

LESSON 78

At the Throne Worshiping

REVELATION 7:9-17



BIBLE TRUTH

GOD KEEPS HIS PROMISES

LESSON SNAPSHOT

1. **OPENING REVIEW** **5 MIN**
Use last week’s lesson outline to review with the children what they learned.
2. **BIBLE STORY** **10 MIN**
Read Revelation 7:9–17 from the Scriptures or read story 156, “At the Throne Worshiping,” from *The Gospel Story Bible*.
3. **OBJECT LESSON 1** **10 MIN**
Many Tongues
SUPPLIES:
✓ bilingual volunteers
4. **TEACHING/DISCUSSION** **10 MIN**
Using the teaching points, teach through the lesson for today.
5. **OBJECT LESSON 2** **10 MIN**
Two Robes
SUPPLIES:
✓ two sheets, one bright white and new, the other completely dirty torn and ruined
6. **SWORD BIBLE MEMORY** **5 MIN**
7. **ACTIVITY TIME** **10 MIN**
Color a Picture
SUPPLIES:
✓ coloring page for NT Lesson 78—one for each child
✓ markers or crayons
8. **CLOSING PRAYER** **5 MIN**
9. **BONUS OBJECT LESSON** **10 MIN**
The Last Drama

TOTAL 75 MIN

PREPARING TO TEACH

TEACHING POINTS

God’s promise is fulfilled in heaven—The scene in heaven in Revelation 7 is of a multitude of people from every nation, tribe, people, and language and it signals the fulfillment of God’s promise (Revelation 7:9). God promised by his own initiative to multiply Abraham’s descendants until they would outnumber the stars (Genesis 15:5). God also promised that all nations would be blessed through him (Genesis 12:3). These promises will one day be completely fulfilled!

God is exalted in heaven—When Jesus entered Jerusalem the week before his death, the crowd shouted, “Hosanna!” and waved palm branches (John 12:13). Days later, some of the same people shouted, “Crucify him!” (John 19:15). Riding through that first celebration with the palm branches toward the cross, Jesus was looking forward to another celebration. And it was for the joy of that later celebration that he endured the cross, despising its shame (Hebrews 12:2). Here in Revelation we catch a glimpse of that other celebration. God is exalted because of the sacrifice of his Son. One day we who trust in Christ will join their heavenly chorus.

Suffering ends in heaven—Our suffering ends in heaven (Revelation 7:16). Imagine for a moment that we will not hunger; Jesus will be our eternal bread. We will not thirst; Jesus will be our living water. We will not tire; we will have lasting strength. We will not experience sorrow; in Christ we will have everlasting, indescribable joy. Every tear will be wiped from our eyes!

Where Is the Gospel? _____

How does today's Bible story fit into God's greater plan of redemption?

In Revelation 7 the Lamb is Christ, who sits on the throne and has made the robes white by his blood (Revelation 7:14). The blood of the Lamb is the blood of Jesus shed upon the cross for the forgiveness of the sins of all his people. The multitude worships the Lamb in heaven, and he continues to be their shepherd, guiding them to springs of living water. In John 4:10 Jesus said to the woman at the well, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water."

THE LESSON

OPENING REVIEW 5 MIN

Use last week's lesson outline to review with the children what they learned.

BIBLE STORY 10 MIN

Read Revelation 7:9–17 from the Scriptures or read story 156, "At the Throne Worshipping," from *The Gospel Story Bible*.

OBJECT LESSON 1 10 MIN

Many Tongues

SUPPLIES:

- ✓ bilingual volunteers

Recruit two volunteers to help you by teaching the class Revelation 7:10 in their native languages: "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

Once the class knows this in English and in the other two languages, divide the class into three groups. One can say it in English (lead them). The other two should say it in one of the other

two languages, led by your assistants in their native languages. Say it all together. Do this again, allowing the groups to switch languages.

TEACHING/DISCUSSION 10 MIN

Using the teaching points, teach through the lesson for today.

