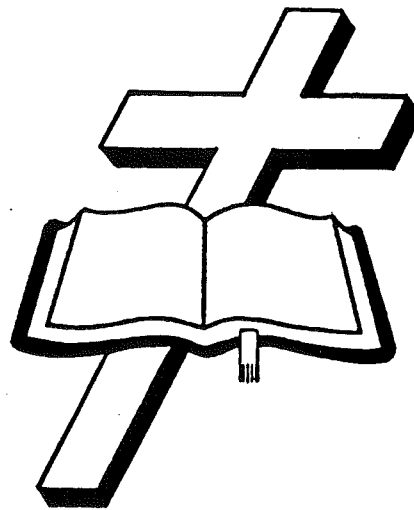


THOU ART WORTHY

(The Foundation Of All Our Life And Our Worship)
Revelation 5:1-14



“WEEP NOT”

- ◆ The Problem
- ◆ The Person
- ◆ The Praise

“Thou art worthy...for thou wast slain and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people and nation” (Revelation 5:9)

Bill Kirk

“THOU ART WORTHY”

Text: Revelation 5:1-14
Subject: “The Foundation Of A Heart Full Of Worship”

Introduction

Fact: In Revelation 1:19, Jesus told John to write down three things:

- #1. What you’ve seen. (In chapter 1 - Jesus in His glory)
- #2. The things which are. (In chapters 2 & 3 - The condition of the 7 churches)
- #3. The things which shall be hereafter. (Chapters 4-22)

Fact: Chapters 4 and 5 are one in sequence (and there should be no break between the two).

Fact: Both chapters reveal the throne of God (and)

Fact: It is a picture of the church age having run its course (and then it happens in chapter 4:1)

“After this I looked, and behold a door was opened in heaven; and the first voice which I heard was as it were of a trumpet talking with me; which said, Come up hither”

Question: What is John seeing from Jesus?

- #1. Heaven will open its door.
- #2. There will be a voice calling and a trumpet sound.
- #3. The believers will be caught up to heaven.
- #4. God’s judgment upon earth will begin.

(In Other Words)

“Come up hither” is literally going to happen!

◆ A whole generation of believers will be raptured to heaven without dying physically.

(In Other Words)

- #1. We’ll be with Jesus for 7 years while the earth goes through tribulation.
- #2. We’ll enjoy the Marriage Supper of the Lamb and receive rewards at the Judgment Seat of Christ.
- #3. After 7 years, we will come back to reign with Christ on earth for 1,000 years.
- #4. We will then enter the New Jerusalem wherein dwells righteousness (and we’ll live with Jesus forever and forever).

(Remember Saints)

- ◆ The church is mentioned 19 times in Revelation, chapters 1-3, but is not mentioned even once as being on earth from chapters 4-19.
- ◆ And, it is in chapters 4-19 where God reveals His outpouring of wrath in great detail.
- ◆ Chapter 4 deals with the throne of God.
- ◆ Chapter 5 deals with the seals of God (or the book of destiny).
- ◆ And just before chapters 6 to 19 reveal the greatest judgments ever to fall on God’s creation, (an awesome scene unfolds in heaven)
- ◆ And this scene (or event) is described in Revelation 5.

Fact: It is a scene that will melt your heart.

Fact: It is a scene that will move you inside.

Fact: It is a scene that will encourage you in prayer.

Fact: It is a scene that will reveal true worship.

Fact: It is a scene that will prepare us for communion.

Fact: It is a scene that will remove and clear a guilty conscience.

(3 Secrets Surrounding The Weeping Of John)

I. The Problem Revealed By Tears (Vs. 1-4)

◆ In Revelation 5:1, John sees something in heaven:

Question: Pastor, what does John see that makes him cry?

Answer: John sees something that is soon to happen:
(One of the first events after the Rapture of the Church)

◆ In v. 1, John sees God the Father holding a sealed book in His right hand.

Question: What is the book?

Answer: The book (or scroll) is the official document of the last days of human history.

◆ The book reveals what will happen during the seven years of travail.

◆ And, John reveals the dramatic search for someone worthy to open the scroll (and set in motion the events to occur).

In v. 2, "Who is worthy to open the book and loose the seals thereof?"

In v. 3, no one was found worthy to open the book.

Question: Pastor, what is this book or scroll or document of events about to transpire?

Answer: It is the last will and testament of God.

Question: Why does the book or scroll have 7 seals?

Answer: Because in the Roman world a man's will had to be witnessed by seven persons.

◆ Each person had to attach his own personal seal to one of the threads of the document.

◆ The seven seals here show us that the book is large.

Question: Why was the scroll sealed?

Answer: To prevent unauthorized persons from tampering with its contents.

◆ Only a worthy person (with proper authority) had legal access to the message in the scroll.

(Understand what John sees here)

◆ The scroll represents man's original inheritance forfeited over to satan by sin.

◆ Adam and Eve were given dominion over earth by God.

◆ Yet, Adam yielded to sin and forfeited his dominion over to satan. (In Other Words)

◆ Earth rightly belongs to Adam's race.

◆ But because of sin, none of Adams descendants are qualified to pay the redemption price of the world. (In Other Words)

◆ Someone must be found if mankind is to escape eternal loss.

◆ Someone worthy (and without sin) must be found to make restitution for us.

(And John Hears An Angel Ask A Question)

(V. 2) "Who is worthy to open the book and to loose the seven seals?" (or)

"Is there anyone worthy (sinless) who can take over the destiny of the world?"

Question: What does John discover in v. 3?

Answer: That no man or angel was worthy to approach God, open the book and carry out the events of human history.

