

A Vision of Heaven

Revelations 7:9-17

The Book of Revelations consist of many precious instructions and prophecies. It also has many visions. Apostle John was told to write in the Book what he saw and heard.

In this portion of Chapter 7 Apostle John writes of the vision he saw about Heaven. In verse 9, he writes: "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." Here is given a vision of Heaven; and if it was necessary for John to see how great a multitude of people was in Heaven, it is certainly of great importance to us, brother and sister, who are still on the way, surrounded with many tribulations. It is a great consolation to see that God hasn't forgotten us. Apostle John had also been tried with great tribulations. We know that he was taken to the Isle of Patmos, and we also know the reason—he had preached the word of God, the gospel of forgiveness of all sins in the name and blood of Jesus. John, of whom it is said that he was an apostle of love had become so greatly despised by the people that they could no longer bear to see him with them and therefore took him to the Isle of Patmos.

It is comforting to know that those, like Apostle John at the time of his tribulation, had put his trust in God and Jesus Christ, are not left alone. John was greatly comforted even with this vision of the throne of Heaven. This vision of John is very important to us who are still journeying on the way surrounded with scornful people of our time whose main goal is to torment us that we would give up our faith. It is consoling to know that God hasn't forgotten us. Even this Word of God tells us as it is written in verses 13-14: "And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which come out of great tribulation have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb."

Brother and sister in faith, again and again we can put our trust in God. In His only Son. He has prepared salvation for us. Those multitudes of people which were shown to John had come from great tribulation and had washed their robes in the blood of the Lamb. They too were tempted and tried in the same way as you and I have been; and they had put their trust in God, the Father, and His only son, Jesus, believing in those promises that in the name and blood of Jesus all their transgressions and sins are forgiven. These same promises are for your and me also. Therefore, believe all your own poorness, weaknesses, and all hindrances of faith forgiven in the name and blood of Jesus.

John writes in verse 15: "Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His temple." Here we can see that those who had come out of great tribulations and had washed their robes in the blood of the Lamb were like John, who had walked here on earth, tempted and troubled with many sorrows and afflictions. When I think of this vision of John, this thought comes to my mind; Our heavenly Father in His immeasurable love wants to remind us here of that great reward which is waiting for us in Heaven; so that when we are surrounded with many tribulations, feelings of affliction and oppression suppressing us, that we would remember that vision of John—that those who were arrayed in white robes and were round about the throne had come out of great tribulation. Therefore, brother and sister in faith, uplift your heart to believe that He will take care of you and me. We find these promises even in theses verses 16 and 17. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore, neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat. 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."

Here, in these words that John has recorded for us, we find great consolation. This vision of John is so great in content that we cannot comprehend it but in part. But this understanding does come forth, that to us who are still journeying here in the vale of tears, even if it feels that I can't take one more step, this vision of John testifies to us that the Lamb of God is still in our midst and will feed us and lead us into living fountains of waters, and God shall wipe away all tears from our eyes.

Dear brother and sister in faith—when the tempter of your soul has surrounded you with many trials and

Day4L5R02_A *Vision of Heaven*, VZ Oct 1975

tribulations and your own oppressing feeling press you down, lift your eyes to see this vision of John. You will find that the Lamb of God is still in the midst of us, and He is feeding us through our brothers and sisters. Pour out your heart to the first brother or sister you need, and you will find that you receive that food which will give you strength to take another step onward; and the Holy Spirit in your heart can again testify to you that you have peace of mind. Believe today all of your fears, feelings of your own poorness and all that the Holy Spirit enlightens to you as sin, forgiven in the name and blood of Jesus. I have also been tormented with many trials. The devil has been after me day and night and it is only through the grace of God that I am still confessing my faith today. It is my heart's desire to be believing with you, brother and sister, and having this desire and hope in my heart that one day when my journeying is over, that I am found around about the throne, clothed in white raiment. Remember me in your prayers.

Antti Loukusa