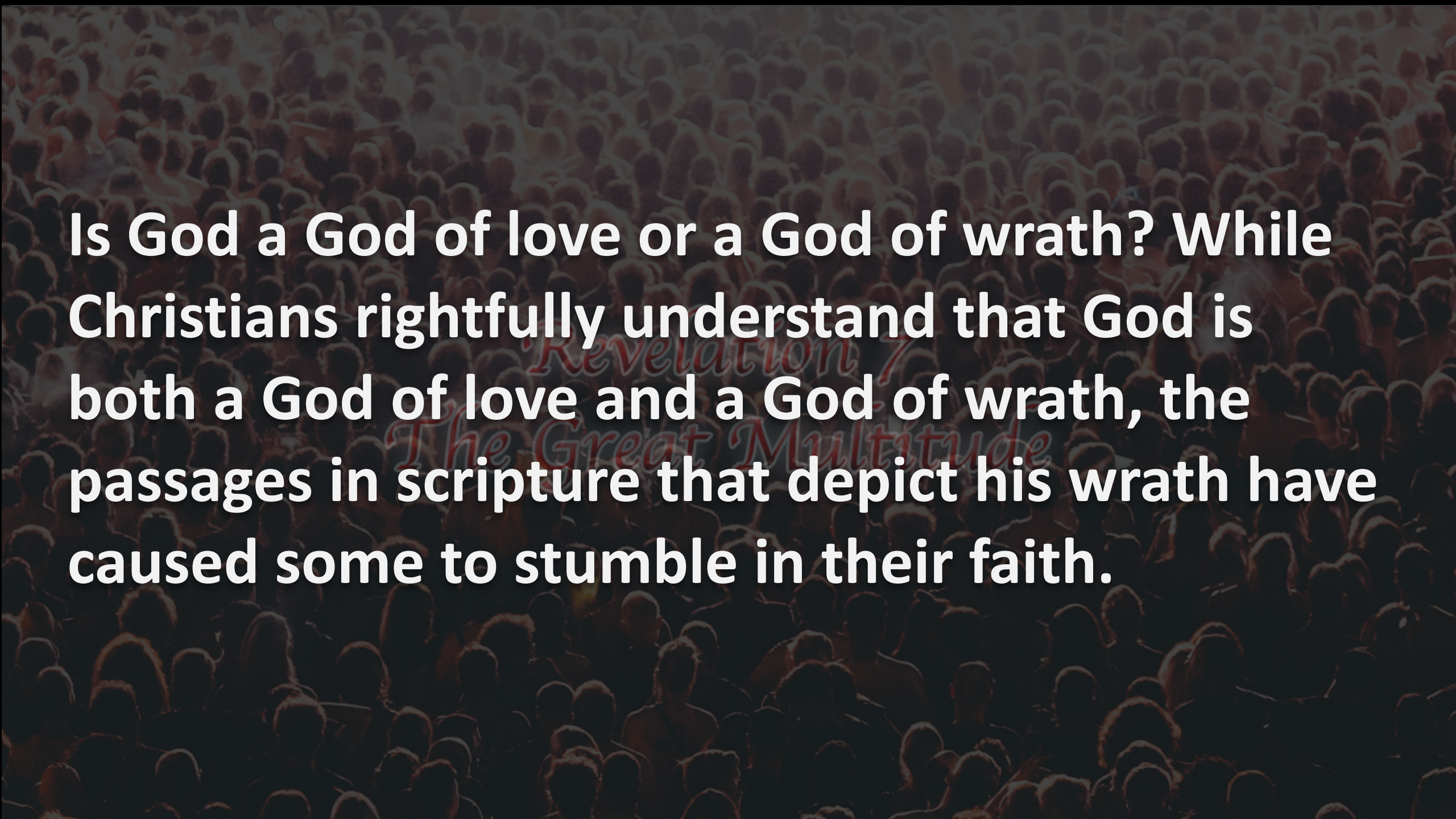


A high-angle, wide shot of a massive crowd of people at a concert. The audience is seen from behind, filling the entire frame. The lighting is warm and golden, suggesting a sunset or stage lights. The text "Revelation 7" and "The Great Multitude" is overlaid in the center in a stylized, red, cursive font with a white outline.

Revelation 7
The Great Multitude

The background of the image is a dark, dense crowd of people, with their heads and shoulders visible. Overlaid on this background is the text 'Revelation 7' and 'The Great Multitude' in a red, cursive font. The main text of the image is in a bold, white, sans-serif font.

Is God a God of love or a God of wrath? While Christians rightfully understand that God is both a God of love and a God of wrath, the passages in scripture that depict his wrath have caused some to stumble in their faith.

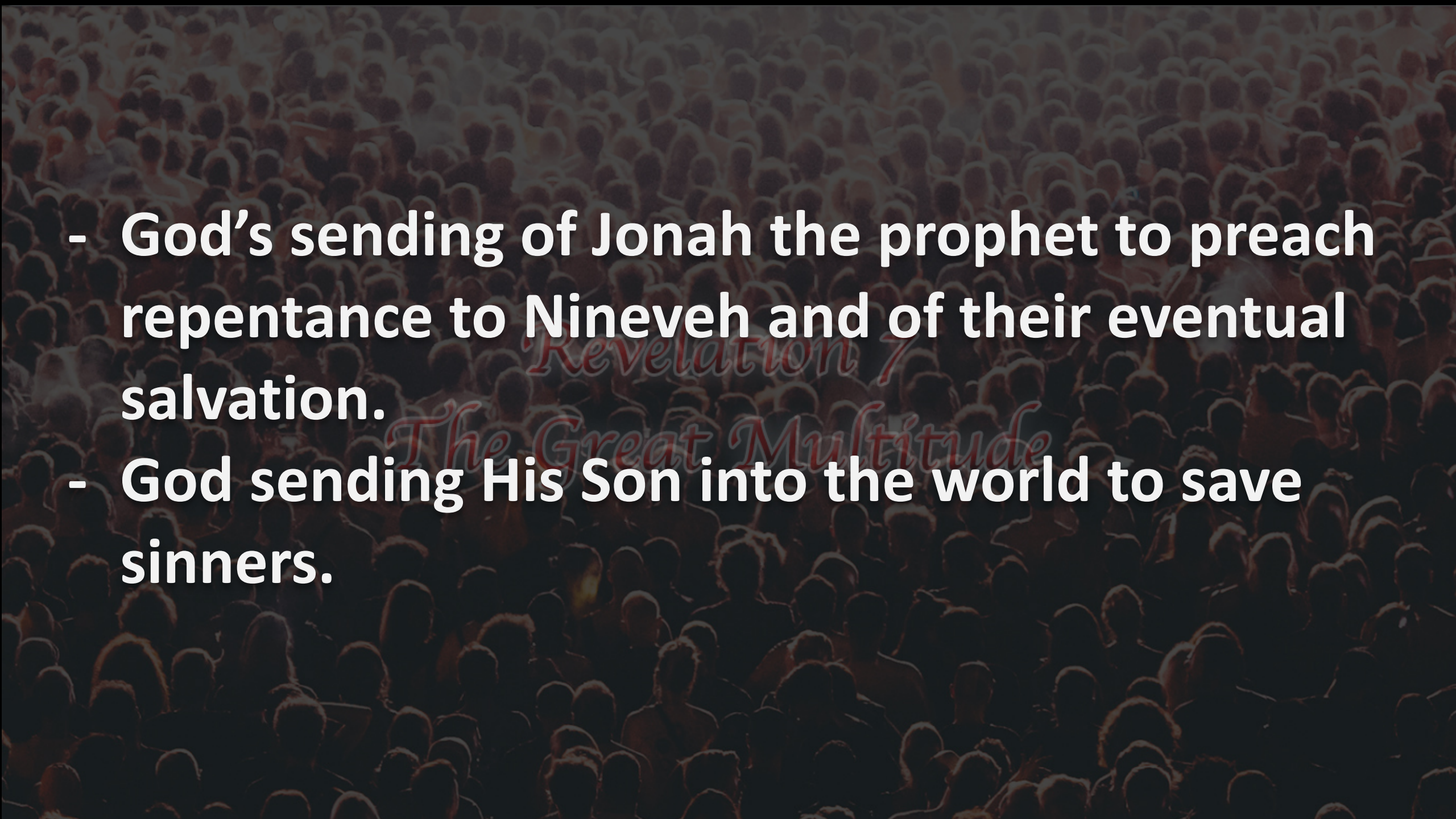
And yet, all throughout scripture, wherever we see the wrath of God on display, we also always see his love, protection, and salvation.