◆ Every human and angel fell short.

◆ Not one human (or one angel) could buy back what was in the book.

Question: How did John respond to what he saw?

Answer: In (v. 4), he weeps bitter tears!

(Why The Tears?)

◆ John's tears represent the tears of God's people.

◆ Tears from Adam and Eve when Abel died.

◆ Tears from Israel in slavery to bondage.

◆ Tears from your heart because of heartache and disappointment and the consequences of sin.

Question: Why is John crying?

Answer: Because if no redeemer can be found, then the curse is not removed, and creation is forever to remain in the hands of satan!

II. The Person With The Answer (Vs. 5-8)

Question: What does John hear while he is broken in tears?

Answer: (V. 5) "And one of the elders said, weep not, behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the root of David hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof".

(Remember)

- ◆ God is holding the book of destiny in His hand.
- ◆ There has been a search throughout the world for someone worthy to reclaim the earth.
- ◆ Everything looks hopeless until a heavenly elder announces the news.
- ◆ "Someone has been found to open the book of destiny for you and I".
- ◆ It is the first sight of Jesus in heaven. (vs. 5-7)

Question: Who is it that gives us access to heaven?

Question: Who is it that redeems us from the curse of sin?

Question: Who is it that reconciles us to a Holy God?

Question: Who is it that erases all guilt and condemnation?

Question: Who is it that guarantees our future?

Question: Who is it that delivers us from satan's power?

(It Is None Other Than...)

#1. (V. 5) "The Lion of the tribe of Judah"

- ◆ Judah was the strongest tribe of Israel by far.
- ◆ So Jesus, possesses the strength and power of a lion.

#2. (V. 5) "The Root of David"

- ◆ Jesus was prophesied to come from the root and seed of Jesse (of his family line).
- ◆ Thus, Jesus has fulfilled Bible prophecy that reveals the integrity of Scripture.

#3. (V. 6) "A Lamb as it had been slain"

- ◆ The Lamb of God (Jesus) was symbolized in the Passover.
- ◆ The lamb (in Egypt) was sacrificed so that the judgment of God could pass over the people. (In Other Words)

- ◆ Jesus is the center of attention in heaven.
- ◆ Every eye and thought is upon Him.
- ◆ He is the centerpiece of God's throne room. (why?)
- ◆ (V. 5) declares "He has prevailed to open the book".

Question: What has Jesus prevailed over?

Answer: He has prevailed over all:

#1. Jesus has prevailed over sin

- ◆ (V. 9) "He has redeemed us to God by His blood"
(Because God's justice has been satisfied by Christ's death at Calvary)

#2. Jesus has prevailed over satan

- ◆ (V. 7) "He came and took the book"
(Because Jesus has authority over the powers of evil)

#3. Jesus has prevailed over the second death

- ◆ (V. 10) "We shall reign"
(Because death has been swallowed up in the resurrection)

#4. Jesus has prevailed over sadness

- ◆ (V. 8) "The prayers of the saints are offered up to God"
(Because God is answering prayer even when you cannot see Him)

Question: Who is the One who is worthy?

Answer: It is Jesus of Nazareth!

Question: What does it have to do with me pastor?

Answer: (V. 6) "The lamb has 7 horns, 7 eyes, and 7 spirits"

(What Does It Mean?)

#1. 7 Horns

- ◆ Horns in Scripture represent power.
- ◆ It means Jesus is omnipotent in power (and can conquer anything in your life).

#2. 7 Eyes

- ◆ Eyes symbolize complete knowledge and intelligence and wisdom.
- ◆ It means Jesus is Omniscient (or, He knows all, sees all, and nothing escapes Him in your life) (He can sustain you now in every trial of life).

#3. 7 Spirits

- ◆ This refers to the Holy Spirit.
- ◆ It means Jesus is everywhere in person of the Holy Spirit (to work out His plan in your life and mine).

(What A Lamb Of God)

- ◆ Omnipotent (all powerful) ◆ Omniscient (all knowing) ◆ Omnipresent (Ever present with us)

III. The Praise That Is Due (Vs. 9-14)

Question: Pastor, how do we respond on earth and in heaven to what Jesus has done for us?

Answer: We respond the Bible way:

- ◆ As soon as Jesus takes the book (to ensure your ultimate victory),
- ◆ All of heaven and earth break loose in a song of praise.
 - #1. There is praise from the creatures and elders around the throne of God. (v. 8)
 - #2. There is praise from the millions of angels. (v. 11)
 - #3. There is praise from all who are in heaven and all who are on earth. (v. 13)

Question: Why do we praise God?

Question: Why do we worship God?

Question: Why do we refuse to keep silent?

- ◆ In (v. 9), Jesus has redeemed us by His blood (or set us free from the slavery of sin).
- ◆ In (v. 9) "Out of every kindred, tongue, people and nation" (means:)

No one is beyond the reach of Jesus saving! (Whoever will may come to Jesus today)

- ◆ In (v. 10) "Kings and Priests" means Jesus has made you royalty, special and one of His own forever".

(Isn't It Awesome)

That even the angels in (v. 11) praise the Lamb?

- ◆ For His power, riches, wisdom, strength, honor, glory and blessing.

(What Is Worship?)

- ◆ It is ascribing worthiness to God because of what He has done in opening the Book (or scroll) for your ultimate destiny.

Question: What has He done?

Answer: (V. 9) "He was slain to redeem to God, by His own life's blood"

(Let All Creation Sing)

"Worthy, Worthy, Worthy, Worthy, Worthy".

AMEN!
Bill Kirk, Pastor