REVELATION

Worship of the Lamb (Revelation 5:8~14)

Isaiah 14:12-15: How you are fallen from heaven, O Day Star, son of Dawn! How you are cut down to the ground, you who laid the nations low! You said in your heart, I will ascend to heaven; above the stars of God I will set my throne on high; I will sit on the mount of assembly in the far reaches of the north;

I will ascend above the heights of the clouds;
I will make myself like the Most High. But
you are brought down to Sheol, to the far
reaches of the pit.

DAY STAR = LUCIFER

LUKE 10:18: JESUS SPOKE OF SATAN FALLING FROM HEAVEN.

Satan says, "I will"

- Ascend to heaven (exaltation/high position)
- ☐ Set my throne on high (authority/power)
- ☐ Sit on the mount of assembly (honored position)
- Ascend above the heights of the clouds (honored/high position)
- Be like the Most High (take the place of God)

Satan was cast out of heaven when he sought to take the place of God.

Revelation 5 shows the worship of the Lamb in the throne room of God *because He is God.*

Revelation 5:6-7: And between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders I saw a Lamb standing, as though it had been slain, with seven horns and with seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. And he went and took the scroll from the right hand of him who was seated on the throne.

Revelation 5:8-14: And when he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each holding a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. And they sang a new song, saying, Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain,

and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth. Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands,

saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing! And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, saying,

To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever! And the four living creatures said, Amen! and the elders fell down and worshiped.

THE THRONE ROOM OF HEAVEN
REVEALS THE DEITY AND WORSHIP
OF THE LAMB.

- A. The living creatures and the elders <u>bow</u> down before the Lamb.
 - *Revelation 5:8: And when he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each holding a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints.

A. The living creatures and the elders <u>bow</u> down before the Lamb.

- ❖Incense is compared to prayers.
- Psalm 141:2: Let my prayer be counted as incense before you, and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

- Sacrifices were also compared to incense.
- ❖Genesis 8:20-21: Then Noah built an altar to the LORD and took some of every clean animal and some of every clean bird and offered burnt offerings on the altar. And when the LORD smelled the pleasing aroma, the LORD said in his heart, I will never again curse the ground because of man, for the intention of man's heart is evil from his youth. Neither will I ever again strike down every living creature as I have done.

- A. The living creatures and the elders <u>bow</u> down before the Lamb.
 - *Prayers of God's people are a pleasing aroma to God. He *wants* us to pray.
 - ❖Here the prayers are brought before the Lamb, Jesus Christ.

- B. The living creatures and the elders <u>sing</u> a song of praise to the Lamb.
 - Revelation 5:9-10: And they sang a new song, saying, Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth.

- B. The living creatures and the elders <u>sing</u> a song of praise to the Lamb.
- 1. This song emphasizes that the Lamb is worthy to take the scroll.
- 2. The <u>reason</u> He is worthy is that He died and redeemed people.

- B. The living creatures and the elders <u>sing</u> a song of praise to the Lamb.
- 3. The provision of salvation for people all over the world fulfills part of the covenant God made with <u>Abraham</u>.

❖Genesis 12:1-3: Now the LORD said to Abram, Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.

❖Galatians 3:8-9: And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, In you shall all the nations be blessed. So then, those who are of faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.

REVELATION 5 SHOWS THAT THE WORK OF THE LAMB FULFILLED THIS PART OF THE PROMISE TO ABRAHAM.

- B. The living creatures and the elders <u>sing</u> a song of praise to the Lamb.
- 3. The provision of salvation for people all over the world fulfills part of the covenant God made with <u>Abraham</u>.
 - *This is *not* a statement of universalism: people "from" or "out of" all nations will be saved, not all people in all nations.

- B. The living creatures and the elders <u>sing</u> a song of praise to the Lamb.
- 4. Christ has redeemed this people to be a <u>kingdom</u> and <u>priests</u>.
 - *Revelation 5:10: This is a present position, not just a future hope.

- B. The living creatures and the elders <u>sing</u> a song of praise to the Lamb.
- 4. Christ has redeemed this people to be a <u>kingdom</u> and <u>priests</u>.
- ❖ Exodus 19:5-6: Now therefore, if you will indeed obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession among all peoples, for all the earth is mine; and you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation. These are the words that you shall speak to the people of Israel.

- B. The living creatures and the elders <u>sing</u> a song of praise to the Lamb.
- 4. Christ has redeemed this people to be a <u>kingdom</u> and <u>priests</u>.
 - *Why does it matter today that we are priests? Are we fulfilling our function as priests?

- B. The living creatures and the elders <u>sing</u> a song of praise to the Lamb.
- 5. We have the future hope of <u>reigning</u> with Christ over the earth.
 - ❖It's a great privilege just to be in Christ's kingdom. But He also says we will reign with Him.
 - *He promised the overcomers in Laodicea that they would sit with Him on His throne.

- B. The living creatures and the elders <u>sing</u> a song of praise to the Lamb.
- 6. Revelation 5:9-10 contains a couple textual <u>variants</u>.



- *KJV and NKJV: redeemed "us" (vs. 9) and made "us" kings and priests (vs. 10)
- ♦ Others: redeemed "people" (ESV vs. 9)/"men" (NASB vs. 9) and made "them" a kingdom and priests (vs. 10)

- B. The living creatures and the elders <u>sing</u> a song of praise to the Lamb.
- 6. Revelation 5:9-10 contains a couple textual <u>variants</u>.
 - *Who is singing this song?
 - ❖If the living creatures are angels, can they accurately sing of themselves as being redeemed?

- B. The living creatures and the elders <u>sing</u> a song of praise to the Lamb.
- 6. Revelation 5:9-10 contains a couple textual <u>variants</u>.



- The main message is clear: Christ redeemed a group of people to be a kingdom and priests who will reign with Him.
- ❖If we are saved, then we are part of this group.



2. The <u>multitudes</u> of heaven join in worship of the Lamb and the Father.

Revelation 5:11-14: Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing! And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, saying, To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever! And the four living creatures said, Amen! and the elders fell down and worshiped.

2. The <u>multitudes</u> of heaven join in worship of the Lamb and the Father.

A. We see <u>myriads</u> of angels joining in worship.

- ❖ 10,000 x 10,000 plus thousands of thousands is as big of a number as they can show.
- *Psalm 103:21: Bless the LORD, all His hosts, his ministers, who do his will!

2. The <u>multitudes</u> of heaven join in worship of the Lamb and the Father.

- B. Revelation 5:13 points to <u>all</u> creatures of the universe joining in worship of God.
 - *Psalm 103:22: David called on *all* God's works in all His dominion to worship Him.
 - *The picture here points ahead to when every knee will bow and every tongue confess that Christ is Lord.
 - *The throne room of heaven reveals the deity and worship of the Lamb.

Conclusion: What do we do with what God has revealed?

- o Psalm 9 draws a contrast from Isaiah 14.
- o Psalm 9:1-2: I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart; I will recount all of your wonderful deeds. I will be glad and exult in you; I will sing praise to your name, O Most High.

Conclusion: What do we do with what God has revealed?

- o Can we say "I will" . . .
 - oThank God?
 - oRecount His works to others?
 - oBe glad and exult in God instead of myself?
 - OSing praise to the Most High?

NEXT TIME: REVELATION 6:1-8

• First Four Seals