"The Lamb and the Seven Sealed Scroll"

Revelation 5: 1-7

Verse 1 The Seven Sealed Scroll

What is the Scroll?

The deed to planet earth or God's last will and testament for planet earth

Ezekiel 2: 6-10 may help us with the Scroll

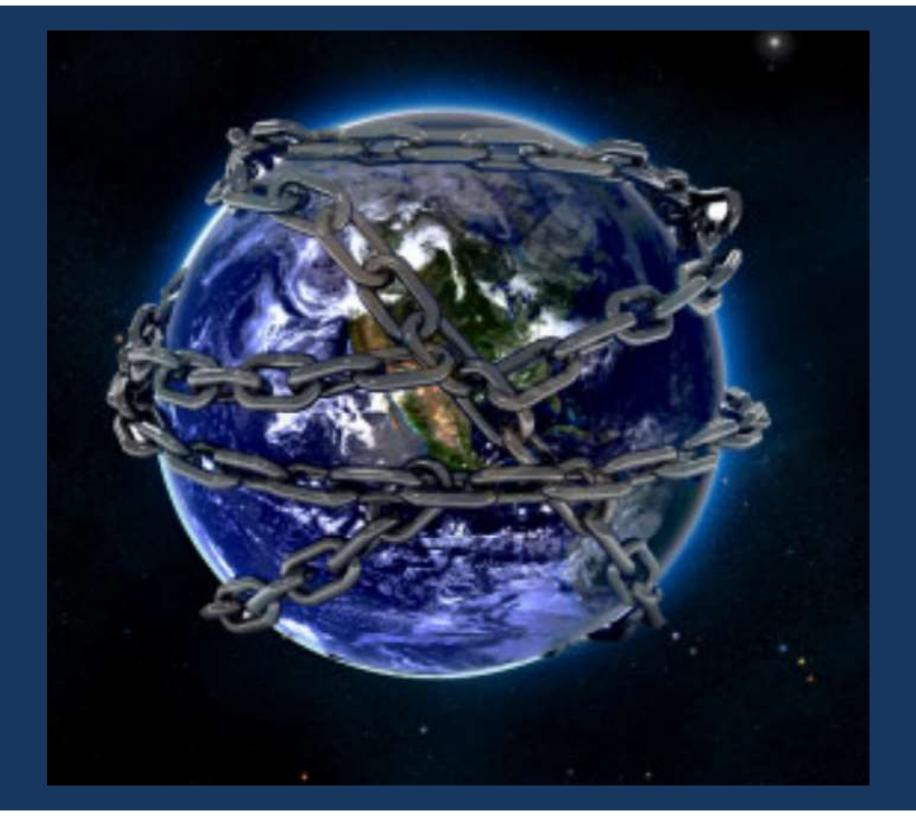
GOD OWNS ALL OF CREATION:

Psalm 24: 1-2; Psalm 83: 18; Psalm 89: 11; Deuteronomy 10: 14

SATAN'S TEMPORARY RULE:

John 12: 31; John 14: 30;

John 16: 11; 2 Corinthians 4: 4



Theocratic Administrator



"Dominion of the earth was originally given to Adam (Genesis 1: 26-28) and it was lost to Satan due to sin. As a result of getting the first man, Adam, to join his revolt against God, Satan usurped tenant possession of the earth away from its original tenant. Satan has been exercising administrative control of the world system against God ever since. (Tony Garland)

In the worldview battle, never forget:

Christianity is the only world religion with a sinless Savior

Verse 2 - 3Who is worthy to open the Scroll

No being in the universe was found worthy to open the scroll, or even "look at it"

John, feeling the weight of this truth, laments the earth being lost forever

Verse 4 John's response - "I wept much"

"So I wept much

wept = "klaio" = to sob, wail aloud, like Jesus wept over Jerusalem or Peter wept when he denied Christ

Remember: The scroll is in God's hand. He is in charge of human history and He has a definite plan and purpose for the universe

God will bring history to a climax; mankind's rebellion against God will come to an end!

God will establish righteousness throughout all His creation

JESUS IS COMING BACK!!

In view of this, the believer is to be the most optimistic person on the earth!!

Verse 5 - 6 Jesus to the rescue

An elder steps forward and tells John there is One who is qualified to redeem what Adam lost. Who is he?

