

"The Scroll and the Lamb"

Part 3

Revelation 5:1-14

Introduction: Today we return to our study of the book of Revelation. We are currently in chapter 5 and it is in this chapter where we find some very important spiritual Truth. Let me give you a quick review of what we have looked at so far.

Notice Revelation 5:1-2

The scroll here is the title deed to the earth. It is in the hand of the Father and there is a search for One who is worthy to open the 7 seals of the scroll. The earth was entrusted to man after creation and when man sinned he lost possession. The earth is now under the control of Satan who is the god of this world. After the tribulation the earth will go back to the original Owner/Creator who is Jesus and He will then set up His Kingdom on this earth for 1000 years.

The title deed to the earth contains the judgments by which God will use to cleanse the earth and the means by which God will use to return it to its Creator.

Notice Revelation 5:3-4

There was no man found worthy to open the seals or even to look upon the scroll and for this reason John wept, meaning he sobbed almost uncontrollably. John understood that if no one could open the scroll there was no hope of the removal of the curse. Without a qualified Redeemer the earth was forever doomed to live under the curse.

But there was good news.

Notice Revelation 5:5

One of the elders stepped forward and announced to John that there was One who was worthy to open the scroll. He was the Lion of the tribe of Juda and He was the root of David and He had prevailed to open the scroll. Both of these titles of Jesus Christ are the fulfillment of prophecy.

Jacob had announced that from Judah would come the Messiah.

Genesis 49:8-10

⁸ *Judah, thou art he whom thy brethren shall praise: thy hand shall be in the neck of thine enemies; thy father's children shall bow down before thee.*

⁹ *Judah is a lion's whelp: from the prey, my son, thou art gone up: he stooped down, he couched as a lion, and as an old lion; who shall rouse him up?*

¹⁰ *The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall the gathering of the people be.*

Jesus is the Lion of the tribe of Judah.

God had made a covenant with David and He promised that David's throne would continue forever.

Isaiah 9:6-7

⁶ *For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.*

⁷ *Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.*

Jesus lineage can be traced directly back to David so He is truly the Root of David and He hath PREVAILED. This brings us to our message this morning.

I. The Lamb

Notice Revelation 5:6

Now as John turns he does not see a Lion but instead he sees a Lamb in the midst of the throne. The word for "Lamb" here is very interesting. It has the idea of a "little lamb" as the lamb which was chosen for the Passover in the Old Testament.

Exodus 12:1-6

And the LORD spake unto Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt saying,

² *This month shall be unto you the beginning of months: it shall be the first month of the year to you.*

³ *Speak ye unto all the congregation of Israel, saying, In the tenth day of this month they shall take to them every man a lamb, according to the house of their fathers, a lamb for an house:*

⁴ *And if the household be too little for the lamb, let him and his neighbour next unto his house take it according to the number of the souls; every man according to his eating shall make your count for the lamb.*

⁵ *Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year: ye shall take it out from the sheep, or from the goats:*

⁶ *And ye shall keep it up until the fourteenth day of the same month: and the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it in the evening.*

The title of "LAMB" is used more by John in the book of Revelation than any other title. As we move deeper into our study we shall see that throughout the book the Lamb and the Beast will be in contrast to one another.

All of this raises a question then, "Why is Jesus seen here as a Lamb and not a Lion?"

In order for Jesus to qualify to be the Lion He had to first of all be the Lamb of God. As the Lamb, He paid the price of redemption to redeem sinful man and to redeem the earth from the curse. Let me show you an Old Testament picture of Jesus Christ.

Notice Genesis 22:1-13

Isaac is a picture of Jesus Christ and the ram is also a picture of Jesus Christ.

Now let me get back to the Lamb and the Lion. This picture of Jesus Christ here in Revelation 5:6 is amazing. Jesus is the Lion of the tribe of Judah but He is pictured as the Lamb because this shows the love of God. You see the Lamb pictures grace and mercy before judgment.

God always gives a warning before judgment and he always gives a period of grace and mercy. We can see this in the flood of Noah's day.

It took Noah 120 years to build the ark and the entire time God was warning the people.

2 Peter 2:5

⁵ *And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly;*

Noah preached the entire time he built the ark. There was a period of grace which lasted about 1600 years before the flood.

God warned Israel before the Babylonian captivity through the prophets.

Jeremiah 1:13-17a

¹³ *And the word of the LORD came unto me the second time, saying, What seest thou? And I said, I see a seething pot; and the face thereof is toward the north.*

¹⁴ *Then the LORD said unto me, Out of the north an evil shall break forth upon all the inhabitants of the land.*

¹⁵ *For, lo, I will call all the families of the kingdoms of the north, saith the LORD; and they shall come, and they shall set every one his throne at the entering of the gates of Jerusalem, and against all the walls thereof round about, and against all the cities of Judah.*

¹⁶ *And I will utter my judgments against them touching all their wickedness, who have forsaken me, and have burned incense unto other gods, and worshipped the works of their own hands.*

¹⁷ *Thou therefore gird up thy loins, and arise, and speak unto them all that I command thee:*

God has been warning the world today through preachers and other believers that there is a time of tribulation coming such as the world has never seen.

Notice Revelation 5:6 again.

I want you to notice here that the Lamb is **STANDING**. Let me show you a verse from Hebrews.

Hebrews 10:10-12

¹⁰ *By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.*

¹¹ *And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins:*

¹² *But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God:*

Right now the ministry of Jesus is to be our Great High Priest and for this He is seated at the right hand of the Father.

Hebrews 7:25

²⁵ *Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.*

But here in verse 6 we see that He is standing and the reason is because His ministry of intercession is over. The church is now in heaven and the One who came as a Lamb is now the Lion of the tribe of Judah.

Down on earth there will be no one who will be aware of what is happening in heaven neither will they be aware of what is about to take place. There likely will be celebrations because the "Bible Followers" are missing. They have no idea that they are living in the calm before the storm.

Notice Revelation 5:6 again.

John saw the Lamb "AS IT HAD BEEN SLAIN". This is a reference to the scars which Jesus will have for all of eternity. This is the ONLY MAN MADE THING IN HEAVEN.

Isaiah 52:14

¹⁴ *As many were astonished at thee; his visage was so marred more than any man, and his form more than the sons of men:*

Notice Revelation 5:6 again.

We see also that as the Lamb He has 7 horns.

In the Bible the horn speaks of POWER and government. These 7 horns show the infinite power of Jesus Christ as He is about to open the 7 seals.

He also is said to have 7 eyes which are the 7 Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth.

This refers to the omniscience of Jesus Christ which means He is all knowing. There is NOTHING on the earth which escapes His view.

Conclusion:

Let me pull all of this together for us this morning.

Today we live in the age of grace. God has warned the world through His Word that there is a storm that is coming on this earth and it will be far worse than anything ever seen before.

Matthew 24:21

²¹ *For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.*

This age of grace will end with the rapture and then this world will enter the Tribulation period. If you are not saved and the rapture happens you will experience the devastation of the tribulation. You will face the wrath of God!

Revelation 6:15-16

¹⁵ And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains;

*¹⁶ And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from **the wrath of the Lamb:***

There is only ONE WAY to be saved and that is to be washed in the blood of the Lamb.

Notice Revelation 5:9

You need to receive Him as your Savior.

John 1:12

¹² But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: