Before the Throne of God Above

Tony Mauck · Revelation 7:9–17

INTRODUCTION

- Oh, give thanks to the Lord. Call upon his name. Make known his deeds among the peoples.
- Of course we want to go to heaven. But are we living our lives in such a way that demonstrates that we really want to go?
- But if I could give you a golden ticket to heaven. How much is it worth? How much should it be worth to you?

1 Why Not More Desire to Go to Heaven?

Romans 13:11

- It should be desired above any pleasure that affords itself to us, any earthly thrill that might be attainable in this world.
- I think one of the challenges for us is that God is invisible. He is a spirit being.
- I think perhaps there's a problem associated with doubt. Does God really desire intimacy with me?
- I think a bigger problem is probably our affluence. We're probably too satisfied with life here.

2 A Great High Priest Who Ever Lives

Hebrews 7:25

- We have a great high priest who is able to save forever those who draw near to him.
- He ever lives to make intercession for us. He is pleading our case.
- No man on earth is powerful to snatch us from the Father's hand as we live faithfully before him.

3 The Redemptive Language of Isaiah

Isaiah 48:21–22; Isaiah 50:8–10

- They did not thirst when he led them through the deserts. He made the water flow out of rock for them.
- God provides our sustenance, and it is living water that flows from his throne.
- I have inscribed you in the palm of my hands. Your walls are continually before me.
- We are written on the palms of God's hands, if we will truly be his new Jerusalem or spiritual Israel.

4 Standing Before the Throne and Before the Lamb

Revelation 7:9–17; Psalm 23:1

- A great multitude, which no one could count. From every nation and all tribes and peoples and tongues standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes.
- It is a compelling scene. It's not forced or coerced.
- For this reason, they are before the throne of God. And they serve him day and night in his temple.
- God shall be their shepherd and shall guide them to springs of the water of life, and God shall wipe away every tear from their eyes.
- It is security. It's protection. It's no fear. It's no need. It is home.

5 Washed Their Robes in the Blood of the Lamb

Revelation 7:13–14; John 16:33; Acts 2:38

- These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation. And they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.
- Do not let those struggles discourage your desire to please the Lord and go to heaven.
- Over and over again, the book of Revelation says, you must repent.
- It is by our repentance and then our baptism that our sins are washed away by the blood of Christ.
- Baptism is not an afterthought in the process. It is essential to the process to be cleansed in the blood of the Lamb.
- Repent and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of your sins, and you receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

THE CHALLENGE

Have you been released from your sins? Secure the ticket and never let go.

MY NOTES