

Jesus, the King of the Nations (Rev. 5)

I. GOD GAVE THE DOMINION OF THE EARTH TO THE HUMAN RACE

- A. God gave the dominion (authority) of the earth to Adam as a representative of the human race as an eternal stewardship. To reverse this decision would be injustice and failure to keep His word.

²⁸*God said to them, "...Have dominion over...every living thing that moves on the earth." (Gen. 1:28)*

- B. By sinning, Adam forfeited his authority over the earth to Satan (Lk. 4:6). Then Satan became the god of this world (2 Cor. 4:4). Jesus, as a Man, called the last Adam (1 Cor. 15:45), came to earth to win the dominion of the earth back from Satan.

⁵*The devil...showed Him all the kingdoms of the world...⁶and said..., "All this authority I will give You...for this has been delivered to me, and I give it to whomever I wish." (Lk. 4:5-6)*

⁴*Whose minds the god of this age [Satan] has blinded, who do not believe. (2 Cor. 4:4)*

- C. Daniel saw a vision of God as the Ancient of Days giving one Man authority over all the nations.

¹³*One like the Son of Man...came to the Ancient of Days...¹⁴To Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all...nations, and languages should serve Him. (Dan. 7:13-14)*

- D. The Father decreed that Jesus, the son of David, be given all nations as His inheritance. This includes all their governments, property, money, resources, and possessions on earth.

⁸*I [the Father] will give You the nations for Your inheritance... (Ps. 2:8)*

²*Whom He [the Father] has appointed heir of all things... (Heb. 1:2)*

- E. Jesus, as a Man, will be recognized by all on earth as the king over all the earth.

⁹*And the LORD shall be King over all the earth. (Zech. 14:9)*

¹⁶*On His robe...a name written: KING OF KINGS... (Rev. 19:16)*

- F. Jesus will take over all the nations *only* on the basis of truth, humility, and righteousness (Ps. 45:4; Isa. 11:3-5; 42:1-4). He will dispense the resources with wisdom, justice, and generosity to cause love to increase. Jesus alone is our assurance that love will never diminish on the earth.

⁴*In your majesty ride forth victoriously in behalf of truth, humility and righteousness... (Ps. 45:4, NIV)*

- G. The Father promised to make Jesus preeminent in all things and determined that all things were created for Jesus' glory and would be under His leadership.

¹⁸*He is the head of the Body...that in all things He may have the preeminence. (Col. 1:18)*

¹⁶*All things were created through Him and for Him. (Col. 1:16)*

II. THE GRAND DRAMA IN HEAVEN: JESUS RECEIVES THE SCROLL (REV. 5:7)

A. Revelation 5 is one of the grand chapters in Scripture that magnify Jesus. We see Jesus' eternal destiny on the earth as a Man. John recorded his vision of the Father giving the title deed of the earth to Jesus (Rev. 5:1-8), resulting in Jesus receiving total authority over all of society in the Millennium. He will own all the property, money, natural resources, oil, etc. of the whole earth.

¹I saw in the right hand of Him [the Father] who sat on the throne a scroll...sealed with seven seals. ²I saw a strong angel proclaiming..., "Who is worthy to open the scroll and to loose its seals?"...⁵One of the elders said, "...The Lion of the tribe of Judah...has prevailed to open the scroll and to loose its seven seals."⁶In the midst of the throne...stood a Lamb as though...slain. ⁷He took the scroll out of the right hand of Him...on the throne. (Rev. 5:1-7)

1. **The scroll** (v. 1) speaks of the title deed of the earth and God's plan to cleanse the earth of evil (Rev. 6-19) and to replace all its national governments (Rev. 20:4-6). By taking the scroll (v. 7), Jesus accepts the responsibility of cleansing and ruling the earth forever.
2. **Loosing seven seals** (v. 5) means that Jesus will release the judgments described in the book of Revelation (Rev. 6-19) so as to cleanse the earth of unrighteousness.
3. **Who is worthy?** An angel asks what man is deserving and able to own and cleanse the earth and lead it? Jesus prevailed over Satan by His obedience, death, and resurrection.
4. **Lion and Lamb:** John saw a Jewish Man from the tribe of Judah (v. 5) who had the boldness of a roaring lion and yet the meekness of a slain Lamb (v. 6).

B. The living creatures (angelic) and the elders (human) represent the government of heaven. They expressed their agreement with the Father's decree to give the leadership of the earth to Jesus.

⁸When He [Jesus] had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb...⁹They sang a new song, saying: "You are worthy to take the scroll, and to open its seals [release God's judgments]; for You were slain, and have redeemed us to God [You proved Your leadership and love] by Your blood out of every tribe...and nation,¹⁰ and have made us kings and priests to God; and we shall reign on the earth." (Rev. 5:8-10)

C. **You were slain:** Jesus proved His worthiness to rule over all in that when He possessed all the privileges of God in His pre-existent glory, He laid them down by becoming human (forever) and dying to pay for our sin. He took upon Himself the wrath of God to cleanse His people and the earth from sin and included the saints in His earthly reign because of His love and humility.

