

Preaching and Teaching Resources

ADRIAN ROGERS





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SERMON REFERENCE: Revelation 7 LWF SERMON NUMBER: #2343

We may be the "rapture generation"—those who will be retrieved by Jesus Himself before the Great Tribulation is unleashed on earth. Looking at the state of the world today, it is not so far-fetched to say we are living in the "end times" as described in the book of Revelation.

However, in the midst of these prophetic messages of the destruction to come, we are given an oasis of hope. We are reminded of God's promise to Abraham from the Old Testament, more specifically, how He continues to keep it, even through the Great Tribulation.

In Genesis, God promised to make a great nation through Abraham. We see God has not forgotten this promise. And in Revelation 7, we see how He plans to fulfill it: through 144,000 Israelites, the tribes of Israel...the great nation of Abraham.

Adrian Rogers explains, "God said to Abraham, 'Through you all the nations of the world are going to be blessed.' And you will never see that more greatly fulfilled than in the Great Tribulation, when they preach the everlasting Gospel, as we're going to see, to all of the people on the face of this earth."

Before the Gospel ever unfolded, these 144,000 Israelites were selected, saved, sealed, and sent to serve during the Great Tribulation on earth. They were commissioned to preach the Gospel to the ones left behind. 144,000 indestructible evangelists unable to be silenced.

What a promise!

There is no promise too hard for God to keep. He remembers His covenants, and He remembers His people. God will never tell a lie, and God will never have to repent for anything He's done wrong. All His promises are yes and amen.

#### LIFE APPLICATION

Do you feel like God has forgotten His promises for you? He hasn't, and He never will. If you feel weak in your faith today, return to Scripture, and remember exactly what He said. He promised to provide, to restore, to never leave or forsake you. He promised that His children would never be plucked from His hands, and to work everything for the good of those who love Him. Spend some time in prayer today, ask God to restore your faith in Him, and thank Him for the work His is already doing for your good.



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#### 1) INTRODUCTION

- a) Revelation 7 reminds us that we may be living in the rapture generation; the last generation of the church age.
  - i) We need to be ready.
    - (1) This means that we need to be active and intentional about serving and soul winning.
    - (2) The Blessed Hope is not an incentive to rest but to work.
- b) Jesus said we are to occupy until He comes.
  - i) This does not mean to simply take up space.
  - ii) We are to get busy and get to work.
    - (1) Through the book of the Revelation, we know what the future holds, and we should be ready to serve.
      - (a) When our future is secure, then we can put all of our energy into the present.
- c) We serve a mighty God; there is nothing too hard for the Lord.
  - i) Genesis 18:14
  - ii) Jeremiah 32:17
    - (1) Our great God is able to meet all of our needs.
- d) Revelation 7 describes a great revival.
  - This will be the world's greatest gathering of souls; the greatest harvest time.
  - ii) This revival will take place during the Great Tribulation.
    - (1) Great multitudes will be saved at this time because of God's mighty, miracle-working power.
- e) Revelation 7 shows us three things about the mightiness of our God.
- 2) THERE IS NO PROMISE TOO HARD FOR GOD TO KEEP (Revelation 7:1-8)
  - a) There are 30,000 promises in the Bible, and every one of them are kept in the Lord Jesus Christ.
  - b) Revelation 7:1
    - i) The "four corners of the Earth" in this passage refers to the four points of the compass.
    - ii) "Winds" in the Bible speak of danger, disaster.
  - c) God had made a promise to Abraham.
    - i) Genesis 12:1-3
      - (1) All families of the Earth will be blessed through Abraham.
        - (a) Revelation 7 bears witness to this promise.
          - (i) God will work through 144,000 Israelites.
      - (2) God made this promise to Abraham 2,000 years before John wrote the book of the Revelation.
        - (a) God will keep His promise.



- (i) Numbers 23:19
- (ii) God will never lie, and He will never have to repent.
- d) God made a promise in the early part of the Bible, and we see that promise being fulfilled in the last part of the Bible.
  - i) 144,000 Israelites from the various tribes are now serving the Lord in a special way.
- e) Who are the 144,000 mentioned in Revelation 7?
  - i) They are not the New Testament church.
    - (1) In a sense, the church is spiritual Israel, but God has never done away with literal Israel.
    - (2) The nation of Israel will not be destroyed.
      - (a) God will keep His promise.
  - ii) They are Jews.
    - (1) "Of all the tribes of the children of Israel."
  - iii) They are selected.
    - (1) These are special ones selected out of all the Jewish people.
    - (2) Why the number of 144,000?
      - (a) God uses numbers symbolically in the book of the Revelation.
        - (i) Four is the Earth number.
        - (ii) Three is the divine number.
        - (iii) Three times four is twelve.
          - 1. Twelve represents Heaven and Earth; the rule of God on Earth.
          - 2. There are twelve patriarchs in the Old Testament and twelve apostles in the New Testament.
          - 3. 144 is twelve times twelve.
            - a. God has taken His government and intensified it.
        - (iv) Ten is the complete number.
          - 1. Ten times ten times ten is 1,000.
          - 2. God has taken completeness and intensified it.
        - (v) This is the rule of God in fullness and power.
          - 1. This may be a literal number, but it is full of symbolism.
    - (3) God is going to move in a mighty way during the Great Tribulation.
  - iv) They are sealed.
    - (1) Revelation 7:2
      - (a) God puts a seal on the 144,000.
    - (2) The seal is a mark of ownership.
    - (3) In Bible times, a seal stood for three things:
      - (a) Possession
      - (b) Protection
      - (c) Preservation
    - (4) God has a special job for them, and they must be kept safe.
      - (a) As believers, we are sealed, as well.
        - (i) Ephesians 4:30
        - (ii) We are sealed by the Holy Spirit of God.



