

# **CHRIST APOSTELIC CHURCH OF PENNSYLVANIA [Mount of Redemption]**

**5200 PASCHALL AVENUE, PHILADELPHIA, PA 19143. P. O. Box 2294, Upper Darby, PA 19082**

**TEL/FAX: (215) 724- 5711**

## **BIBLE STUDY**

April 18, 2012

### **COURSE OUTLINE: REVELATION Chapter 5**

We left off in Chapter 4 with a vision that John was having. This chapter continues the vision. In this vision we saw that John was seeing the throne of God. We would read the entire chapter 5 to help gain a proper understanding.

We are not told specifically anywhere what this book contains in verse 1. This is one of the mysteries that will remain until we are in heaven with Him and ask Him face to face. We know that the book is a scroll that is rolled up and sealed and Jesus is holding it. This book that is "sealed with seven seals" means that it is closed in completeness. I believe the reason a "strong angel" is mentioned here is to show that all the earthly and heavenly strength, aside from God's, cannot open this book or these seals. The "loud voice" is as if the angel is calling out to see who will come forth to open the book. There are some things that man cannot do. Some judgments are reserved for Jesus to do. This powerful scene in heaven indicates that only Christ, who died to redeem mankind back to God, is qualified to open the seals of this scroll and claim His kingdom over all the earth.

"The Lion of the tribe of Juda " is the name of our Lord and this is not given by accident, but it conveys a part of His nature. Since the lion symbolizes strength and Judah is the ruling tribe of Israel, this indicates that Christ is to come as King to reign over human affairs.

Jesus was born with His roots in the family of David thus the reference to Him as "the Root of David"

"...hath prevailed" indicates that Jesus won the battle. He came against Satan and Jesus won. He won in a way that no one expected when He died on the cross. Jesus is the only one worthy to open the book. He was victorious over sin and Satan. He alone lived upon this earth free from sin. He is the only worthy one.

In verse 6: John is looking at the very same scene with more being revealed to him as he looks. It is almost as if he is astonished when he says "lo".

Here we see the Lamb, Jesus in the midst of the elders and the four beasts. Everything that He is surrounded by is significant to His church. Jesus is the central figure in all of this.

Many times, thoughts come to us as we are viewing something that are not something we see with the eye. Here we see John realizing the death of the Lamb, as well as Him resurrected.

The "Lamb" is used 29 times in Revelation and only once elsewhere in the New Testament – John 21:15

"A lamb, looking as if it had been slain." When Christ completed the work of redemption, He earned the title deed to the earth; as by Adam came sin, so by Christ came redemption. It is a beautiful picture that we see here! Even though the angel refers to our Lord in His glory as a Lion, indicating His power and might, John sees Him as a sacrificial Lamb, for John sees Him through eyes of faith. Those who reject Christ will see Him as a Lion when He comes to judge and to reign over them. Those who believe in Him will see Him as their sacrificial Lamb.

The "seven horns" indicate that all power belongs to Him indicating that the Lamb is not weak. Horn in the Scripture indicates in general power and strength - see Zech.1:18, Ps 18:2, Ps 89:17. It may also mean the strength of a nation – Dan 8: 20 & 21, Rev 17:12

In Matthew 28:18, we see this verified. "And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth." This statement is printed in red which means Jesus Himself spoke these words. This was spoken after His resurrection.

The "seven eyes" means that He possesses all wisdom and understanding. These eyes speak of the judgment of our Lord, including the seven characteristics of the Holy Spirit that rests on Him without measure (Isaiah 11:2, John 3:34).

When our Lord comes, He will know all that human beings have ever thought or done. Every deed will be brought into judgment. Note that seven is God's number of perfection; therefore when Christ, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, comes to judge the world at the end of the Tribulation, it will be as the perfect judge, who has all power and who knows all about humankind. It should also be borne in mind that He was the sacrificial Lamb, but people rejected him.

The Seven Spirits of God - The seven Spirits do not mean seven different Spirits, but the seven characteristics of the one Holy Spirit. It should be borne in mind, that these characteristics are not limited to His role in heaven. His roles during the Tribulation, or His role during the Church Age, are eternal part of the Holy Spirit. Therefore, when we are filled with the Holy Spirit, in addition to the fruit of the Spirit found in Gal. 5 v.22, we should expect to manifest these characteristics:

1. The Spirit of the Lord
2. The Spirit of wisdom
3. The Spirit of understanding
4. The Spirit of counsel
5. The Spirit of power
6. The Spirit of Knowledge
7. The Spirit of the fear of the Lord (Is 11:2)

**Verses 7 & 8:** All of Christendom will bow before the Lamb. In Roman 14:11, we read that every knee will bow and every tongue will confess to God. It is a real comfort to know that every prayer that we ever prayed is stored in heaven.

**Verses 9-10:** This beautiful new song, proclaiming how worthy Jesus is to receive our adoration, will be a magnificent sound. All voices will be in accord. This song praising Jesus for redeeming us from sin and death will be accompanied by the beautiful music of the harp in the verse before.

The shed blood of Jesus was, and is, the redeeming factor. I love the fact that nationality, or color, or sex, or any other separation that man has will not be a factor here. Salvation is for everyone who will accept it. Jesus died for each one of us whether we are Americans, Indians, Africans, Chinese, Russian or otherwise. It is our choice whether to accept, or reject, the gift of salvation. No other barrier exists.

Speaking of "kings and priests" we will see later on in Revelation that Christians will reign with Jesus 1000 years on the earth as subordinates to Jesus. We shall reign on the earth. A similar promise is given to that "multitude, which no man could number (Rev. 7:9) when resurrected after the Tribulation (Rev. 20:4). Together the Christians, who were saved before the Tribulation, along with the saints saved out of the Tribulation will "rule and reign" during Christ's one thousand-year kingdom.

This number in verse 11 is not a literal number and would not be to our advantage to figure out. It just means a number too large to count. This is a very large company of ministering spirits, angels. The voice had to be loud to be such a multitude.  $10,000 \times 10,000 = 100 \text{ Million} + 1000\text{'s}$  and  $1000\text{'s}$ .

The interesting thing here is that this huge gathering was all saying the same thing. It was total adoration and recognition of Jesus. Not that they could give Jesus anything, but they realized that it was correct for Him to possess all things.

Jesus created everything and everyone. This means that trees, animals, fish, fowl, and all living beings, such as animals and people, all cried out blessings to God. This praise was not for a limited time, but was to reach into all of eternity. Our worship of Him will never cease. Even in heaven, we will be praising and worshipping Him.

In closing chapter 5 we saw three outbursts of praise and worship are directed toward Christ and the Father.

- (1) The beasts and the elders praise the Lamb for having redeemed them through His blood (v.8,9)
- (2) Myriads of angels also praise the Lamb for His glory and wisdom (v.11, 12); and
- (3) Every area of creation worships both the Father and the Lamb (v.13,14).

**GLORY! HONOR!! ADORATION!!! BE TO OUR LORD JESUS – AMEN**

References:

**Holy Bible: KJV**

<http://www.discoverrevelation.com/>

<http://adventbiblestudy.wordpress.com/>

**Bible Study is on Wednesdays, from 7pm-9pm. Remain blessed as you come in Jesus Name.**