D. **You are worthy:** We declare Jesus' incredible worth in three practical ways:

1. **Jesus deserves it:** He is worthy of **continual praise** as the **supreme leader** over the earth.
2. **Jesus is capable:** He is the only man with the **supernatural ability** to drive evil off the earth, restore all things to God's original plan, replace all governments, and fill the earth with glory.
3. **Jesus is worth it:** He is worth giving our **unqualified trust** and **sacrificial obedience** to.

- E. The Father gave Jesus an unprecedented measure of favor in seven spheres of leadership over the earth. Jesus “receives” this from the Father and the response of people on the millennial earth.
¹¹The voice of many angels...¹²saying..., “Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom, and strength and honor and glory and blessing.” (Rev. 5:11-12)
- F. During the Millennium, Jesus will receive all the **power** (governmental authority); **riches** (money and natural resources); **wisdom** (insight and intellectual property); **strength** (physical strength, including the labor force and human resources); **glory** (praise and love); **honor** (all will esteem Him with their obedience); and **blessing** (agreement with His policies with unified cooperation).
- G. **Power** (political/spiritual): Jesus will receive the governmental authority and leadership over all nations. He will replace all evil leadership with new leaders and laws in every sphere of society (politics, economy, education, agriculture, media, technology, environment, social institutions, etc). Jesus has all spiritual power to release the power of the Spirit in the midst of His work.
- H. **Riches** (financial): All the money and natural resources on earth will be under Jesus’ leadership.
- I. **Wisdom** (intellectual): Jesus has all wisdom and will bring every sphere of life to the fullness of the Father’s original intention. He will have leadership over all the intellectual property forever.
- J. **Strength** (physical resources): All the strength, including the labor force, human resources and influence of all nations, will be submitted to Him and serve His plans to establish love on earth. The nations will gladly offer the fruit of their strength to Him. They will love Jesus with all their strength and resources, including their time, money, energy, and influence (Mk. 12:30).
- K. **Glory** (relational): All the people on earth will glory in Jesus by giving their love, adulation, and praise to Him with great delight. He will be the magnificent obsession of all the nations. He will be preeminent in their minds, affections, and conversations. The fame of His name will cover the earth. The saints will boast, or glory, in His leadership as Paul gloried in Christ (Phil. 3:3, NIV). Children glory in their father (Prov. 17:6) and God’s people glory in His name (Ps. 105:3; 43:4).
- L. **Honor** (by obedience): All will honor Jesus with their obedience in practical ways. To honor in this sense is to obey and serve His agenda. Paul speaks of honoring parents with respectful obedience (Eph 6:1-2). Jesus will be the most obeyed, respected, and listened to person on earth.
- M. **Blessing** (cooperation): All will bless, agree with, Jesus’ policies and plans and fully cooperate with His leadership in every sphere of life. Such enthusiastic cooperation will result in the most unified and joyful work force in history. Jesus is the most blessed Man (Ps. 45:2; 72:17; 138:4)
- N. **Summary**: Jesus will be the most powerful, wealthy, wise, loved, supported, praised, obeyed, respected, listened to, and talked about Man on earth. He will be seen as having all dominion over the land, people, money, governments, human resources, angels, etc.

III. RESPONDING TO JESUS' EXALTATION (REV. 5:12): THREE APPLICATIONS

- A. ***Three applications:*** To see His beauty, commit to His leadership, intercede for its full release.
- B. ***To see His beauty:*** All nations will openly see Jesus' beauty in the Millennium as He rules all the nations. However, we can see His beauty now as we understand His majesty and destiny.
¹⁷*Your eyes will see the King in His beauty... (Isa. 33:17)*
²*In that day the Branch of the Lord [Jesus] shall be beautiful and glorious. (Isa. 4:2)*
- C. ***To commit to His leadership:*** We regularly recommit to Jesus' leadership in our personal lives that He may freely receive allegiance from us in all that we have related to *power* (authority); *riches* (money); *wisdom* (intellectual ability); *strength* (resources); *glory* (love); *honor* (obedience); and *blessing* (agreement with His plan with unified cooperation in His kingdom).
- D. ***To work to establish His kingdom:*** We diligently partner with Jesus in our work, which includes our prayer, labors, and giving for the partial release of His inheritance now. The Father called Jesus to intercede for the release of His inheritance in the nations (Ps. 2:8). In the Millennium, Jesus will continue to intercede for His possession, which includes the transformation of nations.
⁸*Ask of Me, I will give You the nations for Your inheritance...for Your possession. (Ps. 2:8)*
¹⁰*Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. (Mt. 6:10)*
- E. ***Ruling by prayer:*** The Father commissioned Jesus to rule *in the midst of His enemies* in this age. Jesus rules at His Father's right hand *by releasing the rod of His strength through an obedient praying Church*. Jesus will release in part now what He will release in fullness after He returns.
¹*The LORD [the Father] said to my Lord [Jesus], "Sit at My right hand [in heaven], till I make Your enemies Your footstool [on earth]."* ²*The LORD [the Father] shall send the rod of Your [Jesus'] strength out of Zion. Rule in the midst of Your enemies! (Ps. 110:1-2)*