- (5) The seal may be a literal mark, or it may mean in their minds.
- (6) Revelation 14:1
- (7) There is a difference between our faith and this world.
  - (a) The antichrist will give people a number.
  - (b) Jesus gives us a name.
- v) They are servants.
  - (1) Revelation 7:3
  - (2) They are saved and sealed in order to serve.
  - (3) These who represent the government of God here upon Earth will preach the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.
    - (a) They will be evangelists.
    - (b) The apostle Paul was saved for a pattern to this select group.
      - (i) 1 Timothy 1:16
      - (ii) These will be like 144,000 apostle Pauls.
- f) Other nations have been absorbed or destroyed, but not the Jewish people.
  - i) Israel will not be destroyed.
- g) Zechariah 12:3
  - i) This Scripture is being fulfilled.
    - (1) God prophesied in the Bible that Israel would be disobedient, dispersed, discredited but not destroyed.
- h) Jeremiah 31:35-37
  - i) In order to destroy Israel, you would first have to destroy the power that regulates the universe.
- i) God keeps His Word.
  - i) God made a promise to Abraham that all nations of the world would be blessed through him.
  - ii) We will see that promise fulfilled even in the Great Tribulation when 144,000 Jews will preach the Gospel to all people on the Earth, and there will be a great harvest of souls.
- j) Not one promise of God will fail.
  - i) God will keep His promises concerning Israel, and He will keep His promises concerning us.
- 3) THERE IS NO PERSON TOO HARD FOR GOD TO SAVE (Revelation 7:9-14)
  - a) This passage depicts a great multitude of millions, possibly billions, coming to Christ because of the witness of the 144,000.
  - b) Why will so many be saved during the tribulation period?
    - i) Because of the climate of the tribulation.
      - (1) The church will be gone.
        - (a) The church will have been raptured out.
        - (b) Someone will have to explain why millions of people are suddenly gone.
          - (i) The antichrist will come up with a perverted lie.
        - (c) Confusion and conviction will come when the church is raptured.

- (2) False security will be taken away.
  - (a) Revelation 6 speaks of the war, famine, calamities, beheadings and disasters that will take place during the Great Tribulation.
  - (b) The world will be incredibly chaotic.
  - (c) People will pay attention to these 144,000 evangelists who have been sealed and the antichrist cannot kill.
- c) Acts 2:20-21
- d) There is no one too hard for God to save, but He will not save an unbeliever.
  - i) It is not because God could not, but He will not because of their unbelief.
- e) No matter how deeply you have sinned, God will save you.
- f) No matter how good you think you are, you need to be saved.
- g) There is no one so bad they cannot be saved and no one so good they need not be saved.
  - i) All who are saved will be saved by the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ.
- h) All of these saved ones in Revelation 7 will be praising God.
  - i) They are waving palm branches.
    - (1) Palm branches were used in the Feast of Tabernacles and are a symbol of joy.
  - ii) Revelation 7:11-12
    - (1) The angels are praising God for what He has done by His grace for us and the tribulation saints.
- i) The tribulation saints will be martyred.
  - i) When they are saved, they will refuse the mark of the beast.
  - ii) Many may think that they will postpone salvation and will wait until the Great Tribulation to get saved.
    - (1) This is not a wise approach for four reasons:
      - (a) You might die prior to the Great Tribulation.
      - (b) If you make it to the Great Tribulation, you will not believe on the Lord Jesus Christ.
        - (i) Though millions, perhaps billions, will be saved during this time, those who heard the truth and refused the truth prior to the Great Tribulation will not be saved during this time period.
        - (ii) 2 Thessalonians 2:11-12
      - (c) Even if you could be saved during the Great Tribulation, why intentionally wait in order to go through all of the sorrow, horror, pain and violence?
      - (d) You would miss knowing Jesus today.
        - (i) You would miss all the joy of knowing the Lord Jesus in this present time.
- 4) THERE IS NO PROBLEM TOO HARD FOR GOD TO SOLVE (Revelation 7:15-17)
  - a) God will wipe away all of our tears.
  - b) God may not be working the way we would want Him to work, perhaps.
    - i) Isaiah 55:9
    - ii) Our thoughts and God's thoughts are different.
      - (1) We do not have it all figured out.
    - iii) Jesus did not promise that we would go through this world unscathed and with no



problems.