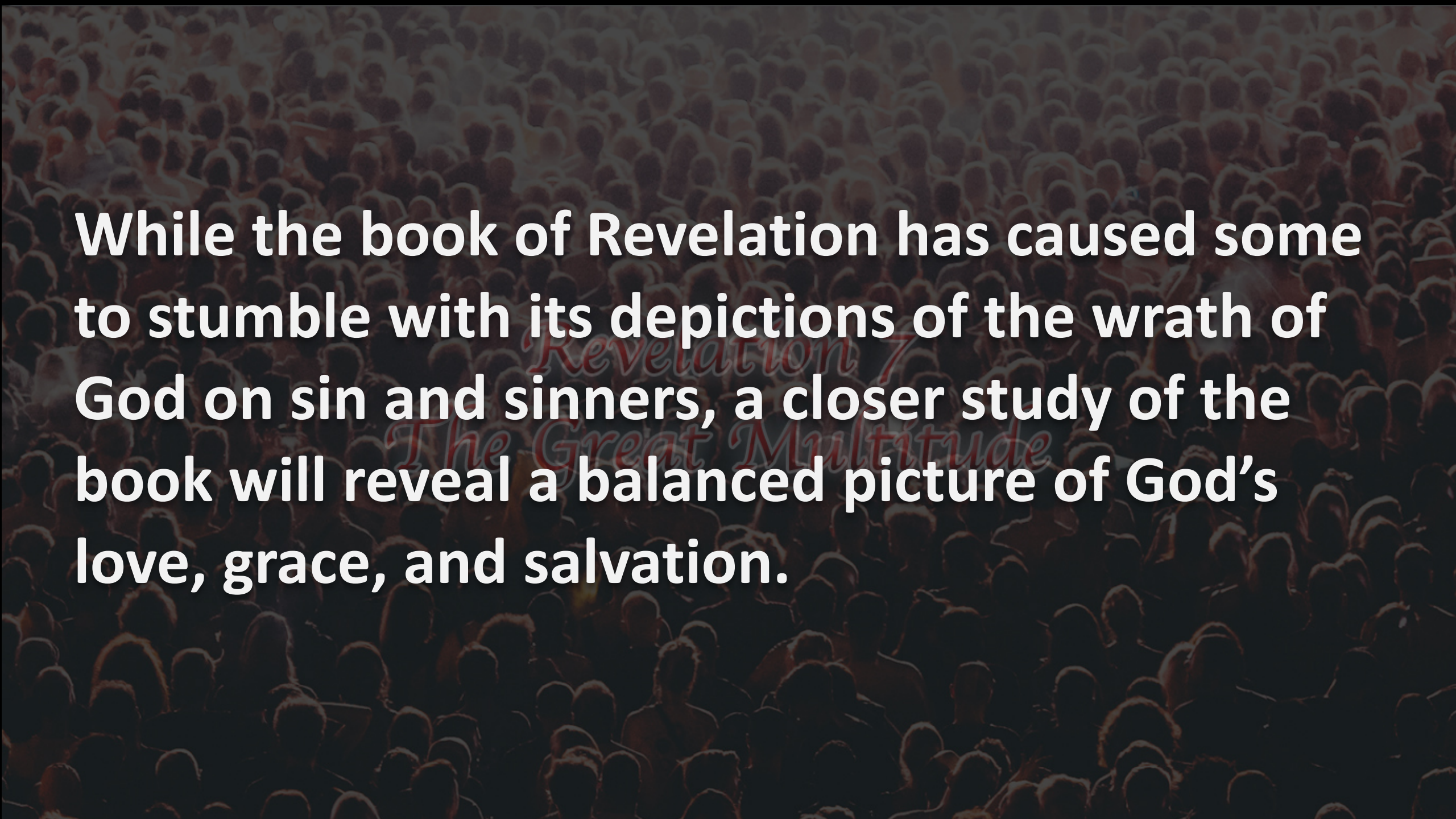
Take as examples:

- God's salvation of Lot and his family during the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah.**
- God's salvation of Rahab and her family during the destruction of Jericho.**

Revelation 7

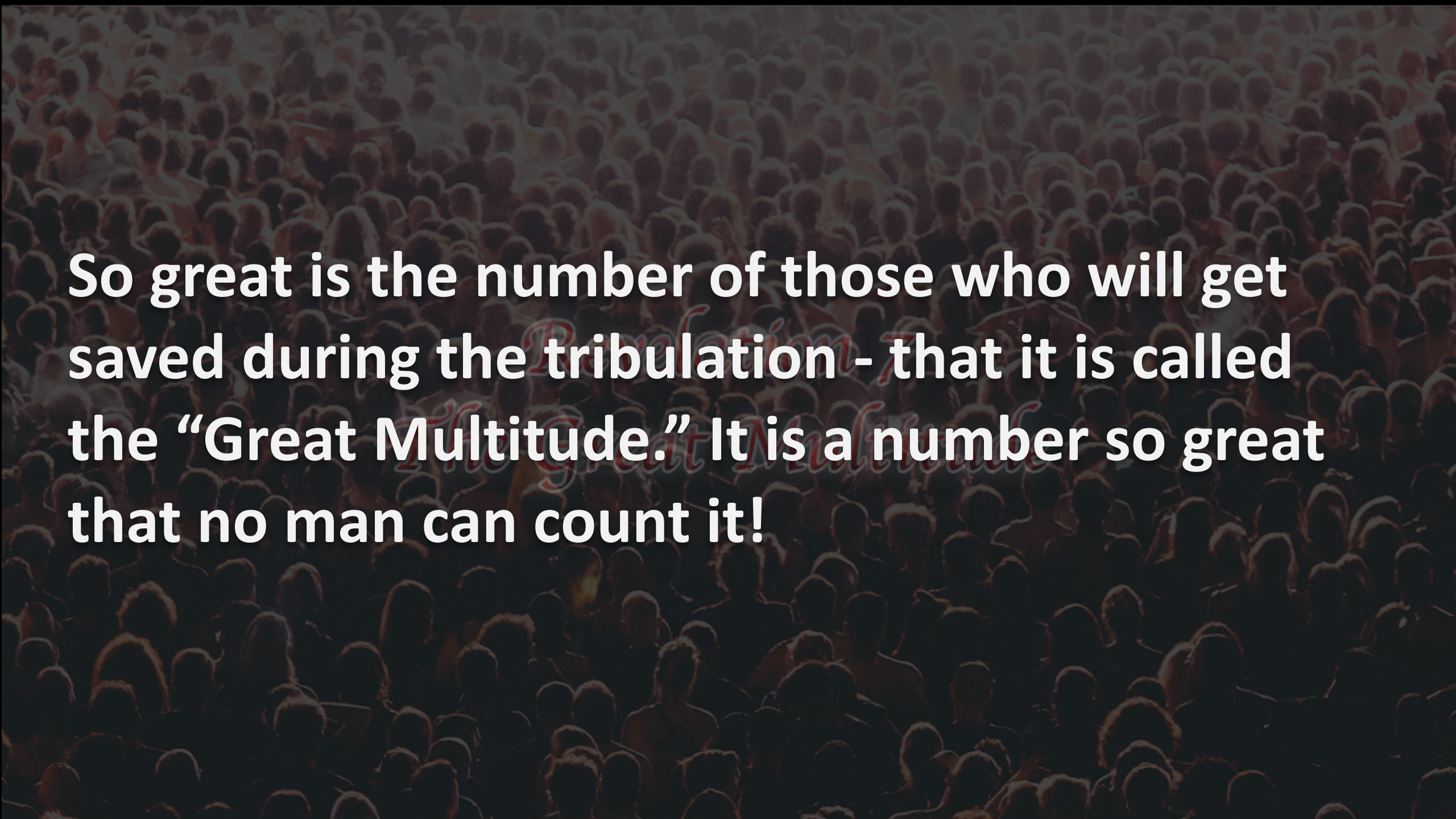
The Great Multitude

- 
- God's sending of Jonah the prophet to preach repentance to Nineveh and of their eventual salvation.
 - God sending His Son into the world to save sinners.

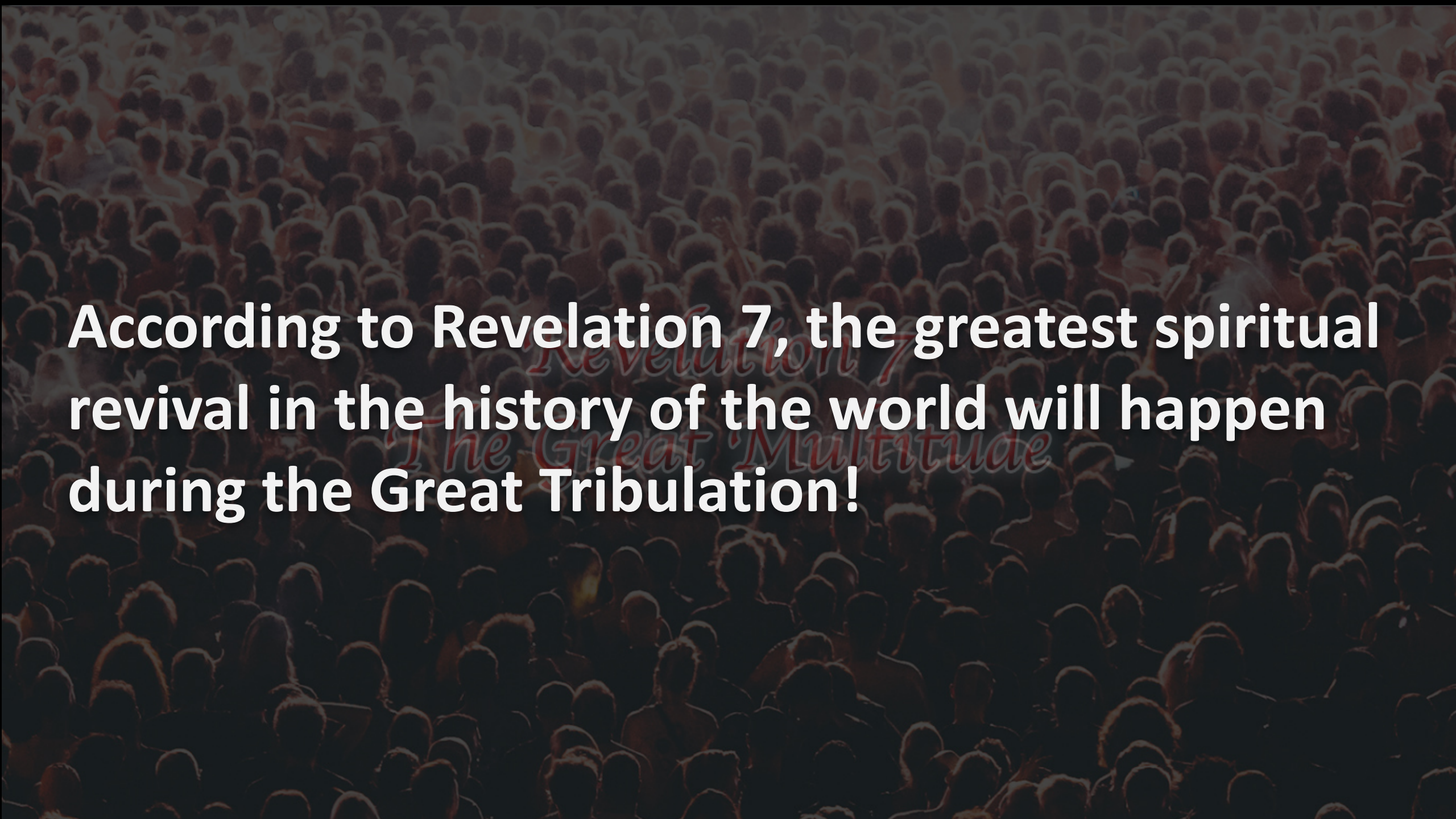
The background of the image is a dark, dense crowd of people, with their heads and shoulders visible. Overlaid on this background is the text "Revelation 7" and "The Great Multitude" in a light, cursive font. The main text of the image is in a bold, white, sans-serif font.

