

Summary

This sermon focuses on the end times, specifically the pre-tribulation rapture and the Great Tribulation, drawing from Matthew 24 and Revelation 5. The pastor emphasizes that life will continue as normal right up until the moment Jesus returns, much like it did in the days of Noah, and that only Jesus has the authority and worthiness to open the seven seals and launch the world into the Tribulation. The central theme is that "He Alone is Worthy," explored through four key points: Jesus alone is worthy to open the scroll, worthy of the highest place of honor, worthy to be bowed to, and worthy to change our identity. The sermon closes with a powerful reminder that through Christ, believers are transformed from broken and defeated people into priests, sons, and worshipers of the living God.

Intro Prayer

Heavenly Father, we come before You today with open hearts and willing spirits. As we gather together, we ask that You quiet our minds and remove any distractions that would keep us from hearing what You have for us. Holy Spirit, guide our conversation, stir our hearts, and help each of us to leave today with something personal and life-changing from Your Word. We acknowledge that You alone are worthy of our praise, our attention, and our full surrender. Speak to us now, Lord. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Ice Breaker

What is one thing you were really looking forward to this week, and did it live up to your expectations?

Key Verses

- Matthew 24:37-39
- Revelation 5:3-10
- Isaiah 11:1-2
- Philippians 2:9
- Psalms 95:6
- Acts 10:42
- Revelation 1:17
- 2 Corinthians 5:17

- 1 Peter 2:10

Questions

- In Matthew 24, Jesus says the days before His return will look like the days of Noah, with people going about normal life. How does that description compare to what you see in the world around you today?
- The sermon described the Great Tribulation as a period of intense suffering and destruction. How does understanding what the Tribulation will be like motivate you in your faith and in sharing the gospel with others?
- Revelation 5 reveals that only Jesus is worthy to open the scroll and launch the Tribulation. What does it mean to you personally that Jesus, not the devil or any world leader, holds that authority?
- The pastor described the sevenfold Spirit of God from Isaiah 11:1-2, including wisdom, understanding, counsel, might, knowledge, and the fear of the Lord. Which of these attributes do you feel you most need in your life right now, and why?
- The sermon says that Jesus is worthy of the highest place of honor because He humbled Himself to the cross. How does reflecting on the sacrifice of the cross change the way you approach worship in your daily life?
- The pastor challenged the congregation by asking how full their gold bowls are, referring to the prayers of God's people in Revelation 5:8. How consistent is your prayer life, and what is one practical step you could take to deepen it?
- He alone is worthy to be bowed to. Are there areas of your life where you have been giving honor, trust, or devotion to something or someone other than Jesus? What would it look like to redirect that to Him?
- The sermon declares that Jesus alone has the power to change our identity, from broken to blessed, from nobody to somebody. How has your identity changed since you came to faith in Christ, and is there an area where you still struggle to believe that the old life is truly gone?

Life Application

This week, set aside intentional time each day to pray and fill your "gold bowl." Write down one area of your life where you have been relying on yourself, another person, or a circumstance for security or identity. Bring that area before Jesus in prayer, surrendering it to the One who alone is worthy. At the end of the week, reflect on how that surrender changed your perspective or your peace.

Key Takeaways

- Jesus alone is worthy to open the seven seals and launch the Great Tribulation. The devil has no authority to begin his own rebellion without Christ's permission.
- Life before the Rapture will look normal, much like the days of Noah, which is a key reason to be spiritually prepared and to share the gospel urgently.
- Jesus is worthy of the highest place of honor in our lives because He humbled Himself to die on the cross, and God has therefore elevated Him above all names and all things.
- Prayer is not passive. The gold bowls in Revelation 5 are filled with the prayers of God's people, reminding us that our prayer life has eternal significance.
- Only Jesus has the power to change our identity. Through Him, we go from broken to blessed, from nobody to somebody, and from slaves to sons and daughters of God.

Ending Prayer

Lord Jesus, we thank You that You alone are worthy. Worthy to open the scroll, worthy of the highest honor, worthy of every knee that bows, and worthy to transform who we are from the inside out. As we leave this time together, remind us throughout the week that our identity is not found in what we have done or what has been done to us, but in what You did on the cross. Help us to pray with boldness, to worship with full hearts, and to live as people who truly believe that the old life is gone and the new life is here. We trust You with our future, with the times we live in, and with every detail of our lives. You are worthy of it all. In Your mighty name we pray, Amen.