

Sunday, March 5, 2023 - "Revelation - Week 8 - You're Not a Hootie" - Doug Kempton

Key Passages: Revelation 7:1-4, 9-17, Revelation 5:9-10, 1 John 2:18

- Feel free to read the passage(s) out loud as a group
- Allow the group to share freely about what stood out to them from the passage or from Sunday's message

Main Ideas

- We were bought for the highest possible price
- Revelation 5:9-10 - Reminds us who Jesus is and the price that he paid to bring us to the father
- Because he paid such a price...he will take care of you
- Four helpful perspectives for Revelation
 - 1) It is the Revelation of Jesus
 - 2) It is revealing past, present, and future events (sometimes in same sentence/paragraph)
 - "The letter of Revelation was written to the church in every generation to encourage them to stand against the evil and the tribulations of their time, to endure, and be lights in the darkness."
 - 3) The now and not yet...the end times is the time between Jesus' 1st and 2nd coming
 - 4) It is an apocalyptic vision (more like a dream than documented history) images/metaphors
- Revelation 7:1-4, 9-17 (between the 6th and 7th seal)
 - The seal in v2 is different than the 7 seals
 - This seal communicates and denotes possession
 - Engrave a prize possession
 - Trials and tribulation to call people to himself
 - God is putting seal on his children as his possession
- The seal represents (doesn't mean we won't have difficulty or trials)
 - Protection
 - Ownership
 - Privilege
 - Authenticity
- Significant symbolic numbers in Revelation: 6 = symbolic of man, 7 = divine, the whole of creation, 12 = fullness/perfecting of God's plan
- 4 angels holding back the final judgement of God
 - 144,000 —> symbolic number
 - Until full number of elect are saved
 - Replacement theology (gentiles replacing the Jewish people) is bad theology
 - Full number of Jews AND gentiles...we participate in the fulfillment of v9
- Robes = honor and recognition (like when Jonathan gave his royal robes to David)
- We have more of an opportunity to represent Jesus in our difficulties and trials than in our prosperity

Questions (Feel free to use all of these, some of these, or none of these)

1. How does it impact you personally that you were bought by God for the highest possible price?
2. How have you had an opportunity to represent Jesus in your trials and difficulties?
3. What do you think it means that God will take care of you?
4. When was a time that you realized that God was up to something bigger than you can see?
5. How have you experienced the "now and not yet" of the kingdom of God?
6. What is God inviting you into as a result of this message or passage?

Songs from the weekend:

[One Thing Remains - *Bethel Music*] - [Ancient Gates - *Brooke Ligertwood*] - [Look to the Lamb - *Jesus Image*] - [Living Hope - *Phil Wickham*]