

REVELATION 7

Enacted Scripture

Arranged by Jon DeVries

CHARACTERS:

PLAYER 1
PLAYER 2
PLAYER 3
CROWD A
CROWD B

SYNOPSIS:

Revelation 7:9-17 shows a glimpse of what the kingdom of heaven will be like. This piece captures just a fraction of the energy and excitement that surrounds the prospect of the heavenly kingdom, and encourages the audience to experience their part in that awe of a place with no more tears.

THE CROWD starts the piece scattered among the audience. Their lines and movement should be reminiscent of an old family gathering, brimming with energy and excitement as they gather before moving to the front of the playing space. It shouldn't be clear what they are doing as cloth is unfurled, rocks are passed freely, and hugs are exchanged. Lines need not be in perfect unison. Seamlessly, the bustling forms into the river of life flowing down from the baptismal font for the final image.

Throughout the piece, PLAYERS 1 and 2 embody the growing sense of excitement over what this kingdom could be like. They remain spectators of the kingdom until PLAYER 3's interjection provides the invitation to join them around the river.

PROPS:

Assorted blue fabrics
Baskets
River rocks
Baptismal font

REVELATION 7: SCRIPT

PLAYER 1: Hear these words from the book that we love, from the seventh chapter of Revelation.

PLAYER 2: Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear, and who keep what is written in it, for the time is near.

(PLAYER 1 sees something in the audience)

PLAYER 1: After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number,

PLAYER 2: From every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages,

PLAYER 1: Standing before the throne and before the Lamb,

PLAYER 2: Clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands

PLAYER 1: And crying out with a loud voice,

(CROWD has stood throughout the above and begun to gather in clumps throughout the audience)

CROWD: "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

(Each individual member of the CROWD repeats one portion of the previous line over and over, simultaneously. Continued greetings happen during the hubbub. Finally, the crowd repeats the full line in unison.)

PLAYER 1: And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, saying,

(CROWD moves into playing space)

CROWD: "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

(Similar repetition of portions of the above line as the cloth, rocks, etc. slowly form into a river flowing from the baptismal font)

PLAYER 1: Then one of the elders addressed me, saying,

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PLAYER 2: "Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?"

PLAYER 1: I said to him, "Sir, you know." And he said to me,

PLAYER 2: "These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

(PLAYER 3 crosses to PLAYER 2, handing him a stone)

PLAYER 3: "Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple;

PLAYER 1: And he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence.

(PLAYER 1 joins the forming of the river)

CROWD A: They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore;

CROWD B: The sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat.

PLAYER 2: For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water,

(PLAYER 2 joins them at the river)

PLAYER 1: And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

PLAYER 2: This is the Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.