- (1) John 16:33
- (2) We all have problems, saved and unsaved alike.
- c) God will turn our tears into pearls and our hurts into hallelujahs.
  - i) God has an answer.
- d) These momentary troubles are not God's final plan.
  - i) Romans 8:18
    - (1) There is coming a day when our Lord will heal every hurt and wipe away every tear.

#### 5) CONCLUSION

- a) If there is no promise that God cannot keep, if there is no person that God cannot save, and if there is no problem that God cannot solve, then why are there so many unsaved people?
  - i) Because of their unbelief.
  - ii) It is not God's problem; it is ours if we choose not to believe.
    - (1) Matthew 13:58
      - (a) Jesus could do no mighty work in the city of Nazareth because of their unbelief.
- b) Oftentimes we cling to foolish things rather than giving our lives to Jesus Christ.
- c) Please do not continue to live without Jesus.
- d) Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
- e) Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
  - i) Romans 3:23
  - ii) Romans 10:9-10
  - iii) Romans 10:13
  - iv) Acts 16:31
  - v) John 3:16



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Find Revelation chapter 7, it's a wonderful, wonderful chapter. And it reminds us one more time that this may be the rapture generation. This may be; we may be, the last generation of the church age, caught up, swept up into glory to meet the Lord in the air. What a day that will be!

Now, I want you to be ready. Now, this doesn't mean that you keep your head in the clouds of prophecy. What it really means is that you put your feet on the pavement of service and soul winning. The blessed hope is not an incentive to rest but to work. Jesus said, "Occupy till I come." He didn't mean take up space. Your occupation is your job. Get to work, because you see, we know that we know what the future is. And because we know the future, then we are ready to serve. Once your future is secure then your present is something that you can put all of your heart, all of your soul, all of your energy into. Now this chapter is a wonderful chapter.

As I read this chapter over and over again, I came up with one phrase in my mind. It's a chorus that we sing often, "What a Mighty God We Serve." And the title of the message today is just that, "What a Mighty God We Serve." I want to ask you this question: is anything too hard for the Lord? And right away you know the answer don't you? The answer is, "Absolutely not!" And even before we get into the Scripture today, in Revelation chapter 7, I want to give you just two Scriptures that point out that there is nothing too hard for the Lord. Genesis 18 verse 14. Here is what the Angel says, "Is there anything too hard for the Lord?" And then again in Jeremiah 32 and verse 17, "Lord God! behold, Thou hast made the Heaven and the earth by Thy great power and stretched out arm, and there is nothing too hard for Thee."

"God, You made everything. You made the universes. You made the galaxies, the sun, the moon, the stars. You flung the world into space. God, there is nothing too hard for You." And I want you to think about that friend, today, if you have a problem or heartache, a tear, a perplexity. Your Great God is able to meet your need.

Now, we have studied here in the book of the Revelation about seven seals. There's coming the rapture of the church. The church age comes to an end. There's a rapture. Jesus comes with a shout, the voice of the archangel, the trump of God. And the dead in Christ rise first, and we're caught up to meet the Lord in the air. Now after the rapture of the church, the great tribulation begins. It's a period of about seven years. And this great tribulation is designated and delineated by the opening of what we call seven seals.

There's a scroll that is rolled up and as this scroll is unrolled, the seals are broken and the horrors of the tribulation, a time of unparalleled suffering comes about. And we studied in chapter 6 about the opening of the seven seals. And we saw the horses of the apocalypse ride forth. The white horse that spoke of conquest, the antichrist. The red horse, that spoke of war. The black horse, that spoke of famine. The pale horse, that spoke of pestilence and disease. And then, we saw the martyrs who were killed for the witness of the Lord Jesus Christ, who would not take the mark of the beast. And



then we saw all kinds of disasters in the sun, the moon, the stars, and asteroids hitting the earth, and so forth. And then we come to a time of silence. That's chapter 8. But now we are in a little time right here that I want to call a parenthesis between this seal and this seal. God puts a parenthesis in. And that parenthesis is chapter 7. We're in chapter 7 and we're not going to open the seventh seal until next week. And so right now we are in chapter 7 and I want us to learn three great things about the mightiness of our God in chapter 7.

We're going to see in chapter 7, the world's, listen, the world's greatest revival meeting. Do you think that the greatest revival meeting, was Pentecost? Or did you think perhaps it was some Billy Graham crusade? The world's greatest end-gathering of souls, the greatest harvest time is going to come during the great tribulation. There will be great multitudes saved. So many that you couldn't count them all. No man could number them all. That literally means that he could count them all. And all of this is going to be done by God's mighty, miracle-working power.

Now there are three things I want to lay on your heart as we look in chapter 7. Okay! And these three things tell us that there's nothing too hard for God. The first thing is this. I want you to see friend, there is no promise, no promise too hard for God to keep. Do you believe that? Say, Amen. There is no promise that is too hard for God to keep. There are 30,000 promises in the Word of God, and every one of them are yea and Amen in the Lord Jesus Christ. Matthew 5 verse 18, "And not one jot nor one tittle shall fail from the law till all be fulfilled."

