

The Book of Revelation - The Book with Seven Seals I (Revelation 5)

Series REV-06a

We have established the setting for the giving of Revelation. It is the sanctuary in heaven. Revelation, chapter 1, pictures Jesus as High Priest ministering in the midst of the seven lampstands located in the first compartment of the temple in heaven. It is from this setting that chapters 2 and 3, messages to the seven churches, are delivered to John by Jesus. These messages are the foundation of truth upon which Revelation is based, and from which other elements in Revelation operate. Once these messages are given to, received and understood by the church, these messages will initiate judgments upon the church, other Christians, and then the world. It is through the church and other Christians that the messages of chapters 2 and 3 will be revealed to the world in His people by giving the Third Angel's Messages. Then, when completed, Jesus will come.

The last couple weeks we noticed the relationship between the Seven Lamps and the Seven Spirits of God tied with the Seven Churches. Further, we saw that our great God has deemed it necessary for His people to understand that the foundation of His throne is mercy and justice. Psalm 85:10 tells us that "mercy and truth met together, righteousness and peace kissed each other." At least 12 times, throne is mentioned in Revelation 4. This is to give a clear picture of how great that union of mercy and justice is in the plan of redemption. The Sanctuary in heaven is the very center of all this taking place. Those who study these things out, the Holy Spirit will lead into deeper mines of truth, preparing them for the outpouring or "refreshing that will come from the presence of the Lord." {Acts 3:19}

REVELATION 5


As we begin this chapter, take a moment to read the chapter and reread it again at a slower pace. We are informed that the fifth chapter of Revelation needs to be studied closely.

*"The fifth chapter of Revelation needs to be closely studied. It is of **great importance** to those who shall act a part in the work of God for these last days. There are some who are **deceived**. They do not realize what is coming on the earth. Those who have permitted their minds to become beclouded in regard to what constitutes **sin** are **fearfully deceived**. Unless they make a decided change they will be found wanting when God pronounces judgment upon the children of men. {9T 267}*

Note that the Pen of Inspiration links the Judgment with this chapter. Could it be that this chapter which deals with the seven seals on the book, sets the stage for the opening of this book in judgment in the next chapter?

The **Revelation in which the love of God is revealed through Jesus** needs to be studied also. Only Christ can make the Father's love known because He is the only one who knew the height and depth of this love. (DA 22). The fact is, the whole Bible is a revelation and all revelation comes through Christ; all centers in Him.

Before we dive into this great saga which must be "closely studied", let us look at the divisions of the chapter which will help us in our understanding of it.

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| Division 1: | Verses 1-4: | speaks about the book with seven seals, which no man can open. | |
| Division 2: | Vss 5 & 6: | The One Who prevailed to open the book. | |
| Division 3: | Vss 7-14: | After the Lamb slain took the book
--24 Elders (with vials full of incense) worship Him
--4 Living Creatures fall down and worship the Lamb.
--Elders sing a new song
--Myriads of angels sing praises to the Lamb
--The universal anthem of praise to the Father and the Lamb.
--Elders fall down and worship Him that liveth forever. |  <p style="color: orange;">Involves
intercession</p> |

What a picture is this in chapter 5!

Recall, this first time through REVELATION we are trying to keep the big picture in mind. There is much detail we could become absorbed in which is multi-layered, but we will seek to keep the larger concepts in view. Therefore, we will look at a few questions, intertwined with a few statements to get the idea of what God has given for us to understand and embrace during this 'pandemic transition' into the final outpouring of Holy Spirit.

"As a people we must prepare the way of the Lord under the overruling guidance of the Holy Spirit. The gospel is to be given in its purity." (9T 96.2)

If we are to give this gospel of the Revelation of Jesus, we must understand and embrace it in its purity for it is "the wonderful simplifier of life's problems" {MH 363.2}. Here we go:

The Study of the Book with Seven Seals

1. Who is sitting on the throne and who is it that takes the book from His hand?
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- 2. THOUGHT QUESTION: What is the single most important article mentioned in Revelation 5? Give your reasons. {Think far reaching}

- 3. Notice the description of the book in the right hand of Him that sits on the throne: It is “written _____ and on the _____ sealed with _____.” (see vs.1)

“This roll was written within and without. John says: “I wept much, because no man was found worthy to open and to read the book, neither to look thereon (vs.4). The vision as presented to John made its impression upon his mind... John was distressed at the utter inability of any human being or angelic intelligence to read the words or even to look thereon. His soul was wrought up to such a point of agony and suspense that one of the strong angels had compassion on him, and laying his hand on him assuringly, said, “Weep not...” {12 MR 296-297}

- 4. What two things were specifically needed concerning the book? (vss.2-4)
 - a) _____.
 - b) _____.

- 5. Give a description of Him Who is able to take the book? (vs.5,6)

Per the discussion from last week we noticed a connection of the following:

7 Spirits 7 Lamps 7 Churches with 7 Eyes

But notice verse six. Another seven is added, what is it and more importantly, what is its relation to the above 7s? (write your answers below)

- 7 Spirits:
- 7 Lamps:
- 7 Churches:

- 7 Eyes: }
- 7 _____: }

(These two are connected to an animal. What is that animal and its description)
 Hint: look back at last week’s table (Power point presentation) of the 7 last words of Christ, and the relationship with the other 7s in the columns and the notes I’ve written under the first three.

In class, we will look at the book more closely in the hand of the Father and discuss what we have in this lesson presented. Further, I will begin to develop the idea presented on the first page re. the Judgment in connection with this chapter. The Lord has some exciting things for our consideration and application moving forward. What we learn in this chapter will pay off in future chapters as we study and apply our hearts to understanding.

In Part II, we will be looking at the second half of the chapter and some deeper concepts will come forth. This will be in preparation for those seven seals being opened and the effects on earth that will follow in the chapter 6.

Be of good courage, remember it is not by coincidence we are studying this deep and invigorating book of Revelation at this time. We must be zealous of good works, living lives of **repentance** and **faith** for the time is hand.