

“The Big Picture”
Revelation 5:1-14

~ READ TEXT ~

AS YOU SETTLE IN...

- Turn to the book of (Rev. 5:1-14)

~ LET'S PRAY ~

NOTE TAKERS...

- I've titled today's message: **“The Big Picture”**

~ INTRO ~

(Rev. 1:3) NLT

“God blesses the one who reads the words of this prophecy to the church, and he blesses all who listen to its message, and obey what it says, for the time is near.”

GANG...

- It's not 2019 anymore...

WE LIVE IN THE FINAL DAYS...

- Of world history!

AND THE BOOK OF REVELATION...

- Was given to the 1st Century Church...
 - While they were going thru persecution!
- This prophecy was meant to build them up...
 - In order to help them finish their race faithfully!

SO TOO...

- God blesses those who listen to it & obey the words of the message.

(Romans 13:11-14) NLT

TONIGHT...

- We get one last glimpse in heaven...
 - Before the Tribulation Period begins!

IN REVELATION CHAPTER #5...

“The Big Picture”
Revelation 5:1-14

- We see the church in heaven witnessing...
 - Jesus taking possession of the title deed to earth.

THE SCENE HERE...

- Is pictured in part back in (Dan. 7:13-14) NLT

THIS IS JESUS TAKING POSSESSION OF EARTH...

- Where He will set up His rule...
 - And wipe out all rebellion!

FOLLOW ALONG AS I READ...

- (Rev. 4:1-2) NLT & (Rev. 5:1-3) NLT

IDEA #1 – WHO CAN OPEN THE SCROLL:

(v.1)

THERE'S A SCROLL...

- In the Fathers hand.

SCHOLARS SAY...

- There were three documents in 1st Century Rome with seals:

- 1) Deeds to property
- 2) Marriage certificates
- 3) Wills for distributing an estate

WHEN JOHN WROTE...

- There was a Roman practice for a man to make a *Will*:
 - It required a total of seven people & seven seals...
 - 5-witnesses
 - 1-official
 - And 1-executor of the estate
 - Each would affix a seal to the document...
 - But only one the with authority could open it!

NOW (v.1) SAYS THIS SCROLL...

- Had writing on the inside & outside.
 - Inside would be the details of the contract.
 - Outside (the back) was a summary of the contract.

“The Big Picture”
Revelation 5:1-14

- The seven seals **deem the importance** of the contract.

(v.2)

“*Strong angel*” some say it was Gabriel...

- Whose name means – “*mighty one of God!*”

(v.3)

But no one was able to open the scroll...

JOHN WAS AWARE...

- Of all the **suffering** happening back **on earth**...
 - His friends were going thru **persecution**...
 - And no one was able to open the scroll & bring relief.

IDEA #2 – LOOK AGAIN:

(v.4)

JOHN IS *weeping*!

- This type of crying speaks of someone...
 - **Sobbing convulsively** in a state of **hopelessness!**

HAVE YOU EVER FELT LIKE THAT?

- Frustrated & powerless...
 - Questioning will this ever change?
 - AND why is God not doing anything for me?

I’VE FELT LIKE THIS...

- Way too many times in my life!
 - But we are to always come back to Jesus’ faithfulness!

SPEAKING PRACTICALLY...

- We need people in our lives that will tell us...
 - To stop acting foolish & get a new perspective!

CHURCH...

- God speaks thru the body of Christ & helps us avoid...
 - Destructive detours... (Prov. 18:1) NKJV

(v.5)

“The Big Picture”
Revelation 5:1-14

“*Stop weeping! Look...* ”

IDEA #3 – HEAVENLY WORSHIP:

(v.6) “*a lamb that looked slaughtered*”

(Isa 52:14) NLT

“*His face so disfigured He seemed hardly human...*”

In (John 20:24-29) Thomas touched Jesus wounds...
- After the resurrection!

POINT BEING:

JESUS WILL BEAR THE MARKS...

- Of the crucifixion for all of eternity!
 - A visual reminder of the price He paid for us!
 - AND no doubt... inspiring worship forever!

A FEW MAJESTIC FACTS:

(v.6(b))...

“*Seven horns*” = Perfect power – **omnipotent**

“*Seven eyes*” = All knowing – **omniscience**

“*Seven Spirits of God...*” = The **omnipresence** of God (all present)

(vv.7-8)

Harp = Lyre is an **antiquity version of a guitar** with seven strings...
- On a U-shaped device with a small body.

“*Golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints*”

GOD STORES UP OUR PRAYERS...

- So we should not lose heart in praying (Luke 18:1) NLT.
 - (1 Thess. 5:17) NLT never stop praying

(v.9)

First of three different groups of worshipers.

“The Big Picture”
Revelation 5:1-14

- AND the focus is on what Jesus has done!

“You were slaughtered, Your blood has ransomed [us] ...”

- 1) Twenty-four elders (vv.8-10)
- 2) Angels (vv.11-12)
- 3) Every creature in heaven, earth, and under the earth
(Luke 19:40) NLT
(Isa 55:12) NLT
(Ps. 150:6) NLT

(v.11-12)

Here the angels are added...

10,000 x 10,000 = **100 million** plus thousands of thousands... **innumerable!**

- (This was the highest Greek number at the time.)

(v.14)

THE FINAL PICTURE ...

- We have before judgment & tribulation begins...

➤ Is the church worshipping in heaven as the chapter closes!

APPLICATION:

Why does this all matter?

(Col. 1:21-23) NLT

~ LET'S PRAY ~