"Signed, Sealed, & Delivered by God" Revelation 7:1-10

<u>Intro</u>: In Revelation 7:1-9, John first *hears* an echo of the tribal census in Numbers chapter 1. And then he *sees* the fulfillment of God's covenant promise to Abram in Genesis chapter 12.

- I. Signed: God's promise to Abram
 - a. "All peoples on earth will be blessed through you"
 - b. "Look up at...the stars...so shall your offspring be"
 - c. "On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram"
- II. <u>Sealed: 144,000 representing all God's chosen people</u>
 - a. Sanctified as "HOLY TO THE LORD" (Exodus 28:36)
 - b. Identified by God's name (Rev. 3:12; 14:1; 22:4)
 - c. Preserved by God's grace (Psalm 3:3; John 17:11)
- III. <u>Delivered: Standing before the throne</u>
 - a. Wearing robes of righteousness (Isaiah 61:10)
 - b. Holding palm branches of celebration (Psalm 118;27)
 - c. Crying out for their salvation (Psalm 118:15-21)

<u>Close</u>: The crowd shouted "Hosanna!" and waved palm branches as Jesus rode on a donkey into Jerusalem 2,000 years ago. They did not know he was coming as the Passover Lamb to die as a sacrifice on the cross to save sinners from judgment.

The crowd before the throne in heaven immeasurably outnumbers the one that was in Jerusalem! And they stand there because they know Jesus came to die as a sacrifice for their sins—and for ours. So we too cry out: Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!