

"The Earthly Kingdom of Jesus Christ"

Part 38

Revelation 5

Introduction: Last week in our study of the Kingdom we looked at how the 7 years tribulation that are coming after the rapture will be for the purpose of bringing Isarel to Jesus Christ. The nation will find themselves in so much distress that they will be stripped of all resources and self dependance and will be left with no hope apart from Jesus Christ. Last week we touched upon the title deed to the earth in Revelation 5 and tonight I want to look at this thought a little closer.

➤ **The Loss**

When sin entered into the world Adam lost his position as Theocratic Administrator and the world feel under the grasp of Satan.

2 Corinthians 4:3-4

³ *But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost:*

⁴ *In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.*

Ephesians 2:1-3

And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins;

² *Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:*

³ *Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.*

1 John 5:19

¹⁹ *And we know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness.*

Satan gained temporary authority over this world when man fell. We see a glimpse of his authority in the temptation of Jesus.

Matthew 4:8-9

⁸ *Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them;*

⁹ *And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me.*

Satan offered to Jesus all the kingdoms of this world. This was a temptation to skip the cross in order to get His Kingdom. It is the offer that shows us his authority over the world.

Application:

There is something here that we all need to see. Satan can give to an individual many things which people confuse with the blessings of the Lord. Let me show you an example.

Genesis 12:14-16

¹⁴ *And it came to pass, that, when Abram was come into Egypt, the Egyptians beheld the woman that she was very fair.*

¹⁵ *The princes also of Pharaoh saw her, and commended her before Pharaoh: and the woman was taken into Pharaoh's house.*

¹⁶ *And he entreated Abram well for her sake: and he had sheep, and oxen, and he asses, and menservants, and maidservants, and she asses, and camels.*

None of these gifts were from the Lord because Abram was outside the will of God for his life. This was Satan giving him these things to cause confusion and major problems later. Getting back to the point, Satan has been given authority over the earth and he has used this to deceive many people throughout the ages.

Now when we come to the book of Revelation, we must understand that the earth must be taken out of the grasp of Satan and put back in the grasp of the One who created it, the original Owner.

Notice Revelation 5:1-5

Last week we looked at this briefly and we considered how the scroll here is the title deed to the earth. But there was not one person in heaven, or on the earth that was worthy of opening the scroll. You see there were certain requirements that had to be met by the one who would open the scroll. The only person who could open the scroll was a Kinsman Redeemer. The Kinsman Redeemer had to be of the same family, he had to be willing to redeem that which was lost, and he had to be able to redeem that which was lost.

The earth was entrusted to Adam in the beginning and because Jesus became a Man He therefore is of the SAME FAMILY. He proved He was WILLING when He went to the cross and gave His life's blood as the price of redemption. His sacrifice was accepted by the Father so He is therefore ABLE to open the scroll. Praise God Jesus is worthy to open the scroll. When there was no one found worthy John wept uncontrollably because he knew if there was no one to open the scroll then the world would remain in the grasp of the wicked one. Notice the words of Criswell.

"[John's tears] represent the tears of all God's people through all the centuries. Those tears of the Apostle John are the tears of Adam and Eve, driven out of the Garden of Eden, as they bowed over the first grave, as they watered the dust of the ground with their tears over the silent, still form of their son, Abel. Those are the tears of the children of Israel in bondage as they cried unto God in their affliction and slavery. They are the tears of God's elect through the centuries as they cried unto heaven. They are the sobs and tears that have been wrung from the heart and soul of God's people as they looked on their silent dead, as they stand beside their open graves, as they experience in the trials and sufferings of life, heartaches, and disappointments indescribable. Such is the curse that sin has laid upon God's beautiful creation; and this is the damnation of the hand of him who holds it, that usurper, that interloper, that intruder, that alien, that stranger, that dragon, that serpent, that Satan-devil. 'And I wept audibly,' for the failure to find a Redeemer meant that this earth in its curse is consigned forever to death. It meant that death, sin, damnation, and hell should reign forever and ever and the sovereignty of God's earth should remain forever in the hands of Satan."

Even the world itself is looking to escape the curse and while in the grasp of the Devil it will never happen.

Romans 8:18-22

¹⁸ *For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.*

¹⁹ *For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God.*

²⁰ *For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope,*

²¹ *Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God.*

²² For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now.

The world will not escape the grasp of Satan until the manifestation of the sons/children of God are revealed. Let me show you when that will happen.

Revelation 19:7-8, 13-14

⁷ Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready.

⁸ And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.

¹³ And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God.

¹⁴ And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean.

When we return to the earth with our Lord we will be unveiled and the world will know who we are. This will be the time that the world is freed from the curse and the grasp of Satan because shortly after this the Kingdom will be set up.

➤ **The Grip of Satan Broken.**

Last week we considered how God will use the tribulation to strip Israel of their self dependance. The tribulation will also be used by the Lord to take the world out of Satan's grip. There is a picture of this in the Old Testament.

Exodus 1:13-14

¹³ And the Egyptians made the children of Israel to serve with rigour:

¹⁴ And they made their lives bitter with hard bondage, in mortar, and in brick, and in all manner of service in the field: all their service, wherein they made them serve, was with rigour.

Exodus 2:23-24

²³ And it came to pass in process of time, that the king of Egypt died: and the children of Israel sighed by reason of the bondage, and they cried, and their cry came up unto God by reason of the bondage.

²⁴ *And God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob.*

In the story of the Exodus, we see that it begins as Israel is in bondage to the Egyptians. God will then use the 10 plagues to take His people out of the grip of the Egyptians and several of these plagues are much like the judgments in the tribulation. The reason is because in the tribulation God is using the judgments to release the world from the grip of the wicked one. Let us notice the parallels.

In the book of Exodus, we see ten plagues and with each plague they grow in intensity. When the tenth and final plague comes, which is the death of the first born, Pharaoh has loosened his grip and has come to the place where he is willing to let go.

Exodus 6:1

Then the LORD said unto Moses, Now shalt thou see what I will do to Pharaoh: for with a strong hand shall he let them go, and with a strong hand shall he drive them out of his land.

In the book of Revelation, the seals on the scroll contain judgments that fall upon the earth. The seventh seal contains seven trumpet judgments and the seventh trumpet contains the seven bowl judgments. As these judgments fall upon the earth they grow in intensity. Each of these judgments loosen the grip of Satan on the earth just a little more. Notice the similarities.

❖ Water to blood.

Exodus 7:17-20

¹⁷ *Thus saith the LORD, In this thou shalt know that I am the LORD: behold, I will smite with the rod that is in mine hand upon the waters which are in the river, and they shall be turned to blood.*

¹⁸ *And the fish that is in the river shall die, and the river shall stink; and the Egyptians shall lothe to drink of the water of the river.*

¹⁹ *And the LORD spake unto Moses, Say unto Aaron, Take thy rod, and stretch out thine hand upon the waters of Egypt, upon their streams, upon their rivers, and upon their ponds, and upon all their pools of water, that they may become blood; and that there may be blood throughout all the land of Egypt, both in vessels of wood, and in vessels of stone.*

²⁰ And Moses and Aaron did so, as the LORD commanded; and he lifted up the rod, and smote the waters that were in the river, in the sight of Pharaoh, and in the sight of his servants; and all the waters that were in the river were turned to blood.

Revelation 16:3-6

³ And the second angel poured out his vial upon the sea; and it became as the blood of a dead man: and every living soul died in the sea.

⁴ And the third angel poured out his vial upon the rivers and fountains of waters; and they became blood.

⁵ And I heard the angel of the waters say, Thou art righteous, O Lord, which art, and wast, and shalt be, because thou hast judged thus.

⁶ For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets, and thou hast given them blood to drink; for they are worthy.

❖ Sores

Exodus 9:8-11

⁸ And the LORD said unto Moses and unto Aaron, Take to you handfuls of ashes of the furnace, and let Moses sprinkle it toward the heaven in the sight of Pharaoh.

⁹ And it shall become small dust in all the land of Egypt, and shall be a boil breaking forth with blains upon man, and upon beast, throughout all the land of Egypt.

¹⁰ And they took ashes of the furnace, and stood before Pharaoh; and Moses sprinkled it up toward heaven; and it became a boil breaking forth with blains upon man, and upon beast.

¹¹ And the magicians could not stand before Moses because of the boils; for the boil was upon the magicians, and upon all the Egyptians.

Revelation 16:1-2

And I heard a great voice out of the temple saying to the seven angels, Go your ways, and pour out the vials of the wrath of God upon the earth.

² *And the first went, and poured out his vial upon the earth; and there fell a noisome and grievous sore upon the men which had the mark of the beast, and upon them which worshipped his image.*

❖ **Thick Darkness.**

Exodus 10:21-23

²¹ *And the LORD said unto Moses, Stretch out thine hand toward heaven, that there may be darkness over the land of Egypt, even darkness which may be felt.*

²² *And Moses stretched forth his hand toward heaven; and there was a thick darkness in all the land of Egypt three days:*

²³ *They saw not one another, neither rose any from his place for three days: but all the children of Israel had light in their dwellings.*

Revelation 16:10-11

¹⁰ *And the fifth angel poured out his vial upon the seat of the beast; and his kingdom was full of darkness; and they gnawed their tongues for pain,*

¹¹ *And blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and repented not of their deeds.*

Conclusion:

There are more similarities but from these you can see the parallels. The point is that just as God removed Israel from the grasp of Pharaoh, so He will remove the earth from the grasp of Satan. One day this world will be like it was after creation before sin entered in.