Now, let's begin reading in chapter 7 and look, if you will, in verse 1, "After these things I saw four angels standing in the four corners of the earth." Now, don't anybody get the perverted idea, that the Bible is antiquated and teaches that the world is square or flat. No, we still speak today of the four corners of the earth. The newsman will come on the air and say, "Here's news from the four corners of the earth." That means the four points of the compass. "From the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth." Now winds in the Bible speak of danger, disaster. Remember that while there was a rainbow around the throne, the raptured saints. Beneath there were thunder and lightning, a storm was about to come. And God is about to unleash these tornadic winds of judgment. But these angels are holding the four winds of the earth; that the wind should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor any tree. Now let's begin to read in the seventh chapter of Revelation and read verses 1 through 8, "And I saw another angel ascending from the east," the Scripture literally says from the sunrise, "having the seal of the living God: and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea, saying, 'Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads.' And I heard the number of them that were sealed: and there were sealed an hundred and forty-four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel. Of the tribe of Judah were sealed 12,000. Of the tribe of Reuben were sealed 12,000. Of the tribe of Gad were sealed 12,000. Of the tribe of Asher were sealed 12,000. Of the tribe of Nepthalim were sealed 12,000. Of the tribe of Manasses were sealed 12,000. Of the tribe of Simeon were sealed 12,000. Of the tribe of Levi were sealed 12,000. Of the tribe Issachar were sealed 12,000. Of the tribe of Zebulon were sealed 12,000. Of the tribe of Joseph were



sealed 12,000. Of the tribe of Benjamin were sealed 12,000."

"Now, Pastor Rogers, why did you say that there is no promise too hard for God to keep?" Well, many, many years ago, thousands of years ago, millenniums of years ago, God had made a promise to a man named Abraham. Abraham was the first Hebrew and he is still today the brightest star in the Hebrew Heaven. Put in your margin, Genesis chapter 12 verses 1 through 3. Here's what God said to Abraham, "And the Lord said unto Abraham," his name then was Abram, "Get thee out from thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will show thee: And I will make of thee a great nation." Now, listen to this, "And I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: and I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed." Not some families, all families of the earth be blessed.

Now, that was God's promise to Abraham. Has God kept that promise? God will keep that promise. All the families of the earth are going to be blessed through Abram. We are going to see that right here in this particular chapter of the Bible. We see here God working through a 144,000 Israelites. God had made this promise to Abraham 2,000 years before John wrote the book of the Revelation and 2,000 years have passed since then. But this is a promise and God will keep it.

Listen to this Scripture and put it down in your margin. Numbers 23 verse 19, "God is not a man, that He should lie; neither the son of man, that He should repent." God will never tell a lie, and God will never have to repent for anything He's done wrong. "Hath He said and shall He not do it? Or hath He spoken, and shall He not make it good." What does that mean? It means that, if God says it, friend, you can bank on it. Now, what you see is God making a promise to Abraham way back in the early part of the Bible. And now we see in last part of the Bible, not the book of Genesis, but the book of the Revelation that promise being fulfilled. A 144,000 Israelites from the various tribes are now serving the Lord in a very special way. Now, who are these 144,000 anyway?

You know various groups have claimed to be the 144,000. The Jehovah's Witnesses claim that some of their group, are the 144,000. Seventh Day Adventist, would say Sabbath Keepers, these are the 144,000. They are many groups that claim to be a part of the 144,000.

I suppose the most sinister thing is that, that there are some in the church who say that the New Testament church is the 144,000. They say that the church is spiritual Israel. In a sense, that is true. We are spiritual Israel, but that is not all of the truth. God has never done away with literal Israel. And if you take part of the truth and try to make part of the truth all of the truth you make that part of the truth an untruth. Amen. Okay, now listen, there is a spiritual Israel, and we are part of spiritual Israel. But God has not cast away His people, which He foreknew. God said to Abraham, talking about Abraham and his descendants that He was going to make them a blessing to all the nations of the world. And the Bible teaches that this generation, this race, this stock, this breed, this kind shall not pass away. We're going to see that the literal Jew, the Israelite, is absolutely here until Jesus comes. And they cannot be obliterated, they cannot be destroyed, the nation Israel. God made a promise to Abraham, and friend, you can bank on it. God is going to keep that promise.

Who are the 144,000? Well, they're Jews. They're Jews. When somebody tells me I'm part of



the 144,000, I just say, say, "What tribe?" What tribe? These are Jews. Read black print on white paper, a 144,000 of all the tribes of Israel. It's amazing how some of these people, who are called amillennialists, we will deal with that term later on, but they don't believe that there is going to be a millennium. They just believe that God has taken all the promises that He gave to Israel and given them to the Church. It's a pretty neat thing. They leave the curses with the Jews and take the blessings for themselves. You can't do that. You can't do that. A 144,000 of all the tribes of Israel.

Now let's think about that for a moment. First of all, they are selected, they are selected; these are special ones selected out of all the Jewish people. God takes a select group, a 144,000. Why the number a 144,000?

Remember when we talked to you about the spiritual lesson of numbers, how God uses numbers symbolically in the book of the Revelation. Four is the earth number. You remember that, don't you? It is a matter of fact. We see that in the opening of this chapter, of the four corners of the earth, the four winds of the earth, and so forth. Four is the earth number.

