

REVELATION: THE FINAL ANSWER

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The Final Answer - The King Is Coming (Part 6)

Revelation 5:8-14

INTRODUCTION

For the past few weeks, we have been focusing on Revelation chapter 5 because we need to be reminded that the King is coming back for you and me. With that knowledge, we need to be ready, waiting with hope and anticipation of His coming. That also means we need to have the right posture where we are right now. We can learn about what kind of posture we need by reading Revelation chapter 5. So as we close out this mini-series this week, may we take special note of what we can learn from what John describes seeing in heaven so that we may emulate the posture of those worshiping Jesus there while we are still on earth waiting for His return.

KEY POINTS

1. A Scroll

We learned last week that this scroll had seven seals, and that the scroll is a description of the will of God. It is the title deed for all of God's creation. This picture coincides with a Roman will in ancient days.

This image was important for the century in which this book was written, to help those people who were undergoing unbelievable pressure, problems, and persecution. They needed to know that God is in charge. This picture is also important for the people of today. Regardless of what might be happening all around us, God is in charge. You need to get that settled in your mind. Maybe you don't like what's happening, maybe you don't understand it, but you need to understand that He is in charge and His will is best.

2. A Strong Angel

John's focus now moves from the scroll to a mighty angel. It is really curious that this mighty angel has a loud voice. The Koine' Greek phrase for a mighty angel is the Greek phrase: "aggelon ischuron," which means strong and mighty angel. This is not a one of those smaller angels. This is a giant angel, an angel that stands over all. The Bible says he spoke in a loud voice. It is the Koine' Greek phrase, "phone megalei," which literally means loud voice. It is where we get the word "megaphone."

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This angel is not saying, "Who is worthy?" in a quiet voice. The angel is saying, "Who is worthy?" in a loud booming voice. This angel is saying, "Who is worthy to open the scroll?" He is shouting to get everyone's attention.

Sometimes, God has to send someone with a loud voice to enter our lives, to get our attention. Have you ever noticed that we don't ever stop long enough to listen to God until something tragic, something life-changing gets our attention? God wants to get your attention. I pray that He has your attention today.

3. A Search

There is a scenario that God created with the question which needed to be answered but could not be answered. "Who is worthy?" Now there is a search. The entire universe had no answer to the angel's question because they knew that they weren't worthy. Isn't this passage curious? Jesus is at the center of the throne and yet they overlooked Him.

Many of us are there right now. You are moving very fast in your life, but you have overlooked Jesus. Isn't it odd that the Owner, the Maker, the Creator of this universe is often the most overlooked One of all?

We want to look at our friends, family members or our employers and say, "I am where I am because of you." We do this rather than realizing we are where we are right now only by the grace of God. We want to look to our friends to solve our problems, or we look to our employer to solve our problems. We look to our family to fix us. But the truth is that only Jesus can fix us. We will never stop searching until we realize He is the one we've been looking for.

4. A Sad Saint

One of the biggest problems in cultural Christianity today is that there are no tears. We will clap, laugh, shout and whistle when we are engaged in music, or when something is said; but there is no emotional connection.

When was the last time your heart was broken? Maybe it's been a while because you are a casual observer. You see, tears are part of the walk with Christ. Unfortunately for many of us, we just want to be self-contained. We don't want to let someone in on what we are feeling.

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But this picture in Revelation is very clear; people who care are people who weep. We need tears. The church has been missing something today, and that is brokenness and tears. If you are not broken to the place of tears over our present society and brokenness, weep now! Do not be a casual observer. Do not take a step back and ignore what is happening with the moral condition and the spiraling down of our country and everywhere around this globe. If you are not broken over what is happening in our land, and there are no tears, weep now! There is no better time to engage, and we need to be broken here.

5. A Sacred Sermon

Most of us think that a sermon must have at least three points and a poem, or an illustration that grabs our hearts. Sometimes, a sermon only needs one point. With many of us, one point is about all we can handle in the first place. God might use you to preach a sacred sermon to someone who has gone through similar circumstances that you've endured yourself. If you sense God calling you share a word with someone, it's important to obey His call and follow His lead.

We learn this from the elder in Revelation chapter five; he did not want John to focus on him. He was just the messenger. And we don't ever want to focus on the messenger. That's a sign of spiritual immaturity. You need to be focused on the One whom the messenger is pointing to – Jesus Christ! If the messenger has done his job correctly, he will lead people to look in the right direction.

6. A Standing Savior

The next place John's focus and attention goes is to the Savior standing on the throne. Revelation 5:6 says, "Then I saw a Lamb, looking as if it had been slain, standing at the center of the throne, encircled by the four living creatures and the elders. The Lamb had seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth."

John sees the Lamb; He sees Jesus standing in the center of the throne. Do you understand what you are seeing here through John's description? You are seeing part of the concept of the Trinity; the Father, Son and Holy Spirit are one. You will never really know the Father unless you know the Son, because the Father and the Son are one. NOTES

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7. A Sacrifice Of Praise

Almost half of this chapter is about praise. In the Throne Room of Heaven, we have a glimpse of the widest, broadest, and most colorful picture in all of Scripture. I want us to take a closer look at this sacrifice of praise, beginning in verse eight and following:

- 1. Everyone is encircling the Throne.
- 2. Each one of the elders had a harp.
- 3. Each had golden bowls of incense.
- 4. Each had a new song.
- 5. He has made us all priests.
- 6. All were worshiping.
- 7. When worship happens, everyone joins in.
- 8. Worthy is the Lamb.
- 9. Every creature in heaven is focused on the Throne.
- 10. The Father will send His Son.

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QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

- 1. What are one or two things you've learned about heaven and the end times through our study of Revelation chapter 5?
- 2. How does knowing what is awaiting us in heaven affect the way or the frequency with which you tell others about Jesus?
- 3. What is a sacrifice you sense the Lord telling you to make that will result in Him receiving more praise and glory? What is keeping you from making this sacrifice?