The book of Revelation

Chapter 7

A look at those who have conquered

1.	Those who have conquered do not have to endure the wrath of the Lamb (7:1-3)
	-We are now taken back the final judgement (seal 6) to see that those who belong to the Lord will not have to endure the punishments that God has reserved for the wicked. The righteous are not with the wicked (Gen. 18:25).
	-"These woes are punishments for the wicked, persecuting world. They are not going to hurt you, if the seal of God is on your forehead. The Lord has laid on Christ the iniquity of all believers (Is. 53:6)." (123)
	-"The scene takes us back to a time prior to the events of the sixth seal, which showed the destruction of the universe through earthquake and falling stars. No harm will come to earth, sea, or trees until after God's servants are sealed. Note that the order of the visions does not reflect the of the event that they describe." (Johnson, 129)
	-Those that do not endure the wrath of the Lamb are those that are sealed on their foreheads. These sealed ones are called "the servants of our God." The seal that is placed on the forehead is and should be associated with those of Rev. 22:4 who have the name of the Father and of Christ on their foreheads (which Jesus already referenced in 3:12). The Lord seals His own and they are not allowed to perish with the wicked on that Day (Ezekiel 9:3-5).
2.	Those who have conquered are represented as 144,000 from "every tribe of the sons of Israel" (7:4-8)
	-This is not to be understood as a reference to "Israel according to the flesh." This is to be understood as a symbolic representation of the entire Church (the Church on the earth).
	-"It is very clear, therefore, that the sealed multitude of Revelation 7 symbolizes the entire Church militant of the and dispensations." (124)
	-"The 144,000 bondservants of God portray the company of the victors, on whom Jesus has promised to write the name of His God, of the new Jerusalem, and Jesus' new name." (Johnson, 129)
	-"Those marked as God's treasure by the seal of His name are secured and sheltered from His burning wrath to come. They are the people of His covenant, portraved as twelve tribes." (Johnson, 135)

3.	Those who have conquered worship God and the Lamb as do all the other heavenly beings (7:9-12)
	-Now there is a view of the Church (the Church in Heaven). Though the saints have various ethnic backgrounds and tongues they are unified in their love and praise of God. Whereas, the wicked could not stand under God's wrath, here the saints are standing before God which symbolizes "to have with, to render service to, and to share in the honor of the Lamb." (125)
	-The saints are clothed in white (symbolizing purity) with palm branches (John 12:13) in their hands giving praise to God and to Christ for salvation and the praise in Heaven.
	-"They ascribe this work of salvation to God and to the Lamb and not to their wisdom or goodness." (126)
	-"The white-robed worshippers now lead the heavenly assembly into a new dimension of praisethe church's praise is answered by the chorus of angels, elders, and living creatures." (Johnson,134)
4.	Those who have conquered have done so by persevering through faith in Christ (7:13-14)
	-These ones have come out of the great tribulation. The one tribulation is great because it is: all the persecutions and trials of God's people, symbolized by the seals, are included in it. That gives unity to this entire section, chapters 4-7. The point is that the saints come out of their trials." (127)
	-These conquering saints have persevered and been spared from wrath not by their might or will but by being cleansed and kept by Christ and His blood. The conquerors have conquered through Christ, Great Conqueror.
	-These saints whom John, in the vision, beholds have washed their flowing robes and have made them white in the blood of the Lamb. In other words, they have placed all their trust in the saving blood of Jesus Christ. This blood, representing the complete that our Lord has rendered, has cleansed them of the guilt and the pollution of sin. By means of the red blood of Christ they have been made white." (128)
5.	Those who have conquered know forevermore only the good things of God and of Christ (7:15-17)
	-Because those who have conquered are covered by the blood of Christ and made pure, they know only and forevermore in the presence of the God who has loved them since before the foundation of the world.