All right, three is what? Three is the divine number. Three times four is what? Twelve! Okay, now listen, three times four is twelve. Now when God takes a number like twelve, what is that? That's Heaven and earth. That's the rule of God on earth; the divine number and the earth number. That's the reason we have twelve patriarchs in the Old Testament, twelve apostles in the New Testament. Twelve is the rule of God, the governmental number on earth. So here are a 144,000, what is 144? Well, 144 is 12 times 12. God is just taking this and He is intensifying it.

Now, let's take another number, ten. What is ten? We told you ten is the complete number, ten fingers, ten toes. Now, what is ten times ten times ten? A thousand. And so, what, what has God done here. He has taken completeness and intensified it. And then we have a 144,000 Jews. There's a symbolic message here. God is saying, "I am talking about a complete number; I am talking about my government intensified." Now is that a literal number? I see no reason it should not be a literal number. But don't miss the symbolism here. This is the rule of God in fullness and power. God is going to move in a great, great way during the great tribulation, and He takes a select group of people.

Number one, they are selected. Number two, they are sealed, they are sealed. Look in Revelation 7 verse 2. The Bible says, "And I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the Living God," and He seals these 144,000. Now the seal is a mark of ownership. In Bible times, a seal would stand basically for three things: possession, protection, and preservation. God puts a seal on these people. A 144,000, why? Because God has a special job for them, and they must be kept safe. Otherwise the antichrist, who will be wild and wicked during this time, would obliterate these people.

By the way, did you know that you're sealed? You too have been sealed. Put down in your margin, Ephesians 4 verse 30. And the Bible says to you, "And grieve not the Holy Spirit of God whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption." Thank God for that. That's the reason that we're kept. Some people think, you know, that the devil could take you out of the hand of God. Precious friend, do away with that thought. If the devil could take you out of the hand of God, he would. And if you're still in the hand of God, and he could take you out, and he has not, hasn't he been nice to you? That would be a strange doctrine wouldn't it? Going to Heaven by the goodness of the devil. No, we are



sealed by the Holy Spirit. That's the reason we have this eternal security.

Now, God is going to seal this 144,000. Will this be a mark upon their forehead, a literal mark? Well, the Bible teaches that they are sealed upon their forehead, but that may mean in their mind. It may be a literal mark, but they're going to be sealed. And that seal is the name of God the Father. Put in your margin Revelation 14 verse 1, "And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on Mount Zion, on the mount Zion, and with Him an hundred and forty-four thousand, having His Father's name written in their foreheads." Now, whether this means that in their heart, in their mind, is the name of the Father, or whether it's a literal mark, I don't know. But I know the truth of it, that they are sealed. And they're sealed with the name of Father.

Later on we're going to find out that the antichrist is going to put a mark on people. And it's the mark of the beast, 666. They'll not be able to buy or sell without that mark. And these are going to have not the mark of the beast but the mark of the Father. You see, that's the difference between our faith and this world. The antichrist will give you a number. Jesus will give you a name. And I've often said when the end of all things comes, the big question is, will your name be called or your number be up? I'm so grateful that we have been sealed. But God seals now a 144,000. They are sealed.

Now here's the third thing. Look, they are selected, they're sealed, and they are servants. Ah, look now in verse 3 of Revelation chapter 7, "Saying, 'Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, until we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads.'" They are saved, and they are sealed in order to serve.

God has a special work for these people. What are these 144,000 going to do during the great tribulation? These that represent the government of God here upon this earth, they are going to preach the Gospel of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. They're going to be evangelists. Can you imagine what will happen during the great tribulation when God turns loose a 144,000 Apostle Pauls, preaching the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ? Why do you say, "Adrian, a 144,000 Apostle Pauls?" I believe the Apostle Paul prophesied this. And I believe he felt that he himself was a progenitor of this group.

Here's a key verse, put it down, First Timothy chapter I verse 16. Paul speaks about his salvation. He talks about how wicked he was, and how vile he was, and how he was an unbeliever. But he says, "Howbeit for this cause I obtained mercy," Paul said, "I was selected for this cause, God was especially merciful to me." "That in me first Jesus Christ might show forth all long suffering, for a pattern."

Now listen, Paul was saved for a pattern to them, which should hereafter believe on Him to life everlasting. Now was Paul a pattern for me? No. He wasn't a pattern for you. None of us were saved like the Apostle Paul. Paul was a blasphemer, he hated God, he was putting Christians to death. He was absolutely, totally anti-Christ, until Jesus saved him. And how did Jesus save him? Why the Lord appeared to him. The Lord spoke to him miraculously. He was blinded by the light. The scales fell from his eyes. He prayed, "Lord, what would You have me to do?" And then Paul became an evangelist to the Gentile nations. And Paul said, "I was a pattern to those that afterward would believe." Not a pattern for me. He's not been a pattern for you. He's a pattern for these 144,000 Jews who are one day going to preach the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. Who, first of all, are there in



unbelief, and then have a dramatic, divine encounter with the Almighty. And then become flaming evangelists to reach the world for the Lord Jesus Christ. And so they're going to be selected, they're saved, they're sealed, they're sent. They become evangelists to preach the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. And I thank God for what is going to happen.

