

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

CHAPTER 5

**PASTOR JOHN KILPATRICK
CHURCH OF HIS PRESENCE**

Welcome back to our study of the Book of Revelation. Chapter 5 is one of my favorite chapters in Revelation. I recommend that you begin by reading it. (*Note: All Scriptures are KJV unless otherwise noted.*)

A BOOK SEALED WITH SEVEN SEALS

In Chapter 4, after the apostle John was caught up in Heaven, he saw the Throne of God, the 24 elders, and the four beasts (living creatures). He also heard powerful worship. In Chapter 5, he sees God upon His throne, and in His hand is a book (scroll) written on the inside and outside, sealed with seven seals.

Revelation 5:1 introduces the seven seals:

1 "And I saw in the right hand of him that sat on the throne a book written within and on the backside, sealed with seven seals."

A tremendous search is made for one worthy to open the book (scroll). No more progress can be made, and no more revelation can be seen until this book is opened and read.

What are we looking at through the pen of John? It is an insight. Although man has been redeemed at Calvary and given an immortal body at the Resurrection in the Rapture, Earth and all of creation, including the animal kingdom, are still bound under a curse. Contained on the sealed book (scroll) are the conditions for the redemption of Earth and all creation.

KINSMAN REDEEMERS

Levitical Law

In Levitical law, a provision was made if someone fell into debt and could not come out. Three things could be redeemed: a slave, a wife, and land. The terms of the redemption were written on a scroll. The original one was kept in the archives at the Tabernacle/Temple, and the other was given to the one in debt.

Later, the terms were amended to one scroll, written on the inside and outside, so the terms of redemption could be read. For one to be a kinsman redeemer, that person had to meet three conditions: Be related, be willing, and be able.

Jeremiah

Let's look in Jeremiah for an example of a kinsman redeemer:

8 "So Hanameel mine uncle's son came to me in the court of the prison according to the word of the Lord, and said unto me, 'Buy my field, I pray thee, that is in Anathoth, which is in the country of Benjamin: for the right of inheritance is thine, and the redemption is thine; buy it for thyself.' Then I knew that this was the word of the Lord. 9 And I bought the field of Hanameel my uncle's son, that was in Anathoth, and weighed him the money, even seventeen shekels of silver. 10 And I subscribed the evidence, and sealed it, and took witnesses, and weighed him the money in the

balances. 11 So I took the evidence of the purchase, both that which was sealed according to the law and custom, and that which was open:"

13 "And I charged Baruch before them, saying, 14 'Thus saith the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel; Take these evidences, this evidence of the purchase, both which is sealed, and this evidence which is open; and put them in an earthen vessel, that they may continue many days.'"

Jeremiah 32:8-11, 13-14

Jeremiah's cousin came to him. He requested Jeremiah to buy his field, which was about to be taken over by the Babylonians. He asked Jeremiah to redeem it. Jeremiah inquired concerning the price of redemption. It was 17 shekels of silver. He paid the money, and then he took the scrolls.

Jeremiah met three conditions. He was 1) related, 2) willing to function as a redeemer, and 3) able—he had the silver to redeem it. He invalidated the mortgage for his cousin.

Boaz

Unless a kinsman could be found, Naomi was about to lose her inheritance due to the death of her husband and sons. Naomi had a kinsman named Boaz.

1 "And Naomi had a kinsman of her husband's, a mighty man of wealth, of the family of Elimelech (Naomi's deceased husband); and his name was Boaz."

Ruth 2:1

Boaz fell in love with the widow, Ruth, Naomi's daughter-in-law.

Boaz undertook for Naomi and Ruth. He called for a redeemer more closely related than him, whose right it was to redeem the property. Boaz asked him not only to redeem the land but also to acquire Ruth to preserve the family line. Notice what this man said to Boaz.

6 "And the kinsman said, 'I cannot redeem it for myself, lest I mar mine own inheritance: Redeem thou my right to thyself; for I cannot redeem it.'"

Ruth 4:6

Upon his confession, Boaz immediately offered to redeem the inheritance and the widow, Ruth. Boaz 1) married Ruth and 2) redeemed the land. Look at how Scripture recorded it.

