



# Between Us and the Throne Room

Sermon by The Rev. Dave Fisher  
Revelation 7:9-17

## Between Us and the Throne Room

Revelation 7:9-17 (NLT):

After this I saw a vast crowd, too great to count, from every nation and tribe and people and language, standing in front of the throne and before the Lamb. They were clothed in white robes and held palm branches in their hands. 10 And they were shouting with a great roar,

"Salvation comes from our God who sits on the throne  
and from the Lamb!"

11 And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living beings. And they fell before the throne with their faces to the ground and worshiped God. 12 They sang,

"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom  
and thanksgiving and honor  
and power and strength belong to our God  
forever and ever! Amen."

13 Then one of the twenty-four elders asked me, "Who are these who are clothed in white? Where did they come from?"

14 And I said to him, "Sir, you are the one who knows."

Then he said to me, "These are the ones who died in the great tribulation. They have washed their robes in the blood of the Lamb and made them white.

15 "That is why they stand in front of God's throne  
and serve him day and night in his Temple.  
And he who sits on the throne  
will give them shelter.

16 They will never again be hungry or thirsty;  
they will never be scorched by the heat of the sun.

17 For the Lamb on the throne  
will be their Shepherd.  
He will lead them to springs of life-giving water.  
And God will wipe every tear from their eyes."

Why are we reading this text from Revelation during the season of Easter? Why might we be asked to focus on this image of future worship before the throne of God? Easter morning marks when Jesus was raised from the grave, victorious over sin and death. And the vision of the throne room is an image of God, the victor, reigning forever and surrounded by the praises of his people.

The victory of Easter morning has already happened, but the final victory, when all things will be made new has not yet come to pass. Today, where we live, there is still a lot that seems to stand between us and the throne room.

## Distance & Obstacles

1. Take a walk back across the last month in your mind. How has your life been since Easter? Uneventful? Hectic?

2. What kinds of experiences and emotions have populated your days and hours? Has there been suffering of one kind or another? Have you faced strong temptations to sin? Have you been snowed under with work to do? What about *good stuff*? Has your life been full of celebrations and “wins” since Easter?

## Revelation

1. What ideas or images come to mind when you think of the book of Revelation?
2. What feelings? Does it excite you or scare you? Interest you or confuse you? Do you have it all figured out?
3. When you read the throne room vision that’s written out above, what catches your attention and sticks with you? What part of the image do you see most clearly? What details of the description surprise you?

## Still True Today

1. Has there been a time in your life when you lost sight of an important truth? Did you find it again? I wonder if you have had the experience of remembering that, “Everything that was true then is still true today.”

The refrain of “Nothing Between,” by Charles Albert Tindley, 1905:

Nothing between my soul and the Savior,  
So that His blessed face may be seen;  
Nothing preventing the least of His favor:  
Keep the way clear! Let nothing between.