Now you say, "Adrian, why do you say there is no promise that God cannot keep?" Because listen, other nations have been absorbed, they have been obliterated. Other races and people, but not the Jew. The Jew exists forever and there's nothing that can destroy the nation Israel. Do you want to know what is happening in the world today? Friend, keep your eye on Israel. Understand that God is keeping His promise today. To the Bible-believing Christian, Israel's significance is beyond measure, the lightning rod of the nations today. Do you have eyes, do you have ears? Are you listening to the news? The lightening rod of the nations today is Israel. The nation Israel is on the front page of almost every newspaper in America almost every day.

Let me give you a key verse. Zechariah chapter 12 verse 3, "And in that day I will make Jerusalem a burdensome stone for all people: and all that burden themselves with it shall be cut in pieces, though all the people of the earth be gathered together against it." We're seeing that Scripture fulfilled. God prophesied in the Bible that Israel would be disobedient. That Israel would be dispersed. That Israel would be discredited, but not destroyed. You cannot destroy the nation Israel. You want me to tell you how you could destroy the nation Israel? Just remove God from His throne. And after you remove God from His throne, snatch the sun, moon, and the stars from the sky.

Put this verse down, Jeremiah chapter 31 verses 35 to 37. Write it down and I'll read it to you. Jeremiah 31 verses 35 through 37, "Thus saith the Lord, which giveth the sun for a light by day, and the ordinances of the moon and of the stars for a light by night, which divideth the sea when the waves thereof roar; The Lord of Hosts is His name: 'If those ordinances,'" talking about the sun, the moon, and the stars, "if those ordinances depart from before Me,' saith the Lord, 'then the seed of Israel shall cease from being a nation before Me forever.' Thus saith the Lord; 'If Heaven above can be measured," if you can tell me how high is up, "'and the foundations of the earth searched out beneath," if you can tell me what holds the earth up, "I will also cast off all the seed of Israel for all that they have done,' saith the Lord."

What's He saying? In order to destroy Israel, you would first have to destroy the power that regulates the universe. You'd have to snatch the sun, the moon, and the stars from the hand of God. Every Jew that you see today, every headline that you read, is a sermon of the faithfulness of God. God keeps His Word. In Genesis 22 verse 18, God made a promise to Abraham and God said to Abraham, "Through you all the nations of the world are going to be blessed." And you will never see that more greatly fulfilled than in the great tribulation, when they preach the everlasting Gospel, as we're going to see, to all of the peoples on the face of this earth. And there is a great harvest of souls.

Which brings me to the next point; there is no promise, no promise too hard for God to keep. Not one promise will fail of all that God has said. And you can bank on it, dear friend. Not only what has God said to Israel, but what God has said to you. "The promises of God are yea and Amen in Jesus."



Amen Read that in Second Corinthians chapter 1 and verse 20.

All right, now here's the second thing. There is no person too hard for God to save. What a mighty God we serve. There is no person too hard for God to save. Now let's begin in Revelation 7 verse 9 through 14, "And after this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number." Don't miss that. We're not just talking about a few. "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." That means they had been saved. White robes are the righteousness of saints, "And palms in their hands." Palm branches. These were used to celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles. "And cried with a loud voice, saying, 'Salvation to our God." The Scripture literally means salvation is from our God. "Which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb. And all the angels stood round about the throne, and about the elders and the four beasts, and fell before the throne on their faces, and worshipped God, saying, 'Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honor, and power, and might, be unto our God for ever and ever. Amen.' And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, 'What are these which are arrayed in white robes? And whence came they?' And I said unto him, 'Sir, thou knowest.'" That is, I don't know, you must know. "And he said unto me," watch this, "'These are they which came out of great tribulation." The Greek literally says, "The Great Tribulation." "And have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb." Now here is a great multitude, a harvest. Thousands and thousands, and millions, and, I believe, billions coming to Christ. Why? Because of the witness of these 144,000 Apostle Pauls. Paul was a pattern of this which will come.

Well, that brings a question. Why would so many people be saved in the tribulation period? They're not saved before the tribulation period. Why would they be saved in the tribulation period? Obviously, because of the climate of the tribulation.

Number one; we'll be gone. The church will have been raptured out. Now, somebody's got to explain that. Somebody's got to explain that, I mean, when thousands and millions are gone. Now the devil, through the antichrist, will come up with a perverted lie. Maybe he's going to say it's God's judgment on us. That God in mercy took us out of the way and sent us to hell, or whatever. I don't know what he's going to say. But it is the lie! It's a big one. Heh, he's, but, the other people are not going to buy that. They're not going to buy that. I mean, can you imagine the confusion and the conviction that will come to this world when the church is raptured?

Secondly, all false security will be taken away. You see, we're in chapter 7, but remember chapter 6 when we talked about the war. And we've talked about the famine. And we've talked about the calamities, and people being beheaded for Christ, and disasters, and all of these things happening. Can you imagine living in world that chaotic? Can you imagine what it will be like? People are going to say, "What is happening, where are the answers, what must we do?" And then compound that by these 144,000 flaming evangelists, who have been sealed and the antichrist cannot kill them, and they're preaching the glorious Gospel of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. That's the reason we're going to have this great harvest. They're going to be paying attention. They're going to be listening.

