



## “All Saints – All People”

A very important thing to realise about church is that its people are gathered together by God. It's not a church building or even a denomination, like the Anglican Church. The bible gives us a very big vision of where all Christians are heading.

Revelation 7:9-10 is an inclusive picture of heaven:

*“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 in front of 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.’”*

The focus of the vision is countless millions of people attributing salvation to God through Jesus. Notice the international flavour: people from "every nation, tribe, people and language." So often we think: life's a matter of raising a family, maintaining a job, keeping a roof over our heads, looking forward to the next holiday, staying alive. But the Bible tells us the purpose of life is: people gathered around God.

Ephesians 3:10 says:

*“God's intention was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms.”*

Each Sunday we have the opportunity of experiencing and being reminded of the purpose of life and the purpose of the church. It's people of all ages, with all sorts of different backgrounds united in Christ. That's why I like the statement:

*“All Saints – All People.”*

Our church building and Ministry Centre provide a great venue to enable us to gather, but the church is you and I who gather in Christ's name. It's easy to take our lives for granted, but from the perspective of heaven we are central to God's character and purposes. I invite you to come to church regularly to worship God and be an active member of God's people here at All Saints'.

Rev. Owen Goddard