

Book of Revelation - The Fifth & Sixth Seals

(Revelation 6:9-11; 12-17)

Series REV-08

{Though I did not provide a formal lesson when we went over the 5th seal last week, I will give a recap here as a written record.}

But first, a few preliminaries. As we have spent many weeks on the seven seals, we have already come to know that the “Opening of the Seals” by the Lamb is reference to the most comprehensive analysis of the Investigative Judgment in Scripture. We’ve seen the connection with the Seven Churches and also the Three Angels’ Messages.

We are invariably living in the time when these seven seals are being opened, in a contemporary application (God’s people are being judged, aka the “Judgment of the Living” is in process and it is soon to end.) It should be a most solemn time for God’s people, when all who have a knowledge of Christ’s work in the Sanctuary above should be appropriating His **atonement blood** to their lives individually. His “position” and “work” as our High Priest, we must clearly understand.

Further, in this process we are all being ‘**refined**’ in the **furnace fire**. It is not a pleasant process, to go through severe trial, but one which all must have to prepare us for the coming conflict.

Recently two statements the Lord brought out of the files to my review at the time Mary and I have been in the “heat of the battle,” especially during the last few weeks. The first statement and the author’s comments and then the second.

In Thoughts from the Mount of Blessing, p.71 we have this famous statement:

The Father's presence encircled Christ, and nothing befell Him but that which infinite love permitted for the blessing of the world. Here was His source of comfort, and it is for us. He who is imbued with the Spirit of Christ abides in Christ. The blow that is aimed at him falls upon the Saviour, who surrounds him with His presence. Whatever comes to him comes from Christ. He has no need to resist evil, for Christ is his defense. Nothing can touch him except by our Lord's permission, and "all things" that are permitted "work together for good to them that love God." Romans 8:28. {MB 71.2}

Then the author of the paper (Ellen Dana) I found this quote in, went on to make practical this inspired statement. These now are her words: In other words, every discouraging, unkind, thoughtless, disrespectful, maligning word that comes to us *has touched Jesus first*—not just when He hung on the cross, but **today** where He ministers for us in the Most Holy Place. **He is still being attacked in the form of His people—be they church members, neighbors, spouse, friends or even our children.** That ugly things must go through Him first. We must realize that *if we are meeting it without allowing Christ to handle it first, our carnal nature wells up in thoughts of resentment, injustice, selfishness, martyrdom and any other “self” issue. However, if we accept this*

*hurtful things as “from the hand of Jesus, and surrender it all to Him, then— He burns out any selfish thought in us and puts His mind in our mind, so that we think and feel only forgiveness, love, compassion, even intercession for that person. If our thoughts are those of resentment, selfish, “poor me” we know there are thoughts and attitudes still in our heart that need to change—*here we need the mind of Christ. As we surrender those self-interests to His life, His mind, that Spirit of burning [does its work at that moment, burning out all the ‘self’ issues with nothing left but His righteousness—those graces of the Spirit.**

This is not an easy statement to ‘swallow’. Only submission to the grace of Christ in light of that MB statement can make this possible.

The other statement is a shorter statement from 2T 425.1. It is more abrupt, but to the point:

“Dead men cannot feel...If you were, and your life were hid in Christ, a thousand things which you now notice, and which afflict you, would be passed by as unworthy of notice; you would then be grasping the eternal and would be above the petty trials of life. (2T 425.1)

Since we are in the Judgment of the Living time period, these are vital statements which by the grace of God we need to know how to apply to our lives.

FIFTH SEAL (Recap) -Rev 6:9-11

In vs. 9 we find that when the Lamb opened the fifth seal, John saw the following:

- Souls under the altar —————> All the righteous blood martyred (Heb 11:4
 - Slain for the word of God and the testimony they held —————> cf Gen 4:8-10)
 - > Death to self (crucified w/ Christ) Gal 6:14
- Rev 1:2,9; 12:17

In vs. 10, we find these under the altar cry out in a loud voice, saying:

- How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost Thou not judge and avenge our blood >> Eze 9 / Hab 1:2,3
 - on them that dwell on the earth
- Rev 3:10 Rev 13:8, 12-14
Rev 11:10 Rev 14:6
- Dan 12:6 & 8 —————> When does judgment of the wicked occur?
Close of Probation
- White Robes given everyone and it was told them they should rest for little season for a little season until their fellow servants and brethren should be killed as they.

Leave your case entirely in His hands
[also implicates Sabbath rest >> linked to Righteousness by faith

SIXTH SEAL --Rev 6:12 -17

As we now turn our attention to the opening of the sixth seal, we notice a change in the language of the text. We are no longer looking at symbolic words, but those which have been literally fulfilled with some of the verses in this section.

We need to keep in mind the principle found in 1 Cor. 15:46, which states,

“Howbeit that was not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; and afterward that which is spiritual.”

We thus need to look at this last section of the chapter from a natural perspective first and then see if there are any spiritual implications.

- A great Earthquake
- Sun became black as sackcloth of hair
- Moon became as blood
- Stars of heaven fell
- As a fig tree casteth her untimely figs
- When shaken of mighty wind
- Heaven departed as a scroll when rolled together
- Every mountain and island moved out of place
- Him that sitteth on the throne
- Wrath of the Lamb

Who shall be able to stand? We will look at this next week when we enter the seventh chapter of the Revelation.