning for those who might not be saved.
 - c. There is another warning in this book that we need to focus on for a moment.
 - d. It is recorded for us in **Revelation 22:18-19**, *For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: 19, And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the Book of Life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.*
 - e. Apparently, modern Bible translators fail to read or heed the aforementioned verses.
4. **It is not a sealed book.**
- a. In **Daniel 12:9**, God told Daniel, *And he said, Go thy way, Daniel: for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end.*
 - b. John is told, **Revelation 22:10**, *And he saith unto me, Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book: for the time is at hand.*
5. **It is a series of visions expressed in symbols that deal with reality.**
- a. The literal interpretation is always preferred unless John makes it clear that we are to do otherwise.
 - b. It is like a main station, such as the airport in Atlanta, where many planes from different cities converge. **Revelation** is quite like that where all lines have come from other portions of Scripture.
6. **Revelation does not originate or begin anything. It is the consummation or conclusion of all things.**
- a. The Lord Jesus Christ is the subject of the book.
 - b. The Church did not begin in the Old Testament. It is first mentioned in **Matthew 16:18**, *And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.*
 - c. The church was not built on Peter; it was built upon the Lord Jesus Christ. **Deuteronomy 32:4**, *He is the Rock, his work is perfect: for all his ways are judgment: a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right is he. 1 Corinthians 10:4* *And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ.*
 - d. The resurrection and translation of the saints is reflected in this book.
 - e. The Great Tribulation, spoken of in **Deuteronomy 4**; God says His people would be in tribulation is reflected in **Revelation**.
 - f. Satan and evil are reflected in this book. **Ezekiel 28:11-18**, *Moreover the word of the Lord came unto me, saying. 12, Son of man, take up a lamentation upon the king of Tyrus, and say unto him, Thus saith the Lord God; Thou sealest up the sum, full of wisdom, and perfect in*

beauty. **13,** *Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God; every precious stone was thy covering, the sardius, topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper, the sapphire, the emerald, and the carbuncle, and gold: the workmanship of the tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created.* **14,** *Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire.* **15,** *Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee.* **16,** *By the multitude of thy merchandise they have filled the midst of thee with violence, and thou hast sinned:* therefore I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God: and I will destroy thee, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire. **17,** *Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness:* I will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee. **18.** *Thou hast defiled thy sanctuaries by the multitude of thy traffic;* therefore will I bring forth a fire from the midst of thee, it shall devour thee, and I will bring thee to ashes upon the earth in the sight of all them that behold thee.

- g. The man of sin is Satan himself. Keep in mind the satanic trinity is composed of **the dragon, the beast and the false prophet.**
- h. The course and end of apostasy; of Christendom, is reflected in this book.
- i. The beginning course and the end of time for the Gentiles are reflected in this book.
- j. The Second Coming of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ is talked about in the **Book of Revelation.**
- k. Israel's covenant, beginning with the covenant that God made with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, is reflected in this book.
- l. The church is not mentioned anymore after **Chapter 3.**
- m. Beginning with **Chapter 4,** everything is future.
- n. This book is easy to understand as John was told in **Revelation 1:19,** to write, *Write the things **which thou hast seen,** and the **things which are,** and the **things which shall be hereafter.***
- o. Some themes in the **Book of Revelation** are:
 1. **The end of earthly life is only the beginning of eternal life.**
 2. **The Bride of Christ (the church) shall spend eternity with God in the New Jerusalem.**
 3. **Unbelievers will spend eternity with Satan in the Lake of Fire. Job 18:21, Surely such are the dwellings of the wicked, and this is the place of him that knoweth not God.**
 4. **God desires everyone to trust in His Son for redemption today.**
 5. He is not willing that any should perish, but that all come to the knowledge of the truth. **2 Peter 3:9, The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but**

that all should come to repentance.

2. INTRODUCTION

Please refer to the Morning message November 3, 2019

3. FOUR POINTS TO THE MESSAGE

a. Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne.

1. **Revelation 7:9-10**, *After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands; 10, And cried with a loud voice, saying, **Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne,** and unto the Lamb.*
2. John is going to tell us what he heard and what he saw. Here we come to a multitude. I accept what the Bible says; that no man could number this multitude.
3. You say you can count anyone. I have seen people so tight in various places until no one would be able to count them.
4. Let's not speculate on the Word of God. When God says no man could number them He is not speaking of a specific individual; He means what He says.
5. God's ways are high above our ways and His thoughts are not our thoughts. **Isaiah 55:8**, *For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD.*
6. Obviously this is a multitude of huge size. God tells us where they come from.
7. *"of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb"* Keep in mind that the 144,000 has already been sealed; they are a separate group.
8. This group is saved during the tribulation period. Remember there are people saved after the rapture of the church.

b. And all the angels stood round about the throne.

