

Revelation 7:9-10

After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

When you add a color, race or nationality to a statement or to a title, most of the time you are being racist.

"No, that's not true", you may be thinking.

So let me ask you this, why do you need to place a race or color or nationality in your statement? Usually it's because you want to separate that race from all other races, so much so that when you make the statement, it's because, in your eyes, it's the only one that matters to you, and you could really care less about other races. Or even worse, it is one you really don't like or even hate and that's why you mention them.

I remember an old Claymation show named "Davy and Goliath", about a boy named Davy and his dog Goliath. There was one episode where Davy referred to his friend as "my African friend" and his dad had to correct him, asking him why he had to say it that way, and not just call him his friend? Does adding a race or color or nationality to something make it any better or worse? If it does, then you are very likely being racist.

But notice when you read what John saw in heaven in today's verse, notice that John did not say that those who **used to be** "*of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues*" with my emphasis on "**used to be**" Because if John had said, "**used to be**" then that would mean that there would only be one race of people in heaven.

But that's not what John saw, he saw all the races of this earth in heaven, and it says that they were "*standing before the throne and before the Lamb*" Notice once again it does not say that they were separated or segregated into different races or nations, but that they were standing together before God's throne. And **with one voice** they were saying, "*Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!*" They were not claiming this saying that "our" nation, or our race of people are the only ones who are saved, or that He is only "*our God*". No, rather it is showing unity in heaven.

Even Paul wrote:

† **Romans 10:12** *For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him.*

Peter also said:

† Acts 10:34 (KJV) *“Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons.”*

If you think about it, this is also the unity Jesus prayed that we would have here on earth.

† John 17:20-21 *I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me.*

And we see Jesus’ prayer coming to pass in heaven as *“all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongue”* are together as one body, one bride, one people of God in heaven.

† 1 Timothy 2:3-4 *For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.*

So if it’s that way in heaven, let start practicing it here on earth.

† Matthew 6:10 *Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven.*

† 1 Thessalonians 5:18 *in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.*