# Revelation 7:1-10 Redemption in Tribulation

### The Sealed (1-3)

Holding back judgment – only what God allows (Job 1:12; 2:6/I Corinthians 10:13)

Harming the land and the sea (Hosea 4:1-3)

Having the seal of God (Ezekiel 9:4-6/Ephesians 1:13-14)

Happening in His time (II Peter 3:9)

#### The Chosen (4-8)

Promise is kept – God always preserves a remnant of His people (Jeremiah 50:19-20)

Purpose is fulfilled – a light to the Gentiles (Isaiah 49:6)

Privilege lost – the tribe of Dan excluded from this ministry (Genesis 49:16-18)

#### The Multitude (9-10)

Great beyond numbering – God will not be outdone (Zechariah 10:10)

God so loved the world – reaching all peoples (Revelation 5:9-10)

Given white robes – the purity of Christ offered through His cleansing blood (Isaiah 1:18)

Glorifying and praising God – salvation belongs to God (Isaiah 43:10-11/Jonah 2:8-9)

## Revelation 7:1-10 Redemption in Tribulation

The Sealed (1-3)

Holding back judgment – only what God allows (Job 1:12; 2:6/I Corinthians 10:13)

God has a purpose for every trial we face

Harming the land and the sea (Hosea 4:1-3)

Our sin impacts all of Creation – judgment is poured out on man's wickedness Having the seal of God (Ezekiel 9:4-6/Ephesians 1:13-14)

His seal rescues us from His wrath – we have the Holy Spirit in us Happening in His time (II Peter 3:9)

He is patient – we must learn to wait upon Him

The Chosen (4-8) (John 15:16 / Ephesians 1:4) He has chosen us!

Promise is kept – God always preserves a remnant of His people (Jeremiah 50:19-20)

No matter how bleak things look – God is watching over His people

Purpose is fulfilled – a light to the Gentiles (Isaiah 49:6)

He makes every effort to reach all peoples – even during the tribulation

Privilege lost – the tribe of Dan excluded from this ministry (Genesis 49:16-18)

Choices have consequences, some short term and some long term

The Multitude (9-10)

Great beyond numbering – God will not be outdone (Zechariah 10:10)

How many souls will be redeemed? Including the unborn babies?

God so loved the world – reaching all peoples (Revelation 5:9-10)

He reaches out to all peoples, nations, tribes, and languages

Given white robes – the purity of Christ offered through His cleansing blood (Isaiah 1:18)

Only Christ can remove the stain of our sin – what an offer He makes

Glorifying and praising God – salvation belongs to God (Isaiah 43:10-11/Jonah 2:8-9)

Not of ourselves (Ephesians 2:8-9) – He has done it all!

#### Discussion questions for Revelation 7:1-10

If God holds back judgment or sufferings upon His people, what does that tell you about any trials you are facing? (Romans 5:3-5 / James 1:2-5) *He has allowed them. He has a purpose for them. I need to ask Him for wisdom that I may learn from each trial – seeking to become more like my Savior. I can even learn to rejoice in the trial knowing it will bring me to maturity in Christ.* 

If things happen in His time, how should I respond to events in my life? (Psalm 27:14/Isaiah 40:29-31) I need to wait upon the Lord, trusting His for the timing. Blessing comes to those who learn to endure (remain under) the trial and gain a deeper level of trust and dependence upon the Lord.

In Ezekiel 9 and in Revelation 7 God's saints are sealed before He executes His judgments. How is our seal different? (Ephesians 1:13-14) We are sealed by the indwelling Spirit of God. He is our source of strength, wisdom, and power to do what God calls us to do. We are not destined for His wrath (I Thessalonians 5:9), so we too will be rescued from His judgments.

How can our choices impact fulfilling His purpose for our lives and/or missing out on privileges we may have received? (I Corinthians 3:11-15 / II Corinthians 5:10) *God has so many opportunities for us to be a part of His work.* (Ephesians 2:10) When we get distracted by the things that don't matter, we end up building our lives upon wood, hay, and straw. Though we will not lose our salvation, and He forgives the guild of our sin, we will still face the consequences of what we choose to do. We will all stand before Him and give an account!

What role do we have in reaching the multitudes today? How is that accomplished through our lives? Why is it a greater blessing for people to be reached now instead of during the tribulation? (Mark 16:15/Matthew 28:18-20/I Thessalonians 5:9/Revelation 14:13/Psalm 30:5) It is our call and our commission to share the gospel and grow disciples for His kingdom. Our lives should reflect His light (living in truth – living godly lives). Our hope in Christ should be seen even as we face conflict and trouble times, that people might ask us the reason for our hope. (I Peter 3:15) While many are saved during the tribulation, they will not share in the blessing of being a part of His church now and will have to face at least some of God's wrath, that is not intended for those who believe in Him now.