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah, the Root of David

This is Jesus at His Second Coming, acting as mankind's *Kinsman Avenger*

The redemption price for humanity has been paid; now it is time to reclaim what rightfully belongs to Jesus - *His creation*

Jesus came the first time as the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world (Kinsman Redeemer)

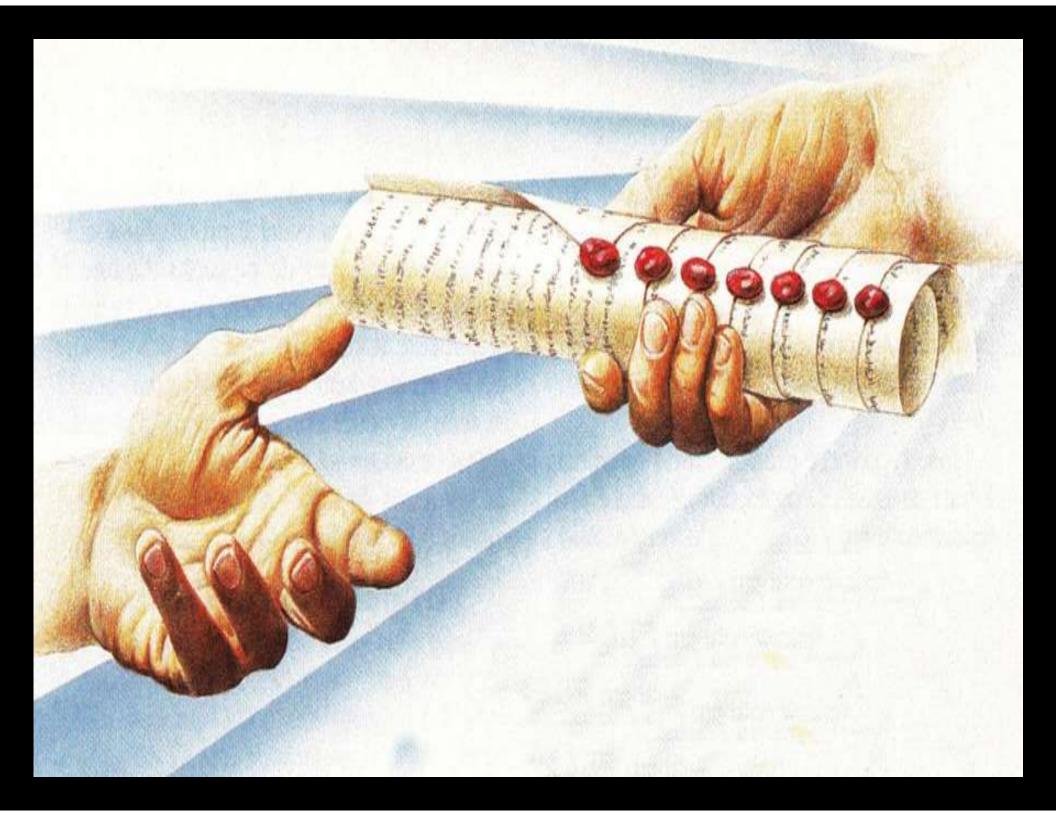
Jesus comes the second time as the Lion of the tribe of Judah (Kinsman Avenger)

Life on earth is getting messy! It is good to know that soon earth's mess will be finally and permanently dealt with!

Jesus is coming to make things right, so... do not fear!!

Verse 7 Jesus takes the scroll from Father

"Having stood, Christ now takes the scroll out of the hand of the Father. As Christ initiates these actions, the world slumbers below, oblivious to the thief approaching in the night." (Tony Garland)



A Major Change: PRIEST ROLE TO KING ROLE

- 1) The Lamb becomes a Lion
 - Christ is not on His Father's throne
 - The age of His intercession has come to a close
 - No more intercession for the Church the Church is gone!!

A Major Change: PRIEST ROLE TO KING ROLE

- 2) Jesus' priestly role will end
 - Jesus will assume His final role as King of Kings!
- 3) We will see Jesus acting in an entirely new character
 - The age of the Church is over (Another pre-tribulation rapture consideration)

Make no mistake, this scene is the initiation of a dramatic, cataclysmic intervention into history, HIS - STORY, to deal with Satan and unrepentant earth dwellers!

Jesus Christ is sovereign!

He alone walks over and takes the scroll of destiny out of the hand of God

He alone is worthy to execute and carry out the events in the following Chapters

CLOSING:

History is marching toward a decided end. John has shown us that the Church is gone, is in heaven

We know that, presently, Jesus is in His priestly role

When Jesus rises from the right hand of Father and takes the scroll out of Father's hand, He is entering into His King Role, no longer interceding for His Church (this is strong pre-tribulation rapture consideration)

We are on an exciting journey!

Soon we will see the first seal judgments opened and what they mean

We will see how all these judgments culminate in the return of Jesus Christ at His second coming

Our job, in this rapidly changing world, is to have no fear, no panic!

Trust God, stick together, and draw strength from one another - Hebrews 10:25

Selah

Carefully weighing the meaning of what we have just read or heard, lifting up our hearts in praise to God for HIS GREAT TRUTHS!!