While the book of Revelation has caused some to stumble with its depictions of the wrath of God on sin and sinners, a closer study of the book will reveal a balanced picture of God's love, grace, and salvation.

In Revelation chapter 7, after the mass destruction of the first 6 seals of judgment in chapter 6, all of chapter 7 focuses on His salvation of sinners.



So great is the number of those who will get saved during the tribulation - that it is called the "Great Multitude." It is a number so great that no man can count it!

The background of the image is a dense crowd of people, rendered in a dark, almost black color. Overlaid on this crowd is a semi-transparent, reddish-brown text that reads "Revelation 7" and "The Great Multitude". The main text of the image is in a bold, white, sans-serif font.

According to Revelation 7, the greatest spiritual revival in the history of the world will happen during the Great Tribulation!

Revelation 7:1–2 (CSB) After this I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, restraining the four winds of the earth so that no wind could blow on the earth or on the sea or on any tree. Then I saw another angel rising up from the east, who had the seal of the living God. He cried out in a loud voice to the four angels who were allowed to harm the earth and the sea,

Revelation 7:3–4 (CSB) “Don’t harm the earth or the sea or the trees until we seal the servants of our God on their foreheads.” And I heard the number of the sealed: 144,000 sealed from every tribe of the Israelites:

**Revelation 7:5–6 (CSB) 12,000 sealed from the
tribe of Judah, 12,000 from the tribe of Reuben,
12,000 from the tribe of Gad, 12,000 from the
tribe of Asher, 12,000 from the tribe of
Naphtali, 12,000 from the tribe of Manasseh,**

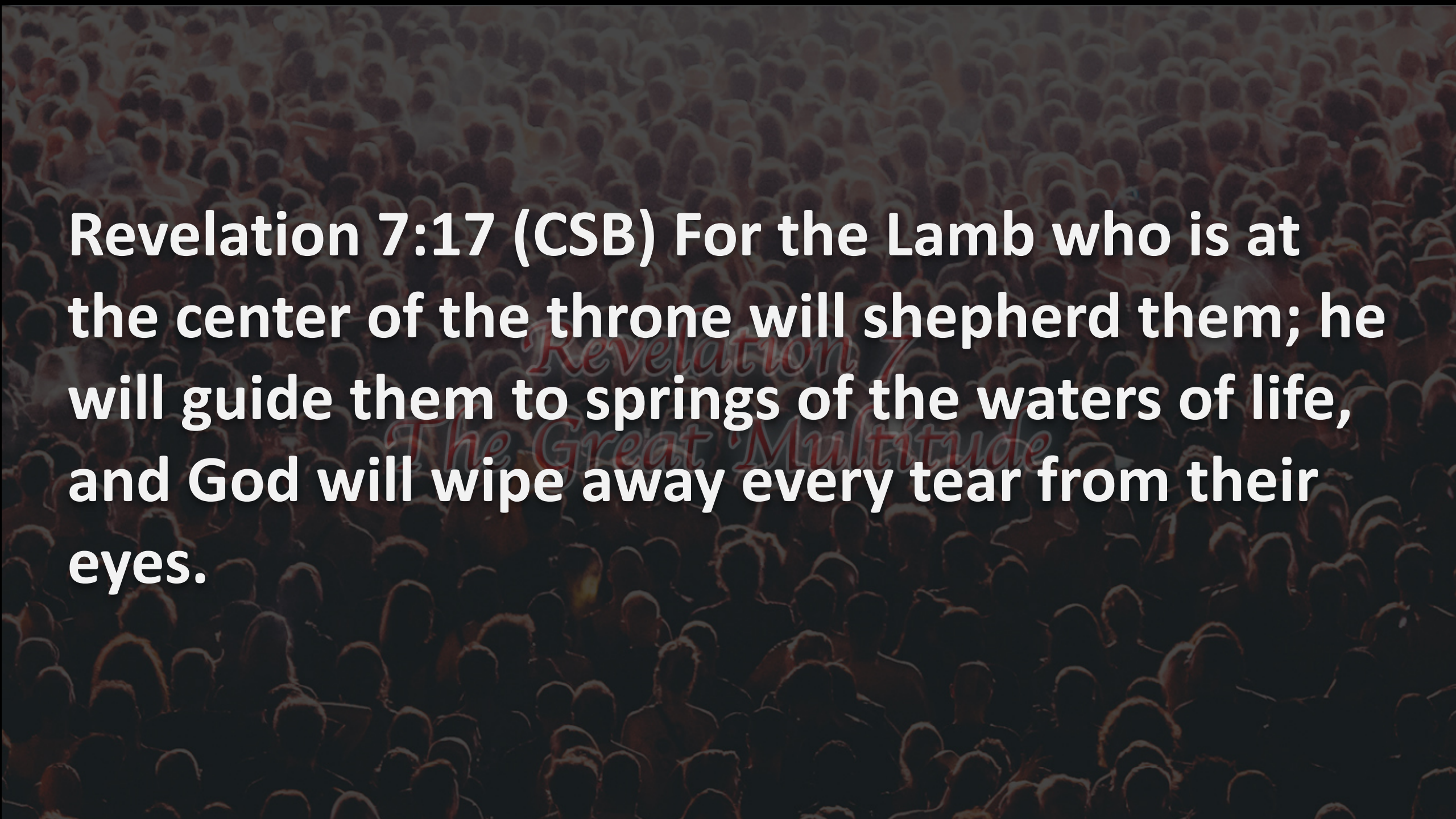
Revelation 7:7–8 (CSB) 12,000 from the tribe of Simeon, 12,000 from the tribe of Levi, 12,000 from the tribe of Issachar, 12,000 from the tribe of Zebulun, 12,000 from the tribe of Joseph, 12,000 sealed from the tribe of Benjamin.

Revelation 7:9–10 (CSB) After this I looked, and there was a vast multitude from every nation, tribe, people, and language, which no one could number, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were clothed in white robes with palm branches in their hands. And they cried out in a loud voice: Salvation belongs to our God, who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!

Revelation 7:11–12 (CSB) All the angels stood around the throne, and along with the elders and the four living creatures they fell facedown before the throne and worshiped God, saying, Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and strength be to our God forever and ever. Amen.

Revelation 7:13–14 (CSB) Then one of the elders asked me, “Who are these people in white robes, and where did they come from?” I said to him, “Sir, you know.” Then he told me: These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

Revelation 7:15–16 (CSB) For this reason they are before the throne of God, and they serve him day and night in his temple. The one seated on the throne will shelter them: They will no longer hunger; they will no longer thirst; the sun will no longer strike them, nor will any scorching heat.

The background of the image is a dark, dense crowd of people, with their heads and shoulders visible. Overlaid on this background is the text of Revelation 7:17 in a white, bold, sans-serif font. In the center of the crowd, there is faint, semi-transparent text in a red, cursive font that reads "Revelation 7" and "The Great Multitude".

Revelation 7:17 (CSB) For the Lamb who is at the center of the throne will shepherd them; he will guide them to springs of the waters of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.

Our God is a soul saving God who has all of humanity on His heart. This is never more evident than in Revelation 7. This chapter is something of an interlude, a parenthesis, a break in the action separating the 6th and 7th seals.

The first 6 seals have been broken in chapter 6 with cataclysmic and catastrophic results. The chapter ends with an ominous question, “For the great day of their wrath has come, and who is able to stand?” (6:17) To this question chapter 7 provides an answer, for in the midst of judgement, grace and mercy flow like rivers of water.

Revelation 7:1 (CSB) **After this** I saw **four angels** standing at the **four corners** of the earth...

After this – after the seals of chapter 6.

4 angels, 4 corners – a figure of speech, noting the 4 directions of the compass, hence the whole of the earth.

Revelation 7:1 (CSB) ...**restraining the four winds** of the earth so that no wind could blow on the earth or on the sea or on any tree.

They are **restraining the 4 winds** which are ready to blow further judgement and wrath upon this wicked world. But no, their hand is stayed, judgement is delayed. "At each of 4 points of the compass one of the 4 winds is held prisoner by an angel" (Thomas, 465).



John sees four angels holding back the four winds of the earth. This illustration from the *Beatus Apocalypse*, a medieval commentary on the book of Revelation, tries to depict that scene (ca. tenth century AD).

Revelation 7:2 (CSB) Then I saw **another angel** rising up from the east...

