He Wears A Victor's Crown Part-3

<u>Imagine Your New Identity – It's Already Been Done!</u>

The Apostle John received the <u>Book of Revelation of Jesus Christ</u>. Let's begin today with **Rev. 1:4-6**. **V. 4** "The seven-fold Spirit" is Holy Spirit. **TPT note** on **v. 5**, "As the **Prophet**, Jesus is the Faithful Witness who only speaks the Father's words. As the **High Priest**, Jesus is the Firstborn from the dead, and as the **King**, Jesus is the Ruler of the kings of the earth."

V. 6 TPT note: "Or "a kingdom of priests" or "kings and priests." We have the nature of both a king and a priest embedded within us in Christ. Christ is the one who "made us" into this holy order and union. It is already done."

John's Dilemma – The Unopened Scroll

Crowns are given to conquerors. "To the Victor belongs the spoils!" Let's read in Rev. 5 about John's Dilemma, "The Unopened Scroll". **Rev. 5:1-14 TPT. V. 6** "Horns" in Scripture represent power & authority, and "seven" is the number of perfection. The Lamb who was slain now possesses perfect authority by which to reign to the ends of the earth!

Breaking open the Sealed Scroll

In Matt. 21, King Jesus rode into Jerusalem on the young colt of a donkey. It's much different in the Book of Revelation! **Rev. 6:1-2** "Then I watched as the Lamb broke open the first of the seven seals." [This allows for a part of the scroll to be read.] Immediately I heard one of the four living creatures call out with a powerful voice of revelation sounding like thunder, saying, "Come forth (or "Go forth")!" 2. So I looked, and behold, there was a bright white horse [an emblem of overcoming, invincible power in battle]. Its rider had a bow and was given a crown of victory. He rode out as a conqueror ready to conquer."

The rider is Jesus Christ, who is going forth with a bow **without** arrows, which speaks of conquering spiritually, not militarily. With authority and power, He rides out in order to conquer everything in us, His believers, that prevents His life from transforming us into His likeness. Remember, the <u>Book of Revelation</u> is a book filled with symbolism, even as Jesus taught mostly in parables while on this earth in human form.

Christ's Letter to the Church of Philadelphia, Rev. 3:10-12 TPT: "Because you've passionately kept My message of perseverance, I will also keep you from the hour of proving that is coming to test every person on earth. 11. But I come swiftly, so cling tightly to what you have, so that no one may seize your crown of victory. 12. For the one who is victorious, I will make you to be a pillar in the sanctuary of my God, permanently secure." TPT note: "The emblem of a pillar points to a sure and fixed position upholding and supporting the kingdom purposes of God."

Now let's look at our joint rulership with Christ in God. Rom. 5:15, 17 TPT "Now there is no comparison between Adam's transgression and the gracious gift that we experience. For the magnitude of the gift far outweighs the crime. It's true that many died because of one man's transgression, but how much greater will God's grace and His gracious gift of acceptance overflow (or "multiply" or "superabound") to many because of what one Man, Jesus, the Messiah, did for us!" 17. "Death once held us in its grip, and by the blunder of one man, death reigned as king over humanity. But now, much more are we held in the grip of grace and continue reigning as kings in life, enjoying our regal freedom through the gift of perfect righteousness (or "covenant membership") in the one and only Jesus, the Messiah!"

The Fear of Death – A Daunting Opponent

Heb. 2:14-15 TPT "Since all His "children" have flesh and blood, so Jesus became human to fully identify with us. He did this, so that He could experience death and annihilate the effects of the intimidating accuser

who holds against us the power ("dominion") of death. 15. By embracing death Jesus sets free those who live their entire lives in bondage (slavery) to the tormenting dread of death."

Luke 12:4-5 TPT: "Listen, My beloved friends, don't fear those who may want to take your life but nothing more. It's true that they may kill your body, but they have no power over your soul. 5. The One you must fear is God, for He has both the power to take your life and the authority to cast your soul into hell. Yes, the only one you need to fear is God."

VV. 6-7 TPT "What is the value of your soul to God? Could your worth be defined by an amount of money? God doesn't abandon or forget event the small sparrow He has made. How then could He forget or abandon you? What about the seemingly minor issues of your life? Do they matter to God? Of course they do! So you never need to worry, for you are more valuable to God than anything else in this world."

Let's allow the perfect love of God that casts out all fear and the discipline of the Holy Spirit work so deeply in us that we walk as kings and priests in this life, fearing no man, but having only the awesome reverence for God!