

UNVEILED

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

WK 6 - THE SILENCE

REVELATION 7:1-8:5

QUESTIONS TO PONDER

1. THE TEXT SHOWS THAT GOD PAUSES ALL OF HEAVEN FOR 30 MINUTES JUST TO HEAR THE PRAYERS OF HIS PEOPLE. HOW DOES THIS REALITY CHANGE THE WAY YOU VIEW THE VALUE AND POWER OF YOUR PERSONAL, EVERYDAY PRAYERS WHEN IT FEELS LIKE THEY ARE BOUNCING OFF THE CEILING?
2. THE MULTI-ETHNIC CROWD WAVED PALM BRANCHES—A SYMBOL OF POLITICAL VICTORY—TO DECLARE THAT SALVATION BELONGS STRICTLY TO THE LAMB, NOT TO CAESAR. WHAT ARE THE MODERN "PALM BRANCHES" OR CULTURAL SYMBOLS OF SECURITY AND SUCCESS THAT WE ARE TEMPTED TO WAVE FOR OUR MODERN POLITICAL OR ECONOMIC EMPIRES?
3. IN VERSE 17, WE SEE THAT THE LAMB ACTS AS A SHEPHERD WHO LEADS HIS PEOPLE TO LIFE-GIVING WATER AND WIPES AWAY THEIR TEARS. WHERE DO YOU NEED TO EXPERIENCE THAT SPECIFIC, TENDER COMFORT OF THE SHEPHERD IN YOUR LIFE RIGHT NOW?

THIS WEEK'S CHALLENGE

SOMETIME THIS WEEK, SET A TIMER ON YOUR PHONE OR WATCH FOR EXACTLY FIVE MINUTES. SIT IN ABSOLUTE, INTENTIONAL SILENCE. TURN OFF THE SCREENS, CLOSE THE LAPTOPS, AND QUIET THE HORIZONTAL NOISE AROUND YOU.

AS YOU SIT IN THE SILENCE, REMEMBER THAT HEAVEN GOES QUIET TO HEAR THE PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE. BREATHE DEEPLY AND LIFT YOUR PRAYERS TO GOD WITH A TRUSTING HEART. IMAGINE YOUR REQUESTS BEING COLLECTED IN GOLD INCENSE BURNERS RIGHT IN FRONT OF THE THRONE, AND CLOSE YOUR TIME BY DECLARING OUT LOUD: "SALVATION BELONGS TO MY GOD AND TO THE LAMB!"