

SALVATION IN SYMBOLS & SIGNS

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Corresponds to Program 18

Unless otherwise noted, all Scripture quotations are from the NKJV and KJV.

THE SEALED BOOK - PART 2 STUDY GUIDE

OPENING THE BOOK

Revelation 5:6-14

The scroll is a love story about the Lamb redeeming His lost bride that was taken from Him in the garden of Eden.

John first saw the Lord holding a scroll that was sealed. This scroll, the scroll of mankind's story, is to be unsealed by Jesus Christ. He shows us how He has intervened to buy back His bride through His own sacrifice.

Next, John sees a strange being with seven horns and seven eyes, and it comes forward to take the scroll. This is a strange way to portray Jesus, so what does it mean? The key to this is understanding the number seven.

Seven is a number of completeness and perfection. Horns represent power, and eyes represent discernment. So, this Lamb that was slain (but is now alive) is Jesus, who is the perfection of power and all-seeing knowledge. Jesus is now sending the Holy Spirit to all the earth, beginning at Pentecost when the Holy Spirit was sent to the disciples.

Kings and Priests

Let us examine the response in the second section that we mentioned: those who represent the redeemed of earth. Jesus received authority over mankind. At the cross, Jesus made provision to redeem us all, but it is up to us to accept His redemption, to accept Him as our Savior and Lord.

“Now when He had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb” (Revelation 5:8).

Those elders, who represent those who are the first fruits of earth, are praising God with these words, “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, and have made us kings and priests to our God; and we shall reign on the earth.’” (Revelation 5:9-10).

God has made us “kings and priests.” This shows that God is all about elevating mankind. God wants each person to be king, ruler over the dominion of themselves rather than

in bondage to sin and addiction. God doesn't just save us and leave us, He saves us and elevates us. He makes us individually kings and priests. The priests were intercessors and mediators for Israel. We are called to pray for people like the priests did (1 Timothy 2:1-6).

The Power of Praise

“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!’ Then the four living creatures said, ‘Amen!’”

(Revelation 5:13-14). What a glorious spectacle!

Praise to God is a powerful part of redemption power that we often overlook. Praise is a consistent part of the prophecies of Revelation because it shows us how we are to overcome (Revelation 4:10-11; 5:9-14; 7:9-12; 11:16-17; 14:3; 15:2-4; 18:20; 19:1-7). Praise gives the believer the overcoming power we see throughout the Bible. God's people were called to praise God, and often their victory was realized in exact relationship to their praise and song (2 Chronicles 20:19-22).



“In the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as though it had been slain...” **REVELATION 5:6**

KEY SCRIPTURES

Revelation 5:6 SLAIN LAMB

Revelation 5:8 TWENTY-FOUR ELDERS

Revelation 5:13 BLESSING AND HONOR TO HIM

Revelation 19:5 PRAISE OUR GOD, ALL HIS SERVANTS

We don't always realize how this truth carries over to the New Testament. The Bible encourages us to: "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord" (Colossians 3:16).

Just before our final deliverance, pictured in Revelation 19, it says:

"Then a voice came from the throne, saying, 'Praise our God, all you His servants and those who fear Him, both small and great!'" Revelation 19:5. May this be our experience now and ever! ★