OBJECT LESON 2 10 MIN

Two Robes

SUPPLIES:

- ✓ two sheets, one bright white and new, the other completely dirty torn and ruined

Use this exercise to illustrate sin and how forgiveness through the death of Jesus makes our robes bright white. Perform this skit as follows or ad-lib it.

JOHN: *(Enters class wearing the dirty sheet like a robe.)* Hi Bob.

BOB: What on earth happened to you?

JOHN: Nothing, what do you mean?

BOB: You look like you were in an accident.

JOHN: *(Looking curiously at his hands and all around.)* No, I am fine. Really, I have never felt better in my life.

BOB: I am glad you are feeling fine, but look at your robe! It's filthy.

JOHN: Well, you don't have to insult a man. It's not that bad.

BOB: What do you mean it's not that bad?

JOHN: Why, just on the way in here I saw a guy with a robe that was so dirty it was almost black and so torn it barely hung on him. I took one look at my robe and said to myself, "John," I said, "you are looking mighty fine today."

BOB: Well, if we compare ourselves to people with dirtier robes I guess we will think we are clean.

JOHN: Look, everyone has dirt on their robe. How is anyone to know what clean is anyway? As far as I'm concerned this robe is clean enough for me.

BOB: Well, if I showed you my robe, which was just cleaned, you might be able to see the difference.

JOHN: OK, you say you got your robe cleaned? How's that?

BOB: I'll explain that later. You ready?

JOHN: *(smugly)* Yup, let me see this robe.

BOB: *(Holds up a bright white sheet next to John's dirty robe.)* Here it is!

JOHN: Holy robes of righteousness! Is that what a clean robe.... Oh no.

BOB: What's wrong?

JOHN: I've got to get a new robe; this thing is filthy. Say, why didn't you tell me how dirty this thing was?

Skit ends.

Ask the children the following questions:

- What does the dirt on John's robe represent?
(sin)
- Why didn't John think his robe was dirty?
(He compared himself with others who were more sinful, making him feel pretty good about himself.)
- Who do we need to compare ourselves to?
(God, whose robe is perfectly white.)

Now read Revelation 7:9–17 and continue with the following questions:

- Who washes our robes?
(Jesus)
- What does Jesus wash our robes with?
(his blood)
- What does it mean that Jesus washes our robes with his blood?
(Explain the gospel and read Isaiah 1:18 to the class.)

SWORD BIBLE MEMORY 5 MIN

Take time during the class to review the SWORD Bible Memory verses with the class. Provide the opportunity for each child to recite the verses to an adult worker.

ACTIVITY TIME 10 MIN

Color a Picture

SUPPLIES:

- ✓ coloring page for NT Lesson 78—one for each child
- ✓ markers or crayons

While the children are coloring, engage them by asking the following questions:

- What do you notice about the way the people look who are around the throne of Jesus?
(These are the people from all over the world whom God saved and brought to heaven to worship him together.)

- Did Jesus die for all people, even those who are different from us?
(Even though the peoples of the world look different—some are tan while others are brown, some have black hair while others have blonde, and some speak English while others speak different languages—they are all made in the image of God. All people were created by God—it was he that created them to look different—but he loves them all and Jesus died for them all.)

- How can our church on earth be like the church in heaven?
(We should welcome people of all countries, races, languages, and colors to join with us in worship on Sunday morning.)

CLOSING PRAYER 5 MIN

Pick several children to pray prayers based on the day's Scripture passages.

BONUS OBJECT LESSON 10 MIN

The Last Drama

The object of this exercise is to help the children visualize the celebration around the throne. Assign the following roles (no costumes are needed): John, who sees the vision; God on the throne; Jesus, the Lamb; angels; two elders; four living creatures (lion, ox, man, and eagle); a multitude of believers gathered around the throne.

Read through Revelation 7:9–17, blocking out the acting as you go. Remember that your narration will provide the explanation. Once you have gone through the drama slowly, read through it faster and watch the children do their parts. Finally, take your drama on the road to a younger class so they can benefit from your practice.

LESSON 78 - AT THE THRONE WORSHIPPING

