



## PS's Ponderings

On Friday the world watched the opening ceremony of the 2018 Winter Olympic Games. While I will admit I am more of a Summer Olympic guy, I love watching the opening ceremony of either. Well... to be precise... I love watching the countries parade into the stadium. In 2014 at the Winter Olympic Games, 88 nations participated in Sochi, while this year 92 countries were represented.

As each nation parades into the stadium, they display their national pride for the world to see. Marching behind their country's flag, years of hard work and dedication are revealed in the joy on the athletes' faces. It is a time to celebrate nationality, unity and accomplishment. And, for a few hours at least, much of the world focuses upon what we have in common, instead of our differences.

I know I am a sentimentalist, but as I watch the ceremonial parade during each Games, I do it with a longing for much more than a

brief reprieve from our tumult-ous world's issues. I watch with an expectant hope for a time where peace will prevail and unity will be revealed as we worship the reigning King.

Revelation 7 gives us a sneak peek into the first worship service in Heaven some day. John writes... *After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. And they cried out in a loud voice: "Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb."* Revelation 7:9-10

Now THAT is an opening ceremony! So, as I watched on Friday the opening ceremony was a temporary and imperfect reminder of what is to come one day. A day where differences will be forgotten, unity will be complete and Jesus will be celebrated — forever!