I was riding in an airplane and that stewardess got on there and was saying here is the exit row,



and here are the lights leading to the exit door, and here is where the oxygen is going to come down, and here is the flotation device, and all of this. Nobody's paying any attention. Nobody's paying attention. I could give that speech by memory. I want to tell you something; if that pilot came on the overhead and said, "Folks we are going down in the mountains in five minutes, get ready!" I'll guarantee you, I'd whip that thing out and begin to read exactly what it is. That's what's gonna happen, that's what's going to happen during the great tribulation. People are not going to be casual like some people are sitting in this church today. They're going to say, "What is happening, what is the answer, how am I going to be delivered?" And here God is going to save a great, great multitude.

Here is a corresponding verse that I put down. Acts chapter 2 verses 20 and 21, "The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood," we talked about that last week, "Before the great and notable day of the Lord come: And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved." Well, I tell you what. When the sun is turned to darkness and the moon hangs in the sky like a clot of blood, there're going to be a lot of people inclined to call upon the name of the Lord. And the Bible says, they will be saved.

Now, God can save anyone. There is no one too hard for God to save. Now, He is not going to save an unbeliever. But it's not because He could not, it's just that He will not because of their unbelief. But there's no one too hard for God to save. Listen to me. I don't care how I don't care how deeply dyed a sinner you are, God will save you. And I don't care how good you think you are, you need to be saved.

I got a letter here that I want to read it to you. "Dear Pastor Rogers, I had to write to let you know what effect your ministry has had on my life. Many times I sat and watched your program and thought what you said was stupid. How you expressed Christ was a joke. I laughed at your God by ignoring Him. He wasn't really there. I was a satanist, as well as part of the Nazi movement. As bad as it sounds, Christians were nothing more than lower life forms to myself and my friends. I didn't need your God. I sold my soul to the devil. I signed a pact with my own blood. And after doing so, I read the small print. If I tried to get out of the group, I could be killed. I remembered your prayer line and your church. I called the number and someone prayed with me and I received Christ. I got a Bible and read and reread it. God saved me. Why would He do that? Because I was so evil and hurt Him so badly. I had been living together with my boyfriend. He saw the change in me too. He got saved and we finally got married. We both love the Lord so much because we see the love of the Lord through your church. Jesus can save anyone. He saved me. Thanks for your prayer line, your church, and your TV ministry. Rebecca and Jeff." She's not calling to ask for anything but just saying thank you. Thank you.

Remember what I'm saying. There's no one so bad they can't be saved, no one so good they need not be saved. And all who are saved will be saved by the precious blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. What a mighty God we serve. There's no promise too hard for God to keep. There's no person too hard for God to save.

And these saved ones, according to Scripture that we've read, are going to be praising God. The Bible says they're waving palm branches. Palm branches were used in the Feast of Tabernacles. It's a symbol of joy. All Heaven breaks loose with praise. Look in Revelation 7 verses 11 and 12 of this



chapter here. I love it. "And all the angels round about the throne, and about the elders and the four beasts, and fell before the throne on their faces, and worshipped God, saying, 'Amen: Blessing, glory, wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honor, and power, and might, be unto our God for ever and ever." That's the angels who are praising Him. Why are the angels praising Him? The angels are praising Him when they see what God has done by His grace for you and for me and for these saints, these tribulation saints.

I thought of that song that talks about the praise in Heaven. And it says that when we begin to praise Him that even the angels will fold their wings, for angels never knew the joy that our salvation brings. Oh friend, I'm not going to let any angel out praise me. For what our Lord has done, these saints in the glory are praising Him.

Now these tribulation saints are going to be martyred. These multitudes of millions and millions are going to Heaven through the gates of torture. When they get saved they will refuse the mark of the beast. They will not avow their allegiance to the antichrist. They will be put to death. Most of them, I believe, by the guillotine. What a terrible, horrible thing it will be. But then they will awaken in the glory.

Now, you know what some are thinking today. "Well Pastor Rogers, if all of these folks are going to get saved in the great tribulation, I'll just wait to the great tribulation; I'll get saved." Pardon me, but that's dumb. Let me tell you why it is dumb for four reasons.

Number one, you might die before the great tribulation gets here. You may die this afternoon. If you do, you will go straight to hell without the Lord Jesus Christ. I wouldn't wait 15 minutes to give my heart to Jesus Christ for all the money in this world if I were not saved, knowing what I know today.

Number two, if you get into the great tribulation, you won't believe on the Lord Jesus Christ. There will be millions, and perhaps billions, who will, but not you. Why? Because you've heard the truth and you've refused the truth. And the Bible says in Second Thessalonians the second chapter, verses 11 and 12, "God will send you strong delusion that you would believe," not a lie but, "the lie because you receive not the love of the truth but have pleasure in unrighteousness." You read the whole second chapter of Second Thessalonians and you're going to find out, as far as I'm concerned, there's not one scintilla of an iota of hope for anybody who has blatantly, knowingly, willfully refused Jesus Christ and said, "I'll take my chances in the great tribulation."