Revelation 7

John sees **another** (allon, of the same character) **angel** ascending from the rising of the sun, from the east, east of Patmos.

In the Bible good things, wonderful things come from / are in the east. Paradise was in the east (Genesis 2:8), the glory of God comes to the temple from the east (Ezekiel 43:2), the Magi came from the east (Matthew 2:1), and God's salvation likewise comes from the east, for our Savior is the "Dayspring" or the "Sunrise from on high" of Luke 1:78 and in Revelation 22:16 He is the "bright morning star."

Revelation 7:2 (CSB) ...who had the **seal** of the **living God**...

Revelation 7

Seal – possession and protection; c.f. 14:1; 22:4; the seal is the name of the Lamb and the Father, or as 7:2 says the **living God**.



In John's vision an angel carries the "seal of the living God." An example of a signet ring seal is shown here. It bears the early form of the name of Pharaoh Akhenaten. A seal, which carried the authority of the owner, could be used by the owner or their designated representative.



The seal of God placed on the foreheads of his servants indicates ownership. While Revelation may be referring to a symbolic stamp, actual seal impressions of ownership have been found during excavations in the region of Judah in Israel. They were used to mark storage jars as "belonging to the king." Many examples exist, like the one pictured here, which may be dated to the reign of Hezekiah.

Revelation 7:2 (CSB) ... He cried out in **a loud voice** to the four angels who were allowed to harm the earth and the sea,

An angel with “**a loud voice**” shouts to the 4 angels that judgement is delayed on the earth “until we have sealed the bond-servants (doulos) of our God on their foreheads. (c.f. sealing in Ezekiel 9:4).

Revelation 7:3 (CSB) “Don’t harm the earth or the sea or the trees until we **seal the servants of our God on their foreheads.**”

Ezekiel 9:4 (CSB) “Pass throughout the city of Jerusalem,” the Lord said to him, “and **put a mark on the foreheads** of the men who sigh and groan over all the detestable practices committed in it.”

Revelation 7:3 (CSB) “**Don't harm** the earth or the sea or the trees until we seal the servants of our God on their foreheads.”

Don't harm – is a command of prohibition. The loud voice denotes the urgency of the situation. The angels must restrain the winds a while longer. Destruction must wait.

Revelation 7:3 (CSB) “**Don't harm** the earth or the sea or the trees until we seal the servants of our God on their foreheads.”

Don't harm – These select servants will be sealed and protected as servants of God from the devastating judgements to follow. They will have an assignment to fulfill for the Lord, and no one or no thing will stop them.

**As you observe the Grace of God in the midst of
His wrath...**

1. Study the 144,000 (vs. 1-8)

Revelation 7
The Great Multitude

THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST,
ST. JOHN THE DIVINE

WHO ARE THE
144,000?

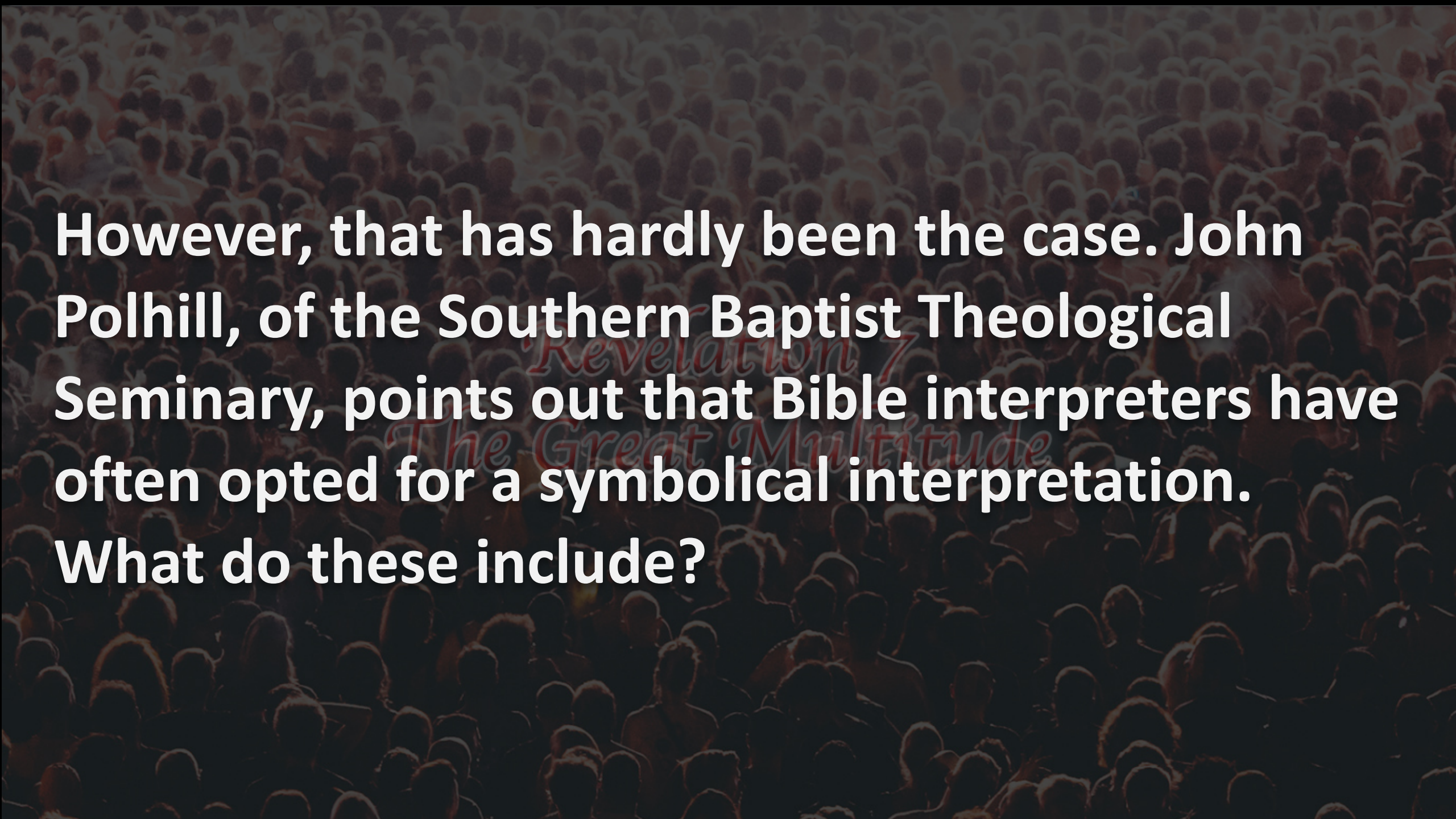
Revelation 7:4–6 (CSB) And I heard the number of the sealed: 144,000 sealed from every tribe of the Israelites: 12,000 sealed from the tribe of Judah, 12,000 from the tribe of Reuben, 12,000 from the tribe of Gad, 12,000 from the tribe of Asher, 12,000 from the tribe of Naphtali, 12,000 from the tribe of Manasseh,

Revelation 7:7–8 (CSB) 12,000 from the tribe of Simeon, 12,000 from the tribe of Levi, 12,000 from the tribe of Issachar, 12,000 from the tribe of Zebulun, 12,000 from the tribe of Joseph, 12,000 sealed from the tribe of Benjamin.

Who are the 144,000?

Verses 4 – 8 are some of the most remarkable, abused and misinterpreted verses in the Bible. What should be a basic and simple understanding of the text has been subjected to some of the most fanciful and far-fetched interpretations imaginable.

On face value the text is clear. During the Tribulation God will seal as His select servants 144,000 “from every tribe of the sons of Israel.” While there are a couple of peculiarities in the list which we will note, the meaning seems clear and without controversy.



However, that has hardly been the case. John Polhill, of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, points out that Bible interpreters have often opted for a symbolical interpretation. What do these include?

