



VISIONS OF HEAVEN AND EARTH: A VISION OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

Sermon Notes

Text: Revelation 7:1-8

Intro: Words of Comfort

Comfort can have two meanings:

- 1) Being in a state of well being
- 2) Fortifying for courageous action

The vision of the people of God is both of these.

Words of comfort:

1. The People of God are Secure; Not Safe

Things only need to be secured when they aren't safe. Christians aren't called to be safe, but are called to be where it is not safe because they are secure.

Romans 8:35-39

Who can withstand the troubles of this world and the wrath of God? The people of God.

2. The People of God are Known

The people of God are numbered. They are known and not forgotten.

We can find comfort that even when we *feel* like or it *looks* like we are forgotten, we are sealed and secure through Jesus Christ.

3. We are Welcome into the People of God

Galatians 3:9

"All along God's call on ethnic Israel was for the nations. All along God's call on the Jews was for the Gentiles. Jesus, the Jewish Messiah, is now fulfilling the call by bringing the nations to himself. Isn't that wonderful?" - Darrel Johnson

We have been brought into the family of God, we must now look beyond ourselves and extend that invitation to others.

Conclusion: Comfort for Courageous Action

Life Group Discussion

Warm up:

1. What did you think about the sermon on Sunday? Did anything stand out to you? Challenge you? Comfort you?

Study & Discussion:

2. Read Revelation 7:1-8. What stands out to you? What does this passage tell us about our security as Christians? Our safety? What does it mean for a Christian to be secure but not safe?
3. Read Ephesians 1: 3-14. What does it mean to be “sealed by the Holy Spirit” (v. 13)? Do you see any parallels with this passage and Revelation 7? What words of comfort come out of this passage?
4. How does having a revelation of our position in Christ give you power to keep believing, growing, and inviting others into the family of God, no matter what troubles come your way?
5. Do you ever question your position in Christ? What types of circumstances cause us to question our identity as the people of God?

Application:

1. Where do you need encouragement for action in your faith life? What steps will you take this week to let the truth of *whose you are* sink into your heart?

Prayer:

1. Pray that God would give us a revelation of who we are in Christ and that we would be comforted for courageous action.
2. Other Requests
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