

Session 4: Our Common Hope: When All is Made New

Revelation 1:1-22:1

- The Book of Revelation portrays the people of God at the _____ of history.

“Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. I also saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared like a bride adorned for her husband. Then I heard a loud voice from the throne: ‘Look, God’s dwelling is with humanity, and he will live with them. They will be his peoples, and God himself will be their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; grief, crying, and pain will be no more, because the previous things have passed away.’”

–Revelation 21:1-4

- People of all ethnic identities will _____ the new heavens and the new earth.
 - The fourfold formula of tribe, language, people, and nation occurs seven time: 5:9, 7:9, 10:11, 11:9, 13:7, 14:6, 17:15.

“In Revelation, four is the number of the world, seven is the number of completeness. The sevenfold use of this four-fold phrase indicates that reference is being made to all the nations of the world.”

–Richard Bauckham

- People of all ethnic identities will _____ in the celebration of the Lamb.

“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 in a loud voice: Salvation belongs to our God, who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!”

–Revelation 7:9-10

Bottom Line:

Heaven should not be the _____ we worship Jesus alongside members of God’s multi-ethnic family.

Some Final Takeaways

- Let’s _____ to every human being as divine image bearers.
- Let’s not _____ a person’s identity to race.
- Let’s _____ to understand the experience of ethnic minorities.
- Let’s _____ genuine friendships with people of other ethnicities.
- Let’s be _____ about the American Church’s history of racism.
- Let’s _____ the claims of the gospel onto the racist tendencies of fallen humanity.
- Let’s _____ the gospel in the difficult task of racial reconciliation.
- Let’s _____ for the foreigners and sojourners among us.
- Let’s _____ the future into the present and refuse to project the present into the future.
- Let’s _____ that ethnic identity is important but is not ultimate.
- Let’s _____ unity in the midst of ethnic diversity in the church for the world.