9 "And Boaz said unto the elders, and unto all the people, 'Ye are witnesses this day, that I have bought all that was Elimelech's, and all that was Chilion's and Mahlon's, of the hand of Naomi. 10 Moreover Ruth the Moabitess, the wife of Mahlon, have I purchased to be my wife, to raise up the name of the dead upon his inheritance, that the name of the dead be not cut off from among his brethren, and from the gate of his place: ye are witnesses this day.'"

Ruth 4:9-10

Boaz was 1) related, 2) willing, and 3) able.

THE SCENE IN HEAVEN

This is the scene in Heaven: The saints are redeemed with Christ in Heaven. God holds a book (scroll) with the terms of redemption for the earth and the rest of all creation. It is soon time for Jesus to begin His Millennial Reign on Earth, but He cannot do it until the earth is redeemed.

Before anything can move forward, someone must qualify to oust Satan, breaking his hold on God's creation. Satan holds claim to Earth by reason of Adam's sin. Earth is cursed; the animals and heavens are cursed. They must be redeemed. By deception in the Garden of Eden, the devil received something not made for him or by him. The devil told Jesus this in **Luke 4:5-6 NKJV**.

5 "Then the devil, taking Him up on a high mountain, showed Him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. 6 And the devil said to Him, 'All this authority I will give You, and their glory; for this has been delivered to me, and I give it to whomever I wish.'"

But the Earth and everything in it was made by God and for God. God is the original and rightful owner. He created man to have dominion on the earth.

1 "The earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein."

Psalm 24:1

Satan is an interloper, one who encroaches on the rights of another, intrudes, and interferes. He is also a squatter, one who unlawfully occupies land, a settler with no legal title to the land occupied. Satan refuses to acknowledge the rightful Owner and rightful King of Earth, so a search is made in Heaven for one to open the book. Jesus, the rightful King and Redeemer, has to remove Satan.

GOD'S JUDICIAL MIND

In the Promised Land, God set things up where land reverted back to its original owner. It is God's way of thinking, His judicial mindset. Under the Jewish Law that God gave to Moses, the property of a Jew in God's land could never be sold or given away permanently. Forever, that land belonged to the family household. In the 50th year, the year of Jubilee, everything reverted to the original owner.

Look at what else God said in the Book of Leviticus:

***23** "The land shall not be sold permanently, for the land is Mine; for you are strangers and sojourners with Me. **24** And in all the land of your possession you shall grant redemption of the land. **25** If one of your brethren becomes poor, and has sold some of*

his possession, and if his redeeming relative comes to redeem it, then he may redeem what his brother sold.”

Leviticus 25:23-25 NKJV

The Earth and all that is in it is God's!

Because Satan is a squatter who refuses to release his power over the Earth, Jesus is forced to unleash awful judgments: seven seals, seven trumpets, and seven vials. The purpose of the wrath of God during the Tribulation is to take away from Satan what man was deceived out of. After the last judgment is complete and Satan is bound and cast into the bottomless pit, the Lord returns with all the saints, His redeemed bride, to rule and reign on Earth. Jesus not only saved us from going to Hell, but He saved us to reign with Him on Earth!

A FRANTIC AND DILIGENT SEARCH

The stories of Jeremiah and his cousin, as well as Ruth, Naomi, and Boaz, are included in Scripture to reveal what is happening in Chapter 5. A diligent search is made for a kinsman redeemer.

This search was made in Heaven, on the earth, and under the earth.

2 “And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, ‘Who is worthy to open the book, and to loose the seals thereof?’ 3 And no man in heaven, nor in earth, neither under the earth, was able to open the book, neither to look thereon.”

Revelation 5:2-3

Who is worthy? Who is able? *NO ONE* is found worthy to open the book.

JOHN BREAKS DOWN WEeping

4 “And I wept much, because no man was found worthy to open and to read the book, neither to look thereon.”

Revelation 5:4

Everything depends on finding a redeemer worthy to invalidate the mortgage on the sealed book. If no one can be found, the seals to redeem creation cannot be opened. But praise God...

