

## What Happens When a Church Worships | Part 4

Lesson 6

Revelation 6-7

March 12, 2023

### Worshiping God

#### INTRODUCTION

Nothing is written by accident in God's holy book. This axiom must be remembered when reading, first, of the terrifying judgments in Revelation chapter 6, followed by the sealing of believers and jubilant worship by the "great multitude" in chapter 7. How could the wretchedness of one chapter lead so quickly to exultation in the next?

The foregoing arrangement of chapters was assigned by Jesus to the disciple whom he "loved" (John 13:23) and trusted to receive and record the vision of Revelation. Because Jesus knew John's life would extend to the age of the seven unstable churches, he depended upon John, alone, to bring His message to feckless believers in both AD 95 and 2023.

For the mere mortals of today, this is yet another gift from Jesus, a reminder in the midst of worldly turmoil that God is always present, always receptive to hearing our gratitude and praise.

***Memory verse: "Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom and thanks and honor and power and strength be to our God for ever and ever. Amen!"—Revelation 7:12***

Pray, and read Revelation chapters 6-7. What questions or observations do you have about this passage?

## **OBSERVATION: What do the passages say?**

1. When the first four seals are opened, what appears, and what do they symbolize? (Revelation 6:2, 4-5, 7)
2. What happens when the fifth seal is opened? (Revelation 6:9-11)
3. How do the people of the earth react to the earthquake of the opened sixth seal? (Revelation 6:15-17)
4. Revelation chapter 7 presents two visions: (1) the sealing of 144,000 people and (2) the presence of an enormous multitude. Identify these two groups. (Revelation 7:5-9)
5. What did the great multitude cry out? (Revelation 7:10)



4. Those who have come out of the great tribulation are told in Revelation 7:16 (from Isaiah 49:10) that “Never again will they hunger; never again will they thirst....” What assurance do they have of this? (John 4:14, 6:35; Revelation 7:17)

**APPLICATION: How do the passages apply to your life?**

1. The rider of the white horse (Revelation 6:2) has been identified separately by biblical scholars as Christ or the antichrist. Which personality fits into your own belief, and how does this influence your daily life?

2. Revelation chapters 6 and 7 are brimming with imagery that, at the outset, seem unrelative to life in 2023. A closer look indicates a lesson or two. Is there a particular passage that might be applicable to your experience today? Why?

3. Revelation chapter 6 describes the beginning of the outpouring of God's judgment on unbelieving humanity. Do the events encourage you to witness to unbelieving family, friends, etc.? Why/why not? Do you live your life so that others will notice your joy about the future and want to live eternally with Jesus in the New Jerusalem? How so, or how not?