But number three. Even if you could be saved in the great tribulation, that would be a knuckle-headed thing to do. Do you want to go in the great tribulation and go into all of this sorrow, and horror, and pain and be beheaded for the cause of Christ? I'd rather go another way my friend. I'd rather go another way. I mean it'd be a dumb thing to do even if you said, "I'll take my chances; go into the great tribulation."

But here's the fourth reason why that is so silly for you to say that. Friend, you'll miss knowing Jesus today. People say, "Get right with Jesus you may die." I say, "Get right with Jesus, you may live!" To know Him! All the joy of knowing the Lord Jesus Christ, not only in the world to come but in this world. Oh, there is no person too hard for God to save.

Here's the final point; there's no problem too hard for God to solve, there's no problem too hard



for God to solve. I see all of these up there in Heaven, beginning Revelation 7 in verse 15 through to verse 17, "Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His temple: and He that sitteth in the throne shall dwell among them. And they shall hunger no more, and 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. And unto living fountains of waters: and God," here's the part, "and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes." God is gonna wipe away all tears from their eyes.

What does that mean? It means, dear friend, listen to me. We all have problems. You say, "Adrian, you don't have problems do you?" Well, only when I am awake or asleep. We all have problems. Well, you say, "Well if I get saved, I'll have problems. Friend, you'll have problems if you don't get saved. Man that is born of woman is full of trouble. Right? We all have problems. But what happens is this. There is no problem that God cannot solve. Now God is not working the way we would want Him to work, perhaps. Our thoughts and God's thoughts are different. In Isaiah 55:9 God says this, "The heavens are high above the earth and so are My ways above your ways, and My thoughts above your thoughts." You haven't got it all figured out why God is going to do what He is going to do. And God, Jesus didn't say you're going to get out of this world unscathed, with no problems. He said just the opposite. There is no fine print in the contract. Jesus said in John chapter 16 verse 33, "In this world you will have tribulation, but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."

Now listen to me. There is no problem that God cannot solve. He's gonna wipe away all tears. He'll take your tears and turn them into pearls and make a diadem for you. He'll take your hurts and turn them to hallelujahs. And He'll take the storms of your life and arch the rainbow of His glory over that storm. God has an answer. What do you say to people who've been to the graveside of one of the dearest on earth to them, perhaps a little child? What do you say to a man who's laid away his wife that he's walked with for 60 years, and walked away broken without his life's companion? What do you say to a man who has no work and no income and feels embarrassed and can't take care of his family? What do you say to people who are being tortured, as millions are in the world today? What do you say? I'll tell you what you say, "This is not God's final plan." You say, "Oh, that is pie in the sky." Well, I like pie. This is not God's final plan! Romans 8:18, "For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared to the glory which shall the revealed in us." There's coming a day when our Lord will heal every hurt and wipe away every tear. And friend, there's no problem that God can't solve.

Well you say, "If God can do all of these things, if there's no promise that God can't keep, if there is no person that God cannot save, if there's no problem that God cannot solve, why are there so many unsaved people? Because of their unbelief. It's not God's problem, it's yours. In the city of Nazareth, the Bible says in Matthew 13:58, "Jesus could do no mighty work there because of their unbelief."

An old story that preachers use often about a very expensive family vase and a child that put her little hand down in that vase and couldn't get it out. They did everything they knew. They put cooking oil on her hand. They tried to pull. Everything they could do, but they couldn't get her little hand out. So finally, they had to break the vase. And when they broke the vase, her little fist was



clenched up just like that. And they opened it up and there was a penny in her hand. Said, "Honey, why didn't you open your hand?" She said, "I'd lose my penny." Whether that's true or not, it's such an illustration of so many who are clinging to the most foolish things rather than giving their heart to Jesus, rather than being set free.

Don't go away without Jesus. He loves you. Thank God for His grace, and He'll save you. There is nobody too hard for Him to save, if you'll trust him.

Would you bow your heads in prayer? Heads are bowed and eyes are closed. If you're already saved, would you begin to pray for those round about you who may not know the Lord Jesus Christ? And if you're not certain that you're saved, or certain that you're not saved, and you want to get it settled, would you pray this way. Forget anyone else is here and just pray from your heart. Just pray this, "Dear God." Pray it. "Dear God, I know that You love me." And, friend, oh, He does love you. "I know that You love me. I know that You want to save me. Jesus, You died to save me, and You promised to save me if I would trust You. I do trust You Jesus." Would you tell Him that? "I do trust You right now. Come into my heart. Forgive my sin. Cleanse me. Save me Jesus." Pray that. "Save me, Jesus." Did you ask Him? Were you sincere? Then, thank Him. Just by faith pray this way. "Thank you for doing it. I receive it by faith, and that settles it. You're now my Lord, my Master, my Savior, my God, and my Father. Thank You for doing it. And, Lord Jesus, because You died for me, I will live for You. I will not be ashamed of You, and I will make it public today. I will make it public. I will not be ashamed of You. In Your name I pray, Amen."



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