

REVELATION: THE FINAL ANSWER

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REVELATION

The Final Answer - The King Is Coming (Part 3)

Revelation 5:1-14

INTRODUCTION

What's so cool about Revelation 5 is that it's a picture of what is happening in heaven. If we could join heaven right now, we would probably be living different lives and have a different attitude and focus. But even though that's true, we also need to focus right now on the fact that the King is coming! He is coming back for His people, and the reason He is coming is because He owns it all. He is coming for you who know Him, and that means He will not leave you in the situation where you are forever. God has a plan, not just for eternity, but for right now as well. So as you strive to live out that plan you need to realize that His timing is perfect. And although we might not understand it, we can trust it.

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."

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.

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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. 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.

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.

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.

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QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

- 1. When was the last time you wept? What was the reason behind your weeping?
- 2. What's something that's happening in our world right now that breaks your heart?
- 3. Are you someone who prefers to not let others know when you are sad, upset, or broken? What is keeping you from being vulnerable with those closest to you?