1. **Revelation 7:11-12**, ***And all the angels stood round about the throne,** and about the elders and the four beasts, and fell before the throne on their faces, and worshipped God, 12, Saying, Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, be unto our God for ever and ever. Amen.*
2. We have finally arrived at a passage where we see universal worship of God. This is truly the one world church.
3. I believe that this joyous glory and honor and power and might presented to the Lord Jesus Christ who is God, includes the church. The Old Testament saints and the tribulation saints join them. Also notice that the angels join in. Why such a joyous worship?
4. This brings us back to the latter part of **verse. 10**, *Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne.*
5. They are praising God for all of His attributes, His goodness, who He is and for providing salvation for mankind. The angels join in. This gives us a glimpse of what Heaven is like; all the redeemed are there.
6. Our concept here on earth many times is that there will be a small group of people there. God says there are multitudes that come out of the great

tribulation. He is going to identify those in vivid detail for us; not leaving us to any speculation.

7. Always remember: **2 Peter 1:20**, *Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation*
8. We must allow the Holy Spirit to discover the real truth of the Word and He will lead us into the right path of righteousness. We have been commanded to worship God in Spirit and in truth.
9. We must recognize who He is and He is a rewarder of them who diligently seek Him. **Hebrews 11:6**, *But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.*
10. A question is being asked and is answered. An elder provides us with some additional detail.

c. These are they which came out of great tribulation.

1. **Revelation 7:13-14**, *And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they? 14. And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, **These are they which came out of great tribulation**, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb*
2. God saves a great company. *“stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands;”* – the Lamb is none other than Jesus Christ.
3. Why do they have white robes? It represents the righteousness of Jesus Christ.
4. The only way we will ever get into Heaven is to be clothed in the righteousness of our Lord Jesus Christ. Our righteousness will never and has never been able to do the job. **Isaiah 64:6**, *But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away. Romans 3:22*, **Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:**
5. This company we are talking about obviously is reflected in the Olivet Discourse. We need to know that the **Book of Matthew** presents the Lord Jesus Christ as King. **Matthew 24:13**, *But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.*
6. This verse has been taken out of context many times. **This is talking about the end of the Tribulation Period. This has nothing to do with church or the church age.**
7. *“palms in their hands;”* - Palms represent something very important. In Scripture it represents victory.
8. We have a song called Victory in Jesus. I love that song.
9. This multitude will be a part of the entry when the Lord Jesus Christ will return to earth.
10. You say that the triumphal entry was when He entered Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. I say that on Palm Sunday when He entered Jerusalem was a time when He was about to leave the earth. He was ready to go to the cross, die for the sins of mankind and the real triumphal entry will come when He returns and a great company is with Him. Jude 1:14, And Enoch also, the seventh

from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, **Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints,**

11. The martyrs of the Tribulation period are also included in the first resurrection. Now we have another phase of the first resurrection. Let's allow God's word to speak whatever He wants it to say.
12. Notice their song. "Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb"
13. **Salvation is very important for all of us.** We have from birth until death to get it right. It is not a big hurdle to come by way of the cross. We must admit we are sinners that we need Jesus Christ as personal Saviour and if we will confess with our mouth and believe in our heart we will be saved. **Ecclesiastes 12:13, Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.**
14. **Romans 10:9-10, That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. 10, For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.**
15. **There is no two or three different plans of salvation.**
16. It is only the blood of Christ that cleanseth us from sin. There are three that bear witness in the earth. **1 John 5:8, And there are three that bear witness in earth, the spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one.** Water specified in this verse is speaking of the Preserve Word of God. **Titus 3:5, Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;**
17. The three witnesses upon the earth all agree in bringing men and women to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.
18. The best commentary on the Bible is the Bible itself. If you do not understand something you need to read what is before and what is after. You have to set the context and rightly divide the Word of Truth.
19. **If you are willing to lay all Scripture side by side, you will come out with the truth. Do not go to the Bible to confirm some preconceived false notion about the Word of God.**
20. This is indeed a Living Book. It is alive and all about the Lord Jesus Christ.
21. One of the elders seeks to give John information. "What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they?"
22. Do not miss this is a two part question. John does something we saints can learn from. He did not attempt to speculate who they were. He answers, *Sir, thou knowest*
23. The answer: **These are they which came out of great tribulation,** and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb
24. **When we don't know something in response to a question in the Preserve Word of God, we should frankly say I don't know but I will seek the Lords face and the Holy Spirit will guide me into all truth.**
25. None of us have it all, we must be willing to humble ourselves under the mighty hand of God. **This cannot be the church.** If it had been the church John would have known them. He was well acquainted with the church, the Bride of Christ

