



Lesson 10

November 7, 2021

The Rest of the Story

Revelation 7:9-17

Celebrations that unite people from all over the world are significant and magnificent. How can we celebrate despite experiencing persecution and being in a hostile world? The writer of the book of Revelation proclaims that God will preserve believers from every nation, tribe, people group, and language who remain faithful to Him despite hardship. In today's contemporary story, when the Bible study class heard the "rest of the story," it was shouting time!

Pastor started a series on the book of Revelation. After the pastor went through six seals that secured the scroll that John saw in the vision, he took a break because of summer vacations. When regular Bible study resumed in September, Pastor began a new series. The class members reminded him that he had finished Revelation 6, and they wanted the "rest of the story." Pastor went to grab the notes from his study and instructed the musician to lead the class in the hymn "We're Marching to Zion" during the interlude.

Pastor returned and asked for volunteers to read. Evelyn began reading chapter 7. You could hear the excitement in Evelyn's voice. When the class heard about the saints who were sealed prior to the Tribulation, and the countless, absolutely diverse multitudes who were coming out of the Great Tribulation—in white robes and standing in the presence of God before the throne—the class broke out in praise! Also being caught up in the celebration, Pastor summed it up: "While there is a lot of wrong in this world—sickness, violence, hate—God's people are able to march to Zion, trusting in God and the hope of His future glory!" Revelation 7 ends with a promise that for His people, God will provide for all of their needs and wipe away every tear. The class erupted in worshipful praise.

Discussion Questions:

1. Share the most recent book, movie, or testimony that started off rough, but had a happy ending.
2. When you imagine "heaven," what do you visualize?
3. How does God's multiethnic salvation and justice inspire your praise and worship?