ONE IS FOUND WORTHY

5 “And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof.”

Revelation 5:5

There is no mistaking who has prevailed: The Lion of the Tribe of Judah, the Root of David! Jesus takes on the title of a lion, a lion that has come to avenge His enemies, to roar, and to punish all those who have rejected Him: The God-haters, the evildoers, those who opposed and raised themselves against God and His Holy Son.

But let's read on...

6 *"And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth. **7** And he came and took the book out of the right hand of him that sat upon the throne. **8** And when he had taken the book, the four beasts and four and twenty elders fell down before the Lamb, having every one of them harps, and golden vials full of odours, which are the prayers of saints."*

Revelation 5:6-8

The elder proclaimed that a Lion had prevailed to open the book, but a Lamb came and took the book from God Almighty, sitting on His Throne. In the Book of Revelation, Jesus chooses to be called a "Lamb" more than any other title.

Let's look at some other verses:

12 *"Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing."*

Revelation 5:12

13 *"...Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, be unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever."*

Revelation 5:13

1 *"And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals..."*

Revelation 6:1

16 *"...hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb:"*

Revelation 6:16

9 *"...a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb..."*

Revelation 7:9

10 *"...Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb."*

Revelation 7:10

14 “...have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.”

Revelation 7:14

17 “For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters:”

Revelation 7:17

11 “And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony...”

Revelation 12:11

14 “These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings...”

Revelation 17:14

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.”

Revelation 19:7

There are many other Scriptures where Jesus is called the Lamb. In the Book of Revelation, the title, “*Lamb*,” is used for Jesus 26 times. The title, “*Lion*,” is used one time. Jesus wants to be remembered as the sacrifice. The Lamb of God is His choice of title.

JESUS THE REDEEMER

At Calvary, Jesus redeemed the Old and New Testament saints. He was related, made in the likeness of men, willing to drink the cup, and able. He alone bore our sins and was resurrected.

Now, we are in Heaven with Christ, restored and redeemed, but we have to wait until Jesus deals with Satan and redeems all of creation.

JESUS STEPS FORTH TO TAKE THE BOOK

7 “And he came and took the book out of the right hand of him that sat upon the throne.”

Revelation 5:7

Jesus Was Related.

6 “For indeed He does not give aid to angels, but He does give aid to the seed of Abraham. **17** Therefore, in all things He had to be made like His brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.”

Hebrews 2:16-17 NKJV

16 *"I Jesus...am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star."*

Revelation 22:16

Jesus Was Willing.

42 *"Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done."*

Luke 22:42 NKJV

Jesus Was Able.

He was the only one who could pay the price.

18 *"Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; **19** But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot."*

I Peter 1:18-19

THE ELDERS BURST FORTH INTO SONG

9 *"And they sung a new song, saying, 'Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; 10 And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth."*

Revelation 5:9-10

The book with seals holds the redemption of Earth. When a seal is broken, what Adam forfeited is being restored and redeemed, but it takes the Tribulation to consummate this process.

Now, let's look at the following Scriptures:

13 *"In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise, 14 Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory."*

Ephesians 1:13-14

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."*

Romans 8:21-22.

Christ is coming to redeem us! He will break the curse. Death will be destroyed. He will open all seals.

Let's look at this also:

9 *"And they sung a new song, saying, 'Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation.'"*

Revelation 5:9

In Verse 9, they sang, "*Thou hast redeemed us.*" This is past tense. It was already accomplished at Calvary!

Now, notice the last part of **Revelation 5:10**.

10 *"And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the Earth."*

This is future tense. We shall reign with Christ on Earth.

THE CELEBRATION IN HEAVEN

The day to open the sealed book has arrived, and notice the massive crowd beholding this event.

Angels Are There - 100 Million Angels, Plus Thousands and Thousands

11 *"And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the beasts and the elders: and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands; **12** Saying with a loud voice, 'Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing.'"*

Revelation 5:11-12

Angels are ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation. For the last 6,000 years, they have been working to protect God's people. Now, the Church is in Heaven, and they are getting ready to watch the devil's grip being pried off God's creation.

