



The One Year Bible Club



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Revelation 5:1-14

The Lamb Takes the Scroll

5 And I saw in the right *hand* of Him who sat on the throne a scroll written inside and on the back, sealed with seven seals. ² Then I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, "Who is worthy to open the scroll and to loose its seals?" ³ And no one in heaven or on the earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll, or to look at it. ⁴ So I wept much, because no one was found worthy to open and read the scroll, or to look at it. ⁵ But one of the elders said to me, "Do not weep. Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has prevailed to open the scroll and to loose its seven seals." ⁶ And I looked, and behold, in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as though it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent out into all the earth. ⁷ Then He came and took the scroll out of the right hand of Him who sat on the throne.

Worthy Is the Lamb

⁸ Now when He had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each having a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. ⁹ And they sang a new song, saying:

“You are worthy to take the scroll, and to open its seals; for You were slain, and have redeemed us to God by Your blood out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation, ¹⁰ And have made us kings and priests to our God; and we shall reign on the earth.” ¹¹ Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne, the living creatures, and the elders; and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands, ¹² saying with a loud voice: “Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom, and strength and honor and glory and blessing!”

¹³ And every creature which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, I heard saying: “Blessing and honor and glory and power be to Him who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb, forever and ever!” ¹⁴ Then the four living creatures said, “Amen!” And the twenty-four elders fell down and worshiped Him who lives forever and ever.

OKAY, HERE'S MY TEACHING COMMENTARY

This is a truly amazing revelation about the unique place of Jesus Christ and the plan of redemption. Just think about this with me for a minute. The apostle John saw a Lamb that had been slain referring to the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The lamb had the authority to approach God the father and take the book out of his hand and was granted the power remove it seals. It's my opinion that Jesus would not have had the authority to do this before he came to earth and died on the cross pouring out his holy blood for the redemption of humanity. John observes the four living creatures and the 24 elders falling down to worship before the lamb but this time they have golden bowls that they offer up releasing the prayers of the saints that have been stored up through the ages and now are suddenly, all at once, released as a gigantic tsunami of unified prayer in faith that ascend to the Father on the throne.

What does this mean? I believe that it reveals to us that for the advance of the prophetic purposes of God he has chosen to use the combined effort of the lamb's holy blood and the prayers of his people. There is a prophetic time-clock ticking and Jesus has already fulfilled his predestined role as the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. This is what John the Baptist said about Jesus when he saw him approaching the Jordan River where he was baptizing:

John 1:29 The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!"

But we need to remember, that this is the revelation of a future prophetic event yet to be fulfilled. The Father has already determined that Jesus Christ will be King of Kings and Lord of Lords and he will reign over this earth. To make all this happen God has chosen to use the prayers of his people. Remember what Jesus taught us to pray? Your kingdom come your will be done on earth as it is in heaven? I believe that the abundance of prayers that have been lifted up before the throne of God are somehow part of what God uses to bring forth the events that literally bring the kingdom of heaven to earth which is in no uncertain terms prophesied in the book of Revelation.

With this understanding we have an eternal perspective of how each of us contributes to the coming kingdom of God. Our prayers are being stored up at the right time altogether will be used as a sea of petitions coming before the throne of God for his kingdom to come and this is a prayer that the Father is going to answer!

Don't get me wrong, I also believe that the kingdom of God is happening right now on earth through the work of the Holy Spirit in the hearts and lives of the people of God because Jesus said that the kingdom of God is within you and the apostle Paul said the kingdom of God is righteousness peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

WHAT'S THE BOTTOM LINE?

- 1) If Jesus did not redeem us from sin through his blood he would not have the authority to open the book of God's prophetic purposes and loose it's seals.
- 2) Jesus did die on the cross and rise again as the Lamb of God.
- 3) The Lord has chosen to use the prayers of his people to advance his prophetic purposes.
- 4) Understanding that God uses our prayers to bring his kingdom to earth should keep us in an attitude of prayer and faith knowing that as we pray the Lords or disciples prayer we are not praying in vain. Ref; Matthew 6:9-12
- 5) The kingdom of God is both now in a spiritual sense and to come outwardly at the return of Jesus Christ as Kings of Kings and Lord of lords.
- 6) Now it's closer to the time that these prophetic events will be realized, so keep praying, watching and ready to meet the Lord at his coming again.

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