



Worship Guide for May 2, 2021

Sermon Notes

Those Who Stand: Saved, Sealed, and Safe

Revelation 7

Revelation chapter 6 ends with a question: "...who can stand?" When the "great day" of the wrath of Almighty God and the Lamb is poured out (as we see in the sixth seal), who will be able to stand? Will anybody be safe on that "great day"? In chapter 7 we see the answer that question. Those who are sealed by God will be spared from his wrath. They are the ones who will come through the storm of God's just judgment and will stand before God's throne.

Chapter 7 is not without its interpretational issues, the biggest challenge surrounding the 144,000 in verse 4. Is the number literal or is it symbolic? Is the 144,000 made up of the literal tribes of Israel (Jewish believers), or does it refer to spiritual Israel, the Church of the Lord Jesus Christ? Is the 144,000 a separate group of people, or is it a part of the "great multitude that no one could number" (7:9)?

Faithful conservative theologians and Pastors disagree on the answers to these questions, but there is no disagreement on the main point of the passage, a point we must focus on and be thankful for: God is faithful to keep his covenant promises to his people - those who have put their faith in the substitutionary sacrifice of Christ and have "washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb" (7:14). These are the ones who can stand. They are saved, sealed and safe.

Those who stand are sealed and safe (Rev 7: 1-8)

Those who stand are saved and cleansed by the Lamb (Rev 7: 9 - 14)

Those who stand are sheltered and shepherded (Rev 7: 15 - 17)

Applications:

Acceptance - because now is the time mercy is offered by God

Assurance - because we are sealed by God

Allegiance - because we are servants of God

Weekly Discipleship Guide

Know

**What does God intend for me to know?
In your journal, use the following prompts to write
some truths that stood out from this week's message.**

I never knew...	I was reminded...	A question I still have...
I was challenged...	I was convicted...	A truth I could share...
I was encouraged to...		I need to dig deeper into...

Be (Consider)

**What does God's Word lead me to prayerfully consider?
In your journal, use the following questions to write
some prompts to use in praying through this week's passage.**

Is there a command to obey?	Am I convicted to confess any sin?
How am I compelled to exalt God?	Is there a sin to avoid?
Is there a promise to claim?	How do I need to rest in Jesus/the gospel?
Is there a principle to follow?	How can I pray for someone else?
Is there an example to follow?	What am I compelled to love or desire?

Do (Yield)

**How does God's Word call me to yield my life?
In your journal, write your answers and thoughts
in response to the following questions.**

Read Ephesians 1:3-14 together. What does it reveal about the Spirit's role in light of the role of the Father and the Son?

Read Ephesians 1:15-23 together. How does Paul understand the role of the Spirit in shaping the believer's life toward what is revealed in Revelation to John? What is our role in pursuing this vision, according to this Ephesian prayer?

How should this "seal" change our day-to-day identity in real and tangible ways? Why is an understanding of this "seal" crucial for discipleship and spiritual formation? How does it provide safety in light of God's wrath?

**Use this guide to help you internalize this week's message & to prepare for Life Group.*

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