



The Book of Revelation - Session #18 The Opening of the Scroll

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Revelation Chapter 6

As we continue to go through the book of Revelation, we want to get a picture that this book lets us know that **God is in complete control of the future:**

John 5:1 “I saw in the right hand of Him who sat on the throne a book written inside and on the back, sealed up with seven seals.”

Chapter 5 begins by drawing our attention to a book, but it was actually a scroll with seven seals on it.

Many Scholars agree the Johns audience of this time would have known this scroll was a deed of ownership.

One thing we need to remember as we go through this book, it was written with the people of John’s time in mind. What they would have known when they read it book.

That doesn’t mean we can’t understand it, but we will have to do some homework to do so.

If you can get an understanding of anything else get an understanding of chapters 1-5.

Probably this was the title deed of the earth that Adam transferred over to satan when he rebelled against God by disobeying Him.

This scroll not only contained ownership, but it also describes the things which are to come as well.

Revelation 5:2-3 Then I saw a strong angel Proclaiming with a loud voice, “Who is worthy to open the scroll and to loose its seals?”

Who has the qualifications to take ownership of the scroll and what the scroll contains.

Father God has the scroll, but because the scroll is the title deed to the earth. It must be a man who opens the book/scroll, to take ownership of the earth because in **Psalms 115:16 ...But the earth He has given to the children of men.**

According to God himself, (in His Word), only a man can take this level of possession of the earth and God will never go against His word.

This level of possession of the earth was originally given to Adam.

We know Adam lost his right to control the earth when he gave in to the temptation of Satan.



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Therefore, satan was given control over the earth. The problem was, the earth was not made for satan to control, but it was renewed for mankind to control.

But not just any man, one who is in the likeness of God, Holy and righteous as He is.

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.

One of the reasons that John wept was because he knew that the scroll contains the title deed of the earth which is the inheritance of all the saints.

Mankind is God's main inheritance. But the physical realm, the Earth and the universe is the inheritance of the Saints.

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 (Qualified) to open the scroll and to loose its seven seals."

This verse is describing none other than Jesus Christ. "At the cross He defeated sin (**Rom. 8:3**), death (**Heb. 2:14-15**), and all the forces of hell (**Col. 2:15; 1Pe. 3:19**).

Jesus didn't defeat Satan and his forces just so He could inherit the earth (*As God, He owns it all*), but he did as the son of man, so we would have a right to inherit it with Him as well.

Revelation 5:6-7 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...

This is how Jesus (the Lion of the tribe of Judah) qualified to open the scroll, by becoming the sacrificial Lamb that took away the sins of the earth.

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.

Revelation Chapter 6

This gets us to chapter 6, and we see Jesus Christ breaking open the seals of the scroll one by one.

Remember this scroll is in the hand of Jesus and everything is under His control. Nothing happens here on the earth and in Heaven that is not in the control of His hand.

I believe that for the most part that the book of Revelation is written in chronological order. The breaking of the first 6 seals is Jesus chastisement for those on the earth that would not repent during the dispensation of grace and long-suffering of God.

Because they would not overcome and repent, now Jesus is going to have to revert this level of chastisement, to bring as many who are called by God to receive salvation and make Jesus Lord and Savior.



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1 Corinthians 11:32 But when we are judged, we are chastened by the Lord, that we may not be condemned with the world.

Greek word for condemned is “Kata” To pronounce sentence against, condemn, adjudge guilty.

I believe the opening of these six seals is Christ driving mankind back to him. Those that He had called but has not responded positively to his calling. So, they can escape the wrath of God and the wrath of satan that is to come.

This is what Jesus told the church of the Laodiceans, **Revelation 3:19 As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore, be zealous and repent.**

The chastisement of Jesus is not Him doing bad things to us. It is Him allowing people to reap a fuller measure of what they have sown.

Jeremiah 2:17-19 And you have brought this upon yourselves by rebelling against the Lord your God, even though he was leading you on the way! 18 "What have you gained by your alliances with Egypt and your covenants with Assyria? What good to you are the streams of the Nile or the waters of the Euphrates River? 19 Your wickedness will bring its own punishment. Your turning from me will shame you. You will see what an evil, bitter thing it is to abandon the Lord your God and not to fear him. I, the Lord, the Lord of Heaven's Armies, have spoken!

Galatians 6:7 Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.

Numbers 32:23 But if you do not do so, then take note, you have sinned against the Lord; and be sure your sin will find you out.

This is what I believe is happening in the first 6 seals. God is allowing a greater penalty for sin to manifest on the earth, not for destruction, but to wake people up for salvation.

We need to understand that the bible gives very clear requirement about going in the rapture before the tribulation period.

First Seal: The Conqueror

6:1 Now I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals; and I heard one of the four living creatures saying with a voice like thunder, "Come and see."

One thing I want to note, it seems that these living creature around the throne of God is part of God's interdimensional inner circle. They are called Seraphim. They are very close to God.

This being is telling John to “come and see” what is happening on the earth after the rapture.

