What is this song <u>summoning</u> us to do?

1. Surrender to the Lamb.

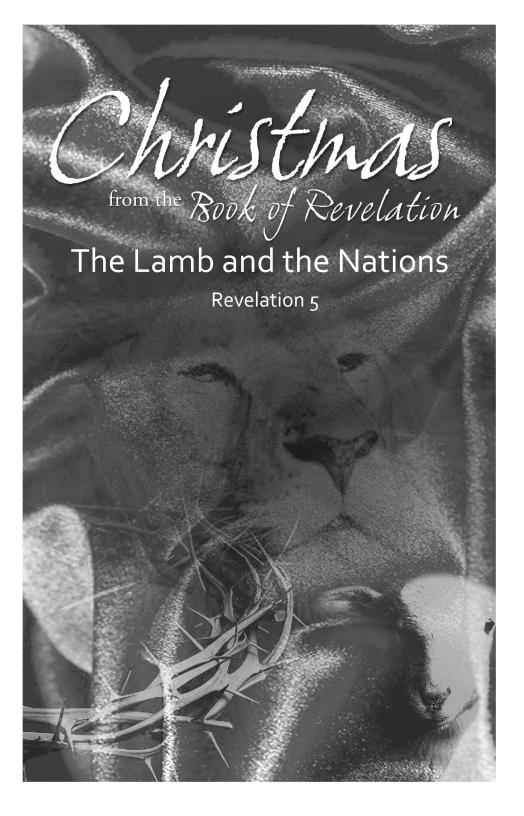
2. <u>Prove</u> our salvation by our <u>obedience</u>.

3. <u>Pursue</u> the <u>joy</u> of the lamb.

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Faith Evangelical Free Church

December 12, 2010

The Lamb and the Nations

Background of Revelation

Revelation is a letter and an apocalypse.

The meaning in an apocalypse is primarily in the <u>image</u>, rather than the <u>words</u>.

Apocalyptic literature has a common theme.

A Hero is Coming!

To understand Revelation, check your <u>Old Testament</u>.

It is a missionary song.

After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, Revelation 7:9 (ESV)

When he opened the fifth seal, <u>I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain for the word of God and for the witness they had borne</u>. Revelation 6:9 (ESV)

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Then they were each given a white robe and told to rest a little longer, <u>until the number of their fellow servants and their brothers should be complete</u>, who were to be killed as they themselves had been. Revelation 6:11 (ESV)

"Missionaries will convert the world by preaching but also through the shedding of blood with great labor and through a bitter death." - Raymond Lull

"There is a great difference between the kind of Christianity that wrestles with whether to worship at the cost of imprisonment and death and the kind of Christianity which wrestles with whether my kids should play travel soccer on Sunday morning." - John Piper.

Numbers Count in Revelation.

The Number 7

The Number 12

And they sang a new song, saying, "Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth." Revelation 5:9–10 (ESV)

It is a worship song.

It is a <u>suffering</u> song.

so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him. Hebrews 9:28 (ESV)

And they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death. Revelation 12:11 (ESV)

Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am filling up what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church, Colossians 1:24 (ESV)

For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake, Philippians 1:29 (ESV)

and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him. Romans 8:17 (ESV)