*Revelation 7
The Great Multitude*

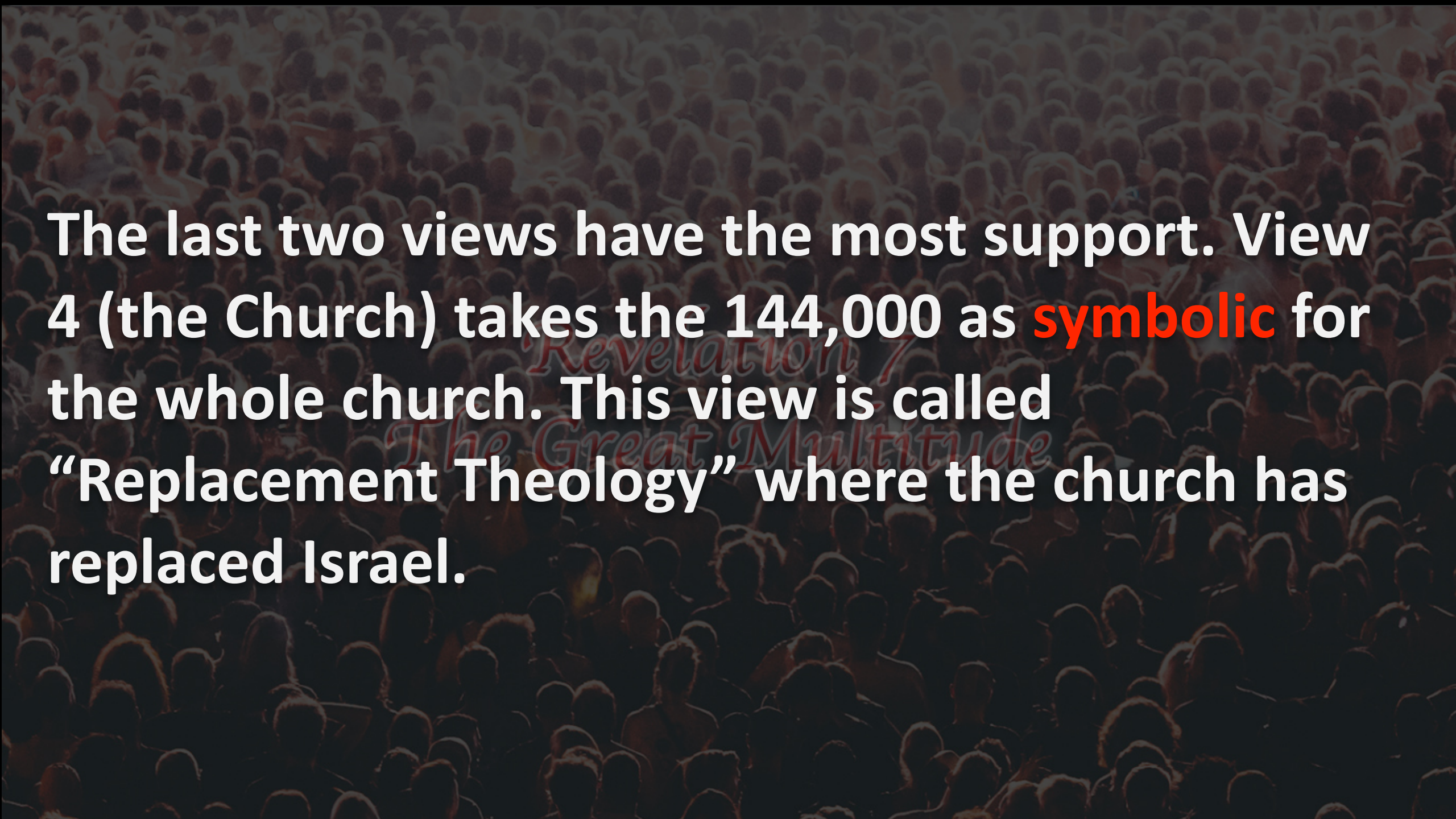
1) 144,000 Jehovah's Witnesses whom will reign in heaven.

2) Select individuals who worship on the Sabbath (7th Day Adventist groups).


3) 144,000 true preachers who would follow the radical Anabaptist reformer Melchior Hofmann in 1533. He died in prison and his army of 144,000 never materialized.

4) The Church, as the “new Israel,” the redeemed of all the ages.

5) Literal Jews saved and sealed for special service during the Tribulation.

The background of the slide is a dark, dense crowd of people, with their heads and shoulders visible. Overlaid on this background is the text 'Revelation 7' in a red, cursive font, and 'The Great Multitude' in a white, cursive font below it. The main text of the slide is in a bold, white, sans-serif font.

The last two views have the most support. View 4 (the Church) takes the 144,000 as **symbolic** for the whole church. This view is called “Replacement Theology” where the church has replaced Israel.

The background of the image is a dark, high-angle photograph of a massive crowd of people, their heads forming a dense, textured pattern. Overlaid on this background is the text 'Revelation 7' in a light, serif font, and below it, 'The Great Multitude' in a similar font. The main text of the slide is in a bold, white sans-serif font, with the word 'literal' highlighted in red.

View 5 (Israel) takes the 144,000 as **literal** for the tribes of Israel. Tonight, I will be supporting the literal view.

Throughout the Bible, prophecy speaks about how during the last days, God will pour out his spirit again on the Children of Israel and save them. The Bible promises that God will never throw Israel away. Specifically in the Old Testament in Jeremiah 31, and in the New Testament in Romans 11.

Jeremiah 31:35–36 (CSB) “This is what the Lord says: The one who gives the sun for light by day, the fixed order of moon and stars for light by night, who stirs up the sea and makes its waves roar— the Lord of Armies is his name: If this fixed order departs from before me— this is the Lord’s declaration— only then will Israel’s descendants cease to be a nation before me forever.

Jeremiah 31:37 (CSB) “This is what the Lord says: Only if the heavens above can be measured and the foundations of the earth below explored, will I reject all of Israel’s descendants because of all they have done—this is the Lord’s declaration.

Romans 11:25–26 (CSB) I don't want you to be ignorant of this mystery, brothers and sisters, so that you will not be conceited: A partial hardening has come upon Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in. And in this way all Israel will be saved, as it is written, The Deliverer will come from Zion; he will turn godlessness away from Jacob.

Romans 11:27–29 (CSB) And this will be my covenant with them when I take away their sins. Regarding the gospel, they are enemies for your advantage, but regarding election, they are loved because of the patriarchs, since God's gracious gifts and calling are irrevocable.

Who are the 144,000?

Just as God reserved 7,000 in the days of Ahab (1 Kings 19:8), He will reserve 144,000 for Himself during the future Tribulation.

In 1800 there were only 3,300,000 Jews in the World and only 6700 in their land. By 1996, in spite of losing 6 million in the Holocaust, there were 14,000,000 worldwide and 4,600,000 in their land! God never forgets His promises!

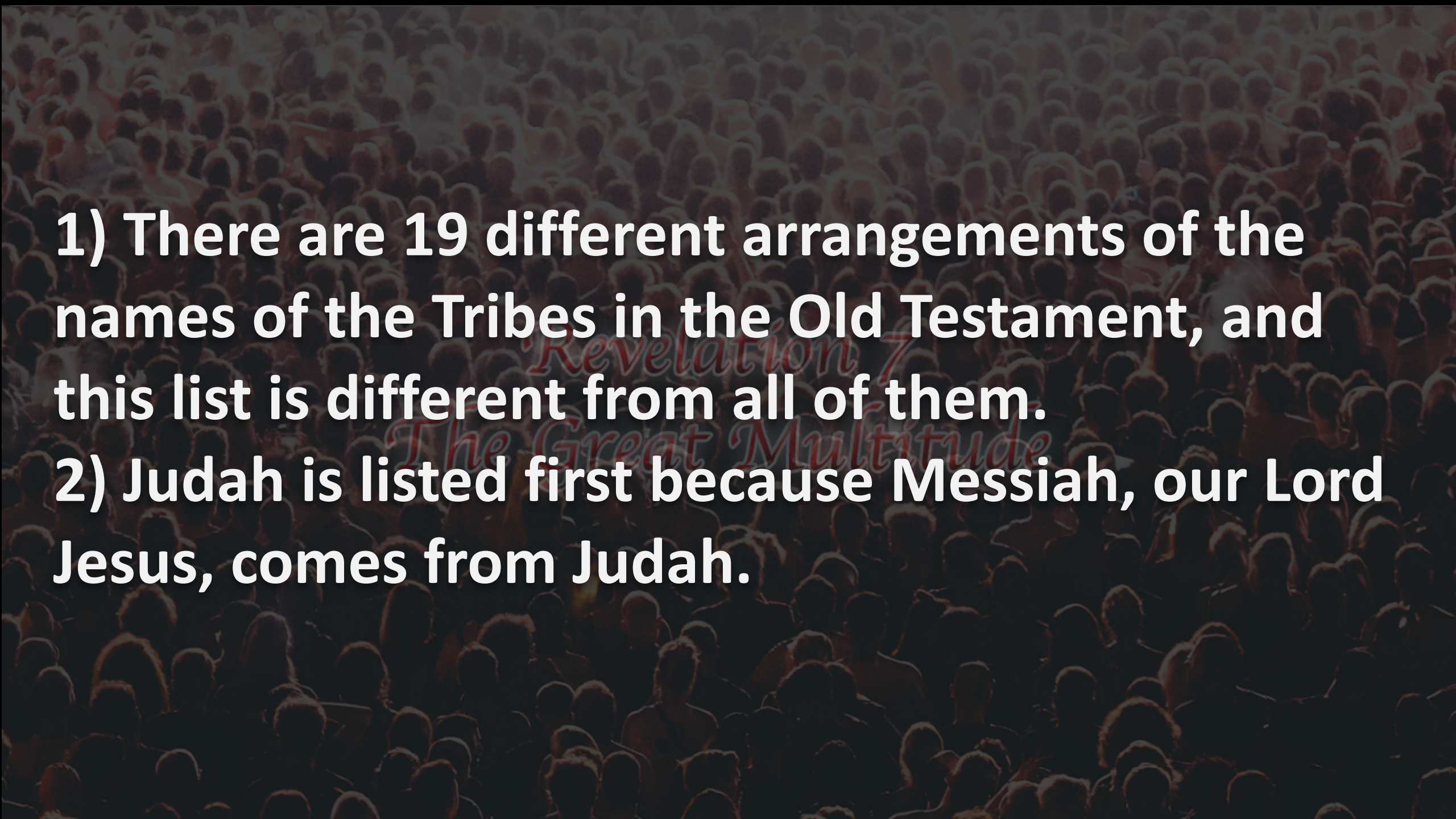
1) These are Tribulation “apostle Pauls” who will engage in missionary and evangelistic work around the world.

2) As Revelation 14:1-5 teaches, they will be utterly faithful, committed and zealous in their work for the Lord.

3) They are only the first (14:5) of a vast multitude who will come to Jesus during the time of Tribulation.

Who are the 144,000?

What about the peculiarities in the list, specifically 1) Judah appearing first, 2) Levi included, and 3) the absence of Dan and Ephraim?

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- The background of the slide features a dense crowd of people, rendered in a dark, semi-transparent style. Overlaid on this background is the text "Revelation 7" in a red, cursive font, and "The Great Multitude" in a white, cursive font below it. The main text of the slide is in a bold, white, sans-serif font.
- 1) There are 19 different arrangements of the names of the Tribes in the Old Testament, and this list is different from all of them.
 - 2) Judah is listed first because Messiah, our Lord Jesus, comes from Judah.