2 And I looked, and behold, a white horse. He who sat on it had a bow; and a crown was given to him, and he went out conquering and to conquer.



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John sees a person riding a “white horse” which is the anti-christ portraying to be the savior for the world.

Jesus is seen riding a white Horse in Revelation 19 as well. Some think that this rider on the White Horse is Jesus Christ, but he is not.

The horse was considered a war machine in biblical times. “White” symbolizes righteousness and holiness.

I believe he will establish many ways that seem right but will ultimately lead to destruction.

Proverbs 14:12 There is a way that seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death.

Matthew 7:13-14 "Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it.

The world is offering so many ways today that they claim will offer peace and the solution to life's problems. From A.I., to mind altering drugs, to religion. I believe satan through the antichrist will be able to put it all together and offer mankind what seems to be a complete package without Jesus Christ as the only way.

He's just one who tries to imitate Jesus Christ in deceiving many to worship him. Jesus said in Mathew 24, this is the first sign that people should watch for at the time of the end.

Matthew 24:3-5 Now as He sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, "Tell us, when will these things be? And what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?" 4 And Jesus answered and said to them: "Take heed that no one deceives you. 5 For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will deceive many.

At first, I believe, what he will use to conquer will be through deceit. Making people think he is for them when his goal really is to destroy as many lives as he can.

Daniel 8:23-25 (NLT) "At the end of their rule, when their sin is at its height, a fierce king, a master of intrigue, will rise to power. 24 He will become very strong, but not by his own power.

Satan will be the one who is empowering the antichrist.

According to the Bible, this seven-year period called the Tribulation will be basically divided into two halves. In the first half, Antichrist appears to be the great benefactor and protector and friend of Israel, (Remember most of prophecy is centered around Israel).

In the middle of that seven-year period he will turn against the people of Israel and begin desolating it severely and that's why Jesus called the second half “the great tribulation,” the likes of which has never been since the beginning of the world or ever will be again.

Daniel 8:24...He will cause a shocking amount of destruction and succeed in everything he does. He will destroy powerful leaders and devastate the holy people. 25 He will be a master of deception and will become arrogant; he will destroy many without warning.



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He will even take on the Prince of princes in battle, but he will be broken, though not by human power.

He will be so arrogant that he will even try to fight Jesus Christ. But Jesus will defeat him by the supernatural power of His strength, the Word of God.

If we compare this person riding on the White Horse to Jesus Christ, who is mentioned in Revelation chapter #19, we will see that there are some significant differences.

1. The company he keeps. The other three horseman who ride in with him are not for the good, but for death and destruction.

The company Jesus has when He comes back are an army robed in white to rule and reign with Him. Born-again believers.

Revelation 19:14 And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses.

2. He has a victor's crown "Stephanos" given to him, this means he didn't earn it. It will be given to him by satan himself so satan can rule through him.

I believe that he will come on the scene quickly. He will probably be brilliant and accomplish many things here on the Earth. He will probably be a man who is very charismatic. And have many talents. We know after he is on the scene that he will be able to work miracles. With all this going for him. He will be celebrated by the masses.

When Jesus comes back to the earth, He will have many crowns that He has earned through His life, death, burial, resurrection, and ascension.

When Jesus comes back, He may not be celebrated by the masses. We read in the book of **Zachariah 14:16** that Jesus will have to threaten to get people to obey some of the laws and principles that He will have to put in place so peace will be on the earth and the Kingdom from heaven will be established.

Zechariah 14:16-19 And it shall come to pass that everyone who is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall go up from year to year to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, and to keep the Feast of Tabernacles. 17 And it shall be that whichever of the families of the earth do not come up to Jerusalem to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, on them there will be no rain. 18 If the family of Egypt will not come up and enter in, they shall have no rain; they shall receive the plague with which the Lord strikes the nations who do not come up to keep the Feast of Tabernacles. 19 This shall be the punishment of Egypt and the punishment of all the nations that do not come up to keep the Feast of Tabernacles.

3. He has a bow in his hand. The bow could symbolize that he has access to great military strength but because no arrows are mentioned, he chooses another avenue to conquer and that is peace through deceit.

The bow also could mean that he establishes a covenant agreement in his hand between Israel and her enemies which he will break mid-way through the tribulation period.



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When Jesus comes on the scene, He has a sword in His mouth which is the Word of God. That will be all He will need to execute judgement and establish peace.

Characteristics

- An intellectual genius Dan 7:20; 8:23; Eze 28:3
- An persuasive orator Dan 7:20; Rev 13:2
- A shrewd politician Dan 11:21; Dan 8:25;
- A financial genius Rev 13:17; Ezek 28:4, 5;
Ps 52:7; Dan 11:38, 43;
- A forceful military leader Dan 8:24; Rev 6:2; Rev
13:4; Isa 4:16
- A powerful organizer Rev 13:1,2; 17:17
- A unifying religious guru 2 Thess 2:4; Rev 13:3, 14,
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