IV. END-TIME PERSPECTIVE: HISTORIC PREMILLENNIALISM

- A. IHOP–KC holds to the ***historic premillennial*** view of the end times with a post-tribulation rapture and emphasis on a victorious, praying Church (Eph. 5:27; Rev. 19:7; 22:17). The Church will be victorious in love with power during the most dramatic time in history. This view gives us confidence and urgency to *dynamically participate* with Jesus now and in the coming revival.
- B. ***Premise:*** The power and promises of God will be released in *fullness* in the Millennium, yet are still released *in part* in this age, and in greater measure as we get closer to Jesus' return.
¹⁴*For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea. (Hab. 2:14)*
²¹*Truly, as I live, all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the LORD... (Num. 14:21)*

V. PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS OF JESUS' EXALTATION IN OUR PERSONAL LIFE

- A. ***Power*** (political/spiritual): Jesus will have authority over all the leadership in all society
1. ***Seeing His beauty***: Seeing the vastness of His power makes us worship and trust Him
 2. ***Committing to His leadership***: Submitting whatever authority we may have in society to Him
 3. ***Working for His kingdom***: Working for His will in government and society in my city/nation
 4. ***Intercessory degrees***: Praying for righteousness to replace unrighteousness in my city/nation
- B. ***Riches*** (financial): All the money and natural resources on earth will be under Jesus' leadership.
1. ***Seeing His beauty***: Seeing the vastness of His wealth makes us worship and trust Him
 2. ***Committing to His leadership***: Submitting all our finances to Him to build His kingdom
 3. ***Working for His kingdom***: Working for kingdom prosperity to fund His kingdom
 4. ***Intercessory degrees***: Praying for God's favor on finances (our personal life/for others)
- C. ***Wisdom*** (intellectual): Jesus has the wisdom to bring all things to the fullness of God's plan
1. ***Seeing His beauty***: Seeing the vastness of His wisdom makes us worship and trust Him
 2. ***Committing to His leadership***: Seeking His wisdom and submitting the good fruit to Him
 3. ***Working for His kingdom***: Seeking for and implementing His wisdom in my life
 4. ***Intercessory degrees***: Praying to be filled with His wisdom (our personal life/for others)
- D. ***Strength*** (physical resources): All the labor force, human resources and influence will serve Him
1. ***Seeing His beauty***: Seeing the vast strength under His authority makes us look more to Him
 2. ***Committing to His leadership***: Submitting whatever our strength or resources are back to Him
 3. ***Working for His kingdom***: Working to increase the kingdom resources that He entrusted to us
 4. ***Intercessory degrees***: Praying for God's favor on our strength (our personal life/for others)
- E. ***Glory*** (relational): All nations will glory in Jesus by giving their love and praise to Him
1. ***Seeing His beauty***: Seeing love for Him increasing in the nations moves our heart
 2. ***Committing to His leadership***: Committing to the first commandment being first in our life
 3. ***Working for His kingdom***: Working to see others walk in the first commandment
 4. ***Intercessory degrees***: Praying for the harvest and that love for Jesus would abound
- F. ***Honor*** (by obedience): All people will honor Jesus by their obedience in the Millennium
1. ***Seeing His beauty***: Seeing loyal obedience to Jesus increase moves us to marvel at Him
 2. ***Committing to His leadership***: Submitting every area of our life to Him in obedience
 3. ***Working for His kingdom***: Working to make disciples who will walk in full obedience to Him
 4. ***Intercessory degrees***: Praying for the harvest and for obedience to Jesus to increase
- G. ***Blessing*** (cooperation): All will agree with Jesus' plans and fully cooperate with His leadership
1. ***Seeing His beauty***: Seeing the unified work in others causes us to rejoice in His leadership
 2. ***Committing to His leadership***: We will bless and not resist His work in the lives of others
 3. ***Working for His kingdom***: Working with a servant spirit and honor without a divisive spirit
 4. ***Intercessory degrees***: Praying for unity to abound in the kingdom and for understanding of God's heart for others, that we may bless them, without a competitive spirit (Rom. 12:10, 14)