3) Levi, though not allotted a portion of land, is rightly involved in the worldwide priestly and prophetic assignment of the Tribulation.

4) Ephraim is replaced by Joseph because of its history of idolatry and its allying with the enemies of Judah (Isaiah 7:2,5; Hosea 5:3). Yet the inclusion of Joseph allows for the inclusion of Ephraim, but without the mention of his name.

5) Dan is omitted, replaced by Levi, because of its practice of gross idolatry. Further, a pre-Christian Jewish tradition said Antichrist would come from Dan!

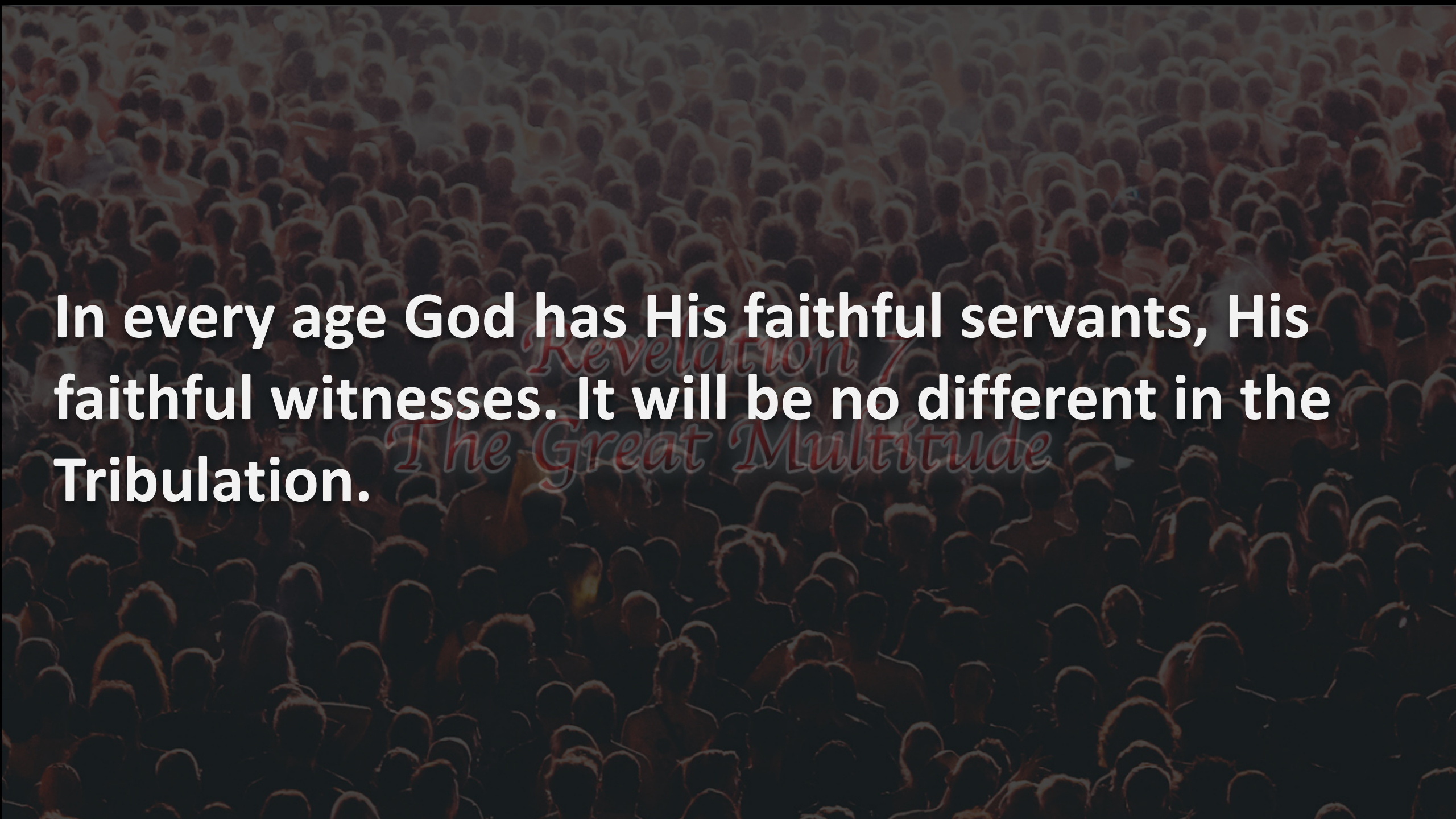
Genesis 49:17 (CSB) Dan will be a snake by the road, a viper beside the path, that bites the horse's heels so that its rider falls backward.

The non biblical book the “Testament of Dan” (5:6) says that Satan is the prince of Dan. Irenaeus (2nd century) noted the tradition that Antichrist would come from Dan, and Hippolytus wrote, “As the Christ was born from the tribe of Judah, so will the Antichrist be born from the tribe of Dan.” (Mounce, 169-170).

Ezekiel 48 and Matthew 19:28 makes it clear all the tribes will be honored and share in the millennial reign of Christ, yet during this time 144,000 specific Jews from 12 specific tribes will receive the Father's name as their seal (14:1) and for His service, standing in stark contrast to those who receive the mark of the beast and follow Antichrist (13:17; 14:11; 16:2; 19:20).

*Revelation 7
The Great Multitude*

Matthew 19:28 (CSB) Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, in the renewal of all things, when the Son of Man sits on his glorious throne, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, **judging the twelve tribes of Israel.**”

A large crowd of people, overlaid with text. The text is white and bold, set against a dark, semi-transparent background. The background image shows a dense crowd of people, with some individuals visible in the foreground. The text is centered and reads: "In every age God has His faithful servants, His faithful witnesses. It will be no different in the Tribulation."

In every age God has His faithful servants, His faithful witnesses. It will be no different in the Tribulation.

*Revelation 7
The Great Multitude*

...Mohammed may say, “The last hour will not come before Muslims fight the Jews and the Muslims kill them.”

Revelation 7

...Jewish leaders may decry our witness to them

...but God says I have big things, great things in store for them at the end.

Only 25% of Israeli Jews may know that December 25 is the day we celebrate Christmas now, but there is coming a day when there will be an explosion of “Jews for Jesus.” It will be during the time of the Tribulation.

**As you observe the Grace of God in the midst of
His wrath...**

1. Study the 144,000 (vs. 1-8)

2. Survey the Great Multitude (vs. 9-12)

In verses 9-12, John now sees a 2nd vision in heaven. It complements the 1st vision, but it is significantly different.

- The first is on earth, the second in heaven.
- The first concerns 144,000 Jews, the second a great multitude from everywhere.
- The first are sealed for service, the second are secure in their salvation.

Revelation 7:9 (CSB) After this I looked, and there was a vast multitude from every nation, tribe, people, and language, which no one could number, ...

John sees a great multitude, a crowd of many that no one could count, lit. “to number it no one was able.” They indeed come from every place and every people: from every nation and all tribes and peoples and tongues.

**Revelation 7:9 (CSB) ...every nation, tribe,
people, and language...**

**This 4-fold division emphasizes the universality
of this multitude. In heaven there is not the
slightest hint of prejudice, bigotry or racism. In
every direction, as far as the eye can see, like
the stars of heaven (Genesis 15:5) and the sand
of the sea (Gen. 32:12), stands a great throng.**

**Revelation 7:9 ...standing before the throne and
before the Lamb...**

**Note their location – before the throne and
before the Lamb. Now the question of 6:17 is
answered as to who can stand. It is the
redeemed.**

Revelation 7:9 ... They were clothed in white robes with palm branches in their hands.

Revelation 7

Note their clothing – clothed in white robes of victory and purity, they stand before God in the imputed righteousness of Jesus.

Revelation 7:9 (CSB) They were clothed in white robes with palm branches in their hands.

Note their instruments of worship – palm branches of joy and celebration.

Revelation 7:10 (CSB) And **they cried** out in a **loud voice: Salvation** belongs to our God, who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!

Revelation 7
The Great Multitude

Note their confession – **they cried** (continually) with a **loud voice** (c.f. verse 2), saying “**Salvation ...**” Deliverance from sin and victory over Satan is ours because of Father on the throne and the Son (Lamb) at His side.

Revelation 7:11 (CSB) **All the angels stood** around the throne, and along with the elders and the four living creatures they fell facedown before the throne and worshiped God,

*Revelation 7
The Great Multitude*

“All” the angels were standing ...” This looks back to the myriad and myriad in 5:11-14. Like the elders in 5:14 the angels fall on their faces before the Lord. This scene is holy, this time sacred.

Revelation 7:12 (CSB) saying, Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and strength be to our God forever and ever. Amen.

Revelation 7

Like the saints in verse 10 they speak, not of what God has done but to who God is.

Sandwiching a 7-fold blessing is the word “Amen.” They affirm what the saints have said and then add their own words of adoration.

1) Blessing (eulogia) – a good word, a praise.

2) Glory (doxa) – honor derived from a good reputation; it is the radiance or outshining of the divine person.

3) Wisdom (sophia) – divine knowledge and perspective on all things, especially in the outworking of His plan of salvation.

*Revelation 7
The Great Multitude*

4) Thanksgiving (eucharistia) – we get our word “Eucharist” from it. It speaks of gratitude and is the appropriate response to the God of all good things.

*Revelation 7
The Great Multitude*

5) Honor (time) – esteem, public recognition (c.f. 4:11; 5:12, 13).

6) Power (dunamis) – God’s omnipotence, his ability to act as He wills.

Revelation 7

7) Might (ischus) – strength as a quality one has. Often related to God’s mighty acts in salvation history.