All Creation Is Celebrating

13 *"And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, be unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever. **14** And the four beasts said, Amen. And the four and twenty elders fell down and worshipped him that liveth for ever and ever."*

Revelation 5:13-14

All the population of Heaven and every creature are worshipping in Heaven, on the earth, under the earth, and in the sea. All creation!

Let's reread Romans Chapter 8.

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. 23 And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body."

Romans 8:19-23

That's what all this excitement is about! All creatures in Heaven and on Earth are stunned that the redemption of all creation and creatures has now come!

HARPS AND GOLDEN VIALS

Let's look at one more important thing before we leave this celebration.

8 "And when he had taken the book, the four beasts and four and twenty elders fell down before the Lamb, having every one of them harps, and golden vials full of odours, which are the prayers of saints."

Revelation 5:8

Golden Vials - Prayers

The day has arrived for all prayers to be answered! This includes all the prayers of the ages: "Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven," and all the pleadings of the ages, the agonies, and the intercessions.

Harps

Harps are synonymous with prophets. Look at what Samuel said to Saul.

5 "After that thou shalt come to the hill of God, where is the garrison of the Philistines: and it shall come to pass, when thou art come thither to the city, that thou shalt meet a company of prophets coming down from the high place with a psaltery, and a tabret, and a pipe, and a harp, before them; and they shall prophesy:"

I Samuel 10:5

A company of prophets came with harps. Now, look at what Elisha said in **II Kings 3:15 NLT**:

15 "Now bring me someone who can play the harp. ' While the harp was being played, the power of the Lord came upon Elisha,"

The Spirit of God came upon Elisha to prophesy when the harpist played. The ministry of the prophetic is God's deliverance message.

1 “Moreover David and the captains of the host separated to the service of the sons of Asaph, and of Heman, and of Jeduthun, who should prophesy with harps, with psalteries, and with cymbals: and the number of the workmen according to their service...”

I Chronicles 25:1

4 “I will incline mine ear to a parable: I will open my dark saying upon the harp.”

Psalms 49:4

The Spirit of God moved in prophecy while songs were played upon the harp.

In Revelation Chapter 5, harps represent all the prophecies that faithfully delivered God’s Word through the ages. The elders are bringing to remembrance every prophecy of redemption that has ever been uttered. God is about to bring to reality EVERY PRAYER and EVERY PROPHETIC WORD ever given. It is the greatest momentous event of the ages.

SINGING VS. SAYING

Before closing our examination of Chapter 5, let’s look at one last thing. The 24 elders and the four beasts are singing:

8 “And when he had taken the book, the four beasts and four and twenty elders fell down before the Lamb, having every one of them harps, and golden vials full of odours, which are the prayers of saints. **9** And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation;”

Revelation 5:8-9

But look at **Revelation 5:11-12**:

11 “And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the beasts and the elders: and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands; **12** Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing.”

Some might not agree with this, but most of the time in the Bible, you will not find angels singing. They are always saying. I want them to be singing, but they are saying.

What about the celestial choir of angelic hosts singing at the birth of Jesus? Surely the angels sang when Jesus was born?

13 “And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, **14** Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.”

Luke 2:13

In Heaven, the angels say! Why? What might be the reason they are not singing but saying?

Music is made up of major keys and minor keys.

Minor keys speak of wretchedness, death, and the sorrow of fallen creatures. Most of the sounds of nature are in minor keys, like the nightingale's songs. Most of nature moans in a minor key, like the sound of the wind blowing through the trees or around a house, the sound of a storm, even the sound of the ocean.

Creation moans; it's restless. It reflects the hurt, agony, and travail of fallen creation. Angels know nothing of these minor keys—this type of suffering and despair.

Major keys are sounds of triumph and victory. God has taken us out of the miry pit! He has set our feet to dancing! We rejoice! We praise and give adulation! We sing because of answered prayer! Angels know nothing of this type of redemption.

It is humans who sing! Sorrow makes people sing sad songs. Victory and triumph make people sing happy and victorious songs. That's why the redeemed sing the song of redemption, and angels just speak of it. It takes a saved, redeemed soul to sing the song of the redeemed.