

Scripture Readings

*The Old Testament Scripture reading is received from **Isaiah** chapter 9 verses 2-7, which can be found on page 819 in the **old testament** of your pew bible.*

²The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light: light has dawned upon them, dwellers in a land as dark as death. Thou hast increased their joy and given them great gladness; they rejoice in thy presence as men rejoice at harvest, or as they are glad when they share out the spoil; for thou hast shattered the yoke that burdened them, the collar that lay heavy on their shoulders, the driver's goad, as on the day of Midian's defeat. All the boots of trampling soldiers and the garments fouled with blood shall become a burning mass, fuel for fire. For a boy has been born for us, a son given to us to bear the symbol of dominion on his shoulder; and he shall be called in purpose wonderful, in battle God-like, Father for all time, Prince of peace. Great shall the dominion be, and boundless the peace bestowed on David's throne and on his kingdom, to establish it and sustain it with justice and righteousness from now and for evermore. The zeal of the Lord of Hosts shall do this.

*The New Testament Scripture reading is received from **Revelation** chapter 7 verses 9-17, which can be found on page 323 in the **new testament** of your pew bible...*

⁹After this I looked and saw a vast throng, which no one could count, from every nation, of all tribes, peoples, and languages, standing in front of the throne and before the Lamb. They were robed in white and had palms in their hands, and they shouted together:

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‘Victory to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!’ And all the angels stood round the throne and the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshipped God, crying: ‘Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom, thanksgiving and honour, power and might, be to our God for ever and ever! Amen.’

The one of the elders turned to me and said, ‘These men that are robed in white – who are they and from where do they come?’ But I answered, ‘My lord, you know, not I.’ Then he said to me, ‘These are the men who have passed through the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. That is why they stand before the throne of God and minister to him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will dwell with them. They shall never again feel hunger or thirst, the sun shall not beat on them nor any scorching heat, because the lamb who is at the heart of the throne will be their shepherd and will guide them to the springs of the water of life; and God will wipe all tears from their eyes.’

May the Lord God help us to apply this scripture in our lives.