The Great Multitude

Revelation 7:12 (CSB) saying, Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and strength be to our God forever and ever. Amen.

*Revelation 7
The Great Multitude*

All of this has one focus, one direction, one and only one deserving object: to our God forever and ever. This word of worship is not temporary, it is eternal. It is not for a moment, but forever.

As you observe the Grace of God in the midst of His wrath...

1. Study the 144,000 (vs. 1-8)

2. Survey the Great Multitude (vs. 9-12)

3. See the coming blessings (vs. 13-17)

Revelation 7:13 (CSB) Then one of the elders asked me, “Who are these people in white robes, and where did they come from?”

Revelation 7

The Great Multitude

In a sense he anticipates the question which was on John’s mind. Indeed, John throws the issue back to the elder in verse 14 by saying, “My Lord, you know.”

Revelation 7:13 (CSB) 13 Then one of the elders asked me, “Who are these people in white robes, and where did they come from?”

*Revelation 7
The Great Multitude*

What unfolds is a glorious description of the promises of salvation this group enjoys, and 5 different facets or aspects are highlighted. Though these promises are particularly for this group, these promises also belong to us as well.

Revelation 7:14-15 (CSB) I said to him, “Sir, you know.” Then he told me: These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

15 For this reason they are before the throne of God, and they serve him day and night in his temple. The one seated on the throne will shelter them:

Revelation 7:16-17 (CSB) They will no longer hunger; they will no longer thirst; the sun will no longer strike them, nor will any scorching heat.

17 For the Lamb who is at the center of the throne will shepherd them; he will guide them to springs of the waters of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.

1. We are promised sanctification. 7:13-14
These come out (pre. tense) of the Great
Tribulation (c.f. Daniel 12:1; Matthew 24:21).
Though it is not specifically stated, it would
seem then martyred believers are in view,
though all who die in Christ during the
Tribulation cannot and should not be excluded.

Note they come out (pre. tense) continually. They are still coming. Sacrificed on earth, they are sanctified in heaven, for their robes were made white in the blood of the Lamb. Wash and made white indicates once-for-all actions. Take our ugly, sinned, soiled garments and plunge them into the blood of the Lamb and miraculously, supernaturally, they come out white. We are promised sanctification.

*Revelation 7
The Great Multitude*

Revelation 7:15 (CSB) ...and they **serve** him **day and night in his temple...**

We are promised service. 7:15

Serve – priestly or worshipful service.

Day and night – continually, unceasingly, without interruption.

In His temple – the present heavenly dwelling place of God. But in eternity (21:22), He is Himself our temple.

Revelation 7:15 (CSB) ...The one seated on the throne will shelter them:

*Revelation 7
The Great Multitude*

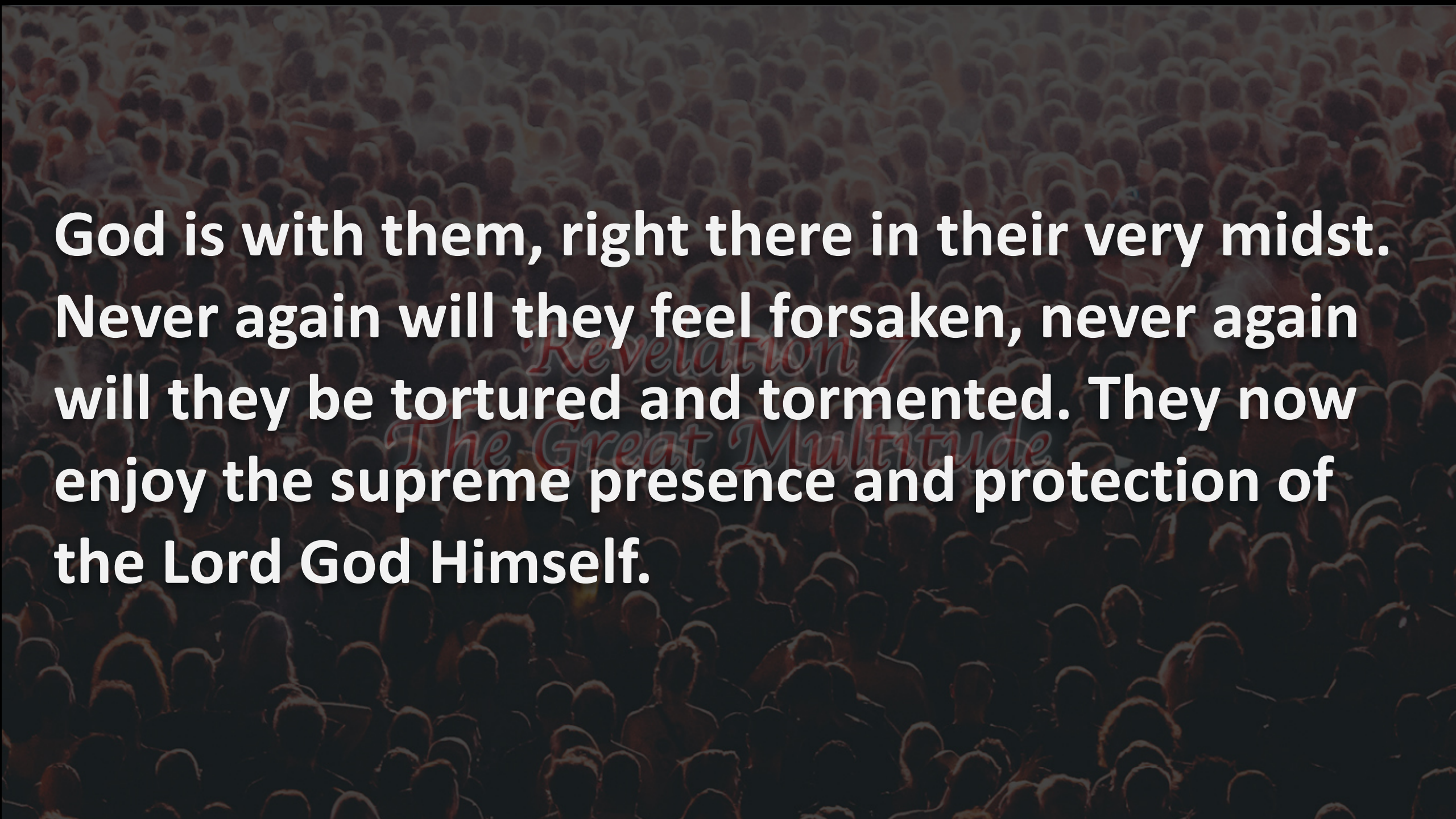
We are promised shelter. 7:15

Literally it reads “Spread his tabernacle (his tent) over them”

Revelation 7:15 (CSB) ...The one seated on the throne will shelter them:

This calls to mind the memory of the tabernacle in the wilderness (Leviticus 26 ff.), the pillar of cloud and of fire (Exodus 13:21-22), the Shekinah Glory of God's radiant presence in the midst of His people (Exodus 40:34-38) and the incarnation of the Son (John 1:14).



The background of the image is a dense crowd of people, rendered in a dark, monochromatic style. Overlaid on this background is the text "Revelation 7" and "The Great Multitude" in a light, cursive font. The main text of the image is in a bold, white, sans-serif font.

God is with them, right there in their very midst. Never again will they feel forsaken, never again will they be tortured and tormented. They now enjoy the supreme presence and protection of the Lord God Himself.

Revelation 7:16 (CSB) They will no longer hunger; they will no longer thirst; the sun will no longer strike them, nor will any scorching heat.

We are promised satisfaction. 7:16

Hunger and thirst were constant obstacles and threats in the ancient world. They remain so for much of our world today, but not so in heaven.

Starvation, thirst, and the burning heat of the hot sun will find no place in heaven.

This is almost a direct contrast with what the 4 Horsemen bring in 6:1-8. They curse, but God blesses. They bring suffering and sorrow, but God gives us satisfaction.

Revelation 7:17 (CSB) For the Lamb who is at the center of the throne will shepherd them; he will guide them to springs of the waters of life,

We are promised a shepherd. 7:17

The Lamb will be our shepherd. From Lamb to Shepherd! (c.f. John 10; Hebrews 13:20; 1 Peter 2:25).

Revelation 7:17 (CSB) For the Lamb who is at the center of the throne will shepherd them; he will guide them to springs of the waters of life,

Jesus is the Good Shepherd, the Great Shepherd, the Chief Shepherd. He will guide (lead) us to (lit.) “life fountains of water,” emphasis falling on “life,” a stark contrast to the thirst the world offers but which it can never satisfy.

Revelation 7:17 (CSB) ...and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.

*Revelation 7
The Great Multitude*
Finally, even the sorrowful memories of pain and suffering are removed as our God gently and graciously will wipe away every tear from their eyes (c.f. 21:4).

A large crowd of people is shown from a high angle, filling the entire frame. The image is dark and has a semi-transparent overlay. In the center, there is text in a white, bold, sans-serif font. Above and below this main title, there is text in a red, cursive font.

Revelation 7
Old Testament Connections
The Great Multitude

Revelation 7:1 - After this I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, restraining the four winds of the earth so that no wind could blow on the earth or on the sea or on any tree.

Jeremiah 49:36 - I will bring the four winds against Elam from the four corners of the heavens, and I will scatter them to all these winds. There will not be a nation to which Elam's banished ones will not go.

Ezekiel 37:9 He said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophecy, son of man. Say to it: This is what the Lord God says: Breath, come from the four winds and breathe into these slain so that they may live!"

Revelation 7:1 - After this I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, restraining the four winds of the earth so that no wind could blow on the earth or on the sea or on any tree.

Revelation 7
The Great Multitude
Daniel 7:2 Daniel said, "In my vision at night I was watching, and suddenly the four winds of heaven stirred up the great sea.