- and was a part of it.
26. John does not say they are members of the church. The elders that are there are representatives of the church who are now in Heaven. That elder knew that this company was not part of the church. *It is all together a different multitude and company.*
 27. The Tribulation saints consist of all of the tribes and a special company of Gentiles, Of every tongue and nation.
 28. God has always divided the human race into two groups: the saved and the lost. He also provides three other groups: the **Jew**, the **Gentile**, and the **church**. **1 Corinthians 10:32**, *Give none offence, neither to the Jews, nor to the Gentiles, nor to the church of God.*
 29. These divisions run through the entire human race. God says of the church: **John 14:2-3**, *In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. 3. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.*
 30. The church is now in the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ around the Throne of God. **1 Corinthians 12:13**, *For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.*
 31. This speaks of the church. God is calling out two divisions in the body of Christ the Jew and the Gentile. This should give us a very clear indication that things are not out of control, and that God is in charge.
 32. John makes it clear the group he sees in Heaven is different than the church. They came out of the great tribulation period, washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.
 33. There is one plan of salvation; all of our sins have to be covered by the blood or we are lost. **Hebrews 9:22**, *And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.*
 34. God has already told us there will be a tribulation period in the Olivet Discourse in **Matthew 24:21**, *For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.*
 35. Both **Mathew** and **Revelation** bear this out. This Tribulation period is something that has never happened before.
 36. Let's not allow scholars to tell us this is history and has already been fulfilled. It is future my friend. No question about it.
 37. Let's look at the company of redeemed people. Their robes were white speaks of the righteousness of Christ.
 38. The only way we can stand before God is clothed in Jesus Christ's righteousness. We must be in Christ and His blood must have covered our sin. He died for you and me on the cross, my friend.
 39. Paul makes it very clear about the Gospel and the part it plays in salvation. **1 Corinthians 15:1-4**, *Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand 2, By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. 3, For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures 4,*

And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures.

40. Paul did not originate this Gospel. He tells us that he received it by revelation from Jesus Christ and he is delivering unto us what he received. **Galatians 1:12**, *For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ.*
41. I cannot emphasize enough that we are not to change the message. The message of God, of salvation must remain as God stated it in the Preserved Word of God.
42. *how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures;* – According to the Old Testament. The Gospel contains the plan of salvation in a nut shell. Man has no right or authority to change it in any way.
43. We cannot add to the salvation process; it is a relationship that has been established by God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.
44. Man was not invited to participate in this relationship process. Our only entrance into this process is to accept the Lord Jesus Christ as our personal Saviour.
45. To reject the plan of salvation is to commit the only unpardonable sin. Notice this Gospel does not indicate God is asking us to do anything. He is not asking us to give up anything or add anything. **The gift of eternal life is free.**
46. Paul elaborates further in **Ephesians 1:7**, *In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;*
47. We are saved by grace. There is no way a sinner can clean themselves up, make themselves fit to stand before a Holy and Righteous God.
48. The soul must be saved. This great company of Gentiles is not a part of the church but they are a part of the family of God. I alluded to this in a message several Sundays that I love the song, "I am so glad that I am a part of the family of God."
49. This is a special group who have washed their robes in the blood of the Lamb. Praise God for them.

d. Therefore are they before the throne of God.

1. **Revelation 7:15-17**, *Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them. 16, They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat. 17, For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.*
2. The church is never identified with the temple. We know that these are not member of the church; the Bride of Christ. New Jerusalem is being prepared for the church.
3. There is no temple in New Jerusalem. The church will never have a temple. The Lord Jesus Christ is complete and all the church needs. There will be a temple here on earth. It will be where the Dome of the Rock currently resides.
4. Notice the activity: *serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them. Revelations 16, They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat. 17, For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall*

lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.

5. He that sits upon the Throne provides protection. This company had been through the Great Tribulation Period. Most of these people had been martyred for Jesus Christ.
6. Although we are not specifically told who was martyred and who was not, the souls of men is what God is dealing with. The thing mentioned here are things they have endured. They will not be hungry or thirsty anymore. The burning heat from the sun does not affect them anymore either.
7. They are all about spiritual things now. The Lamb takes over; He will feed them from the very throne of God.
There will be no weeping but they are there because of the blood of the Lamb. The Lord Jesus Christ has other sheep.
8. There is a cult that will tell you these are the ones for their group. **John 10:16**, *And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd.* He could say the same thing to the church today.
9. These companies of Gentiles are some of the other sheep who will be redeemed by the blood of the Lamb. They are not a part of the church!

4. CONCLUSION

- a. Do you know the Saviour my friend?
- b. If you do not know Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour today needs to be your day of salvation.
- c. He is the Creator of the universe, He spoke it into existence and He came to earth to save.
- d. He came not to call the righteous but to call sinners. **Luke 5:32**, *I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.*
- e. It is a level playing field. **Revelation 22:17**, *And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.*
- f. **Romans 3:23**, *For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;*
- g. **Romans 3:10**, *As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:*
- h. **Romans 10:9-10**, *That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. 10, For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.*
- i. Would you please stand?

www.chesswoodbaptist.org

