

Sermon Notes

The Church is a Force

Revelation 5: 1-12 (ESV) Then I saw in the right hand of him who was seated on the throne a scroll written within and on the back, sealed with seven seals. ²And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, "Who is worthy to open the scroll and break its seals?" ³And no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll or to look into it, ⁴and I began to weep loudly because no one was found worthy to open the scroll or to look into it. ⁵And one of the elders said to me, "Weep no more; behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals."

⁶And between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders I saw a Lamb standing as though it had been slain, with seven horns and with seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. ⁷And he went and took the scroll from the right hand of him who was seated on the throne. ⁸And when he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each holding a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. ⁹And they sang a new song, saying,

"Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and (*every*) language and (*every*) people and (*every*) nation, ¹⁰and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth."

¹¹Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, ¹²saying with a loud voice, "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!"

Luke 4:1 (NIV) "Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness where for 40 days He was tempted by the Devil"

Interview with Ben Goodman: Asia Underground Church Multiplication

Discussion Questions

- 1) What impacted you the most from this week's message? Encouraged you? Challenged you?
- 2) Read Revelation 5:1-12. How confident are you that a representative of "EVERY" will be ransomed by Jesus? How responsible should a person (or church) feel when it comes to reaching "EVERY" with the Good News of Jesus? What's your personal part to play?
- 3) How did Ben Goodman's stories of what God is doing in Asia encourage you? How often does the idea of a 'persecuted church' cross your mind?
- 4) Have you thought or prayed about this year's ROC Offering? What would it look like for you to step out in faith with this offering?