Zechariah 6:5 The angel told me, "These are the four spirits of heaven going out after presenting themselves to the Lord of the whole earth.

Revelation 7:3

3“Don’t harm the earth or the sea or the trees until we seal the servants of our God on their foreheads.”

Ezekiel 9:4

4“Pass throughout the city of Jerusalem,” the Lord said to him, “and put a mark on the foreheads of the men who sigh and groan over all the detestable practices committed in it.”

Revelation 7

The Great Multitude

Revelation 7:10 And they cried out in a loud voice: Salvation belongs to our God, who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!

1 Kings 22:19 Then Micaiah said, "Therefore, hear the word of the Lord: I saw the Lord sitting on his throne, and the whole heavenly army was standing by him at his right hand and at his left hand.

2 Chronicles 18:18 Then Micaiah said, "Therefore, hear the word of the Lord. I saw the Lord sitting on his throne, and the whole heavenly army was standing at his right hand and at his left hand.

Revelation 7:10 And they cried out in a loud voice: Salvation belongs to our God, who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!

Psalm 47:8 God reigns over the nations; God is seated on his holy throne.

Isaiah 6:1 In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord seated on a high and lofty throne, and the hem of his robe filled the temple.

*Revelation 7
The Great Multitude*

Revelation 7:10 And they cried out in a loud voice: Salvation belongs to our God, who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!

Ezekiel 1:26–27 Something like a throne with the appearance of lapis lazuli was above the expanse over their heads. On the throne, high above, was someone who looked like a human. 27 From what seemed to be his waist up, I saw a gleam like amber, with what looked like fire enclosing it all around. From what seemed to be his waist down, I also saw what looked like fire. There was a brilliant light all around him.

Revelation 7:14 I said to him, “Sir, you know.” Then he told me: These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

Revelation 7

Daniel 12:1 At that time Michael, the great prince who stands watch over your people, will rise up. There will be a time of distress such as never has occurred since nations came into being until that time. But at that time all your people who are found written in the book will escape.

Revelation 7:15 For this reason they are before the throne of God, and they serve him day and night in his temple. The one seated on the throne will shelter them:

1 Kings 22:19 Then Micaiah said, “Therefore, hear the word of the Lord: I saw the Lord sitting on his throne, and the whole heavenly army was standing by him at his right hand and at his left hand.

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*Revelation 7
The Great Multitude*

Isaiah 6:1 In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord seated on a high and lofty throne, and the hem of his robe filled the temple.

Revelation 7:16

16 They will no longer hunger; they will no longer thirst; the sun will no longer strike them, nor will any scorching heat.

Isaiah 49:10

10 They will not hunger or thirst, the scorching heat or sun will not strike them; for their compassionate one will guide them, and lead them to springs.

Revelation 7

The Great Multitude

Revelation 7:17 For the Lamb who is at the center of the throne will shepherd them; he will guide them to springs of the waters of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.

Psalm 23:1 The Lord is my shepherd; I have what I need.

Psalm 23:2 He lets me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside quiet waters.

Revelation 7:17 For the Lamb who is at the center of the throne will shepherd them; he will guide them to springs of the waters of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.

Isaiah 25:8 When he has swallowed up death once and for all, the Lord God will wipe away the tears from every face and remove his people's disgrace from the whole earth, for the Lord has spoken.

Isaiah 49:10 They will not hunger or thirst, the scorching heat or sun will not strike them; for their compassionate one will guide them, and lead them to springs.

Revelation 7:17 For the Lamb who is at the center of the throne will shepherd them; he will guide them to springs of the waters of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.

Jeremiah 2:13 For my people have committed a double evil: They have abandoned me, the fountain of living water, and dug cisterns for themselves—cracked cisterns that cannot hold water.

Ezekiel 34:23 I will establish over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he will shepherd them. He will tend them himself and will be their shepherd.



Revelation 7
Conclusion
The Great Multitude

Key Themes of Revelation 7

- God will bring judgment upon a wicked world according to his sovereign timing.
- The judgments of God include allowing evil forces to carry out their destructive activity.
- God's people are marked with the seal of the living God, assuring them that they belong to God and will be protected spiritually from divine judgments.

Key Themes of Revelation 7

- God is in the process of redeeming a great multitude from every nation, tribe, people, and language.
- Worship stands as the fitting response to God's provision of salvation through Jesus Christ.

Key Themes of Revelation 7

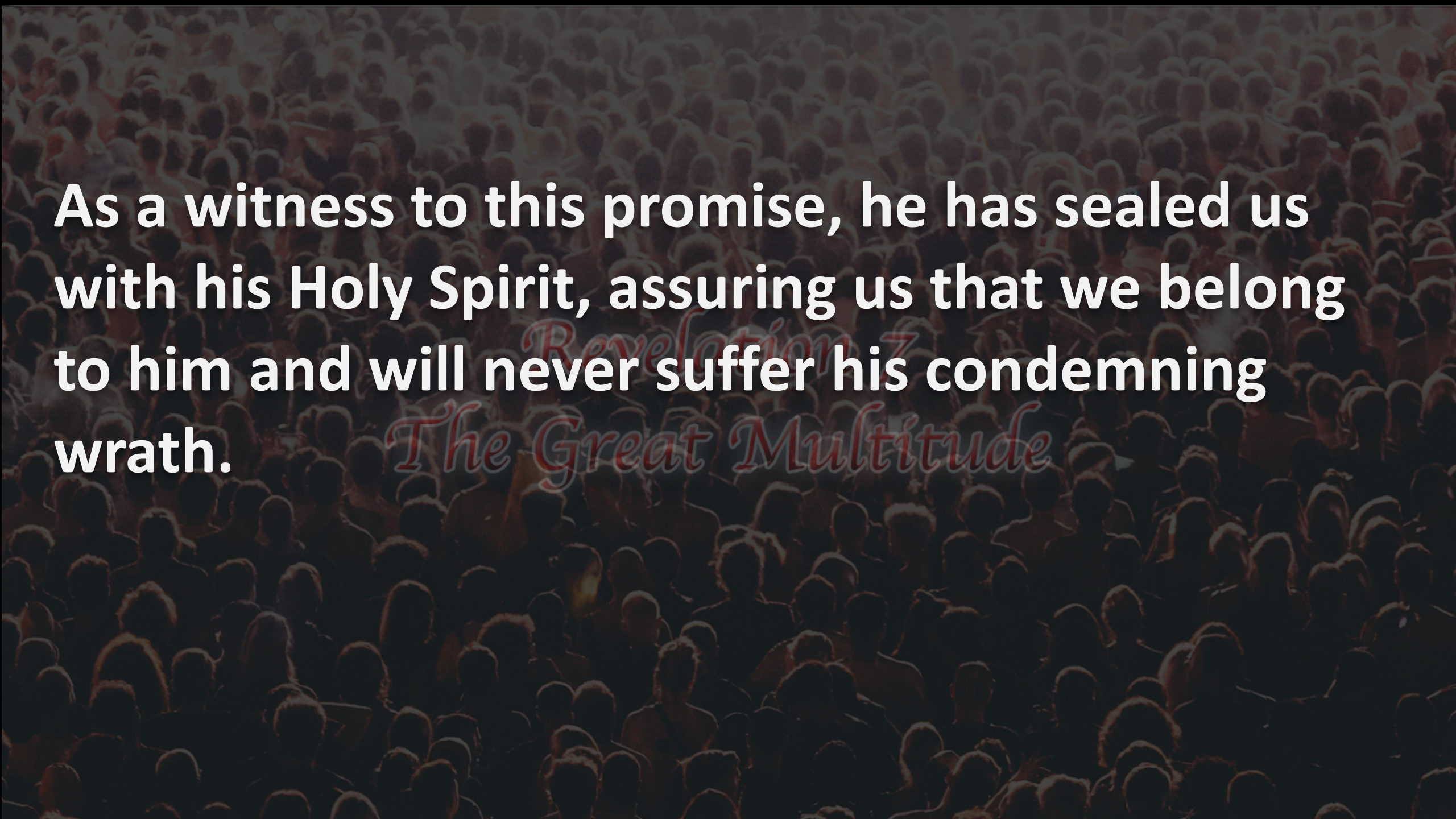
- God's people endure tribulation by faithfully relying upon Christ's atoning sacrifice.
- God promises to protect his people through tribulation and later to comfort and shelter them in his eternal presence.

Ephesians 1:11-12 (CSB) In him we have also received an inheritance, because we were predestined according to the plan of the one who works out everything in agreement with the purpose of his will, 12 so that we who had already put our hope in Christ might bring praise to his glory.

Ephesians 1:13-14 (CSB) **In him you also were sealed** with the promised Holy Spirit when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and when you believed. 14 The Holy Spirit is the down payment of our inheritance, until the redemption of the possession, to the praise of his glory.



In Ephesians 1:11–14, we are told that we have been sealed with the Holy Spirit. In the ancient world, a wax seal functioned much like a notary-public stamp. The seal served as proof that a legal transaction had taken place, like a contract. God has promised to protect us, his people.

A large crowd of people is shown in silhouette against a dark background. The text is overlaid on the image.

**As a witness to this promise, he has sealed us
with his Holy Spirit, assuring us that we belong
to him and will never suffer his condemning
wrath.**

*Revelation 7
The Great Multitude*

A high-angle, wide shot of a massive crowd of people at a concert. The audience is seen from behind, filling the entire frame. The lighting is warm and golden, suggesting a sunset or stage lights. The text "Revelation 7" and "The Great Multitude" is overlaid in the center in a stylized, red, cursive font with a white outline.

Revelation 7
The Great Multitude