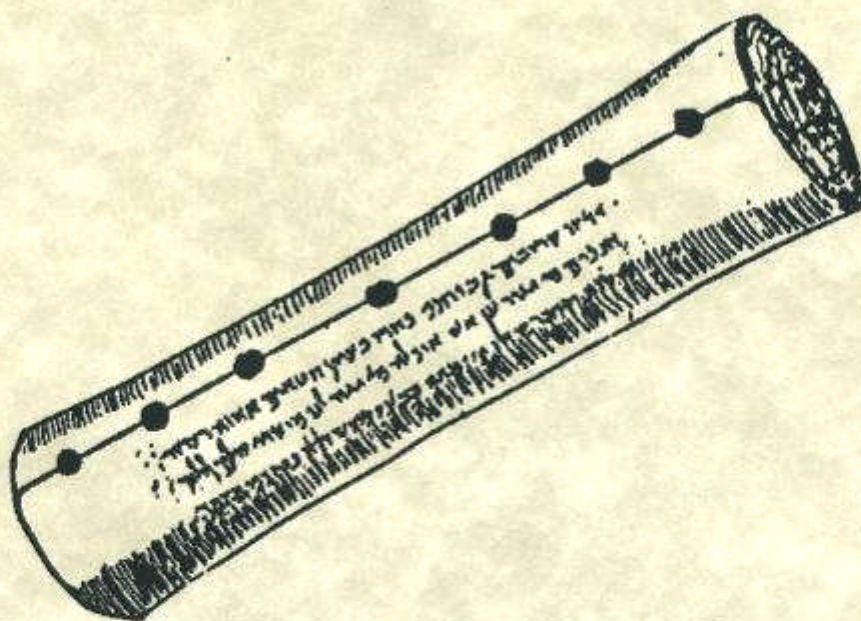


The Seven Sealed Scroll

(The Key to Revelation)



“And I saw in the right hand of him that sat on the throne a book written within and on the backside, sealed with seven seals.”

Revelation 5:1

The Seven Sealed Scroll

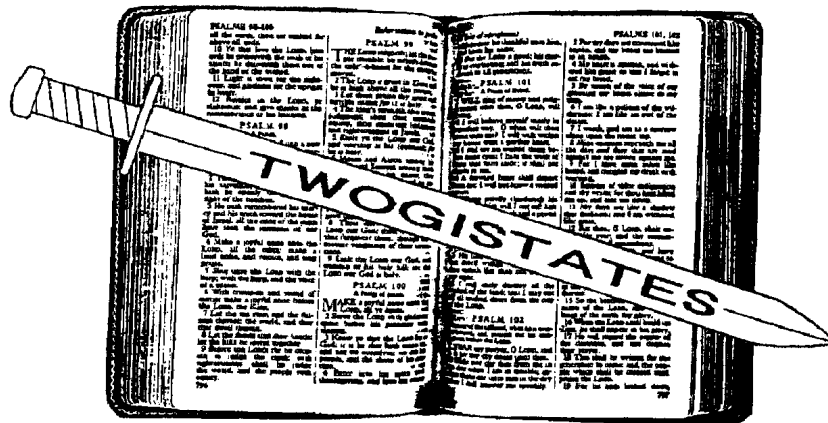
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TWOGISTATES Publishers advocate the King James Bible
as the best source for God's Word in English



For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any
twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of
soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a
discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.
Hebrews 4:12

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THE SEVEN SEALED SCROLL



Scripture: Revelation, Chapter 5

1 And I saw in the right hand of him that sat on the throne a book written within and on the backside, sealed with seven seals.

2 And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, Who is worthy to open the book, and to loose the seals thereof?

3 And no man in heaven, nor in earth, neither under the earth, was able to open the book, neither to look thereon.

4 And I wept much, because no man was found worthy to open and to read the book, neither to look there on.

5 And one of the elders saith unto me, weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Juda, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof.

6 And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth.

7 And he came and took the book out of the right hand of him that sat upon the throne.

The Book Described

The book mentioned in the above Scriptures is translated from the Greek word, *biblion* (bib-lee'-on) which means a roll. In the King James Bible this word is translated as book, scroll or writing in various places. It is translated book here to reflect the English usage of 1611. In the time frame of the writing of the New Testament *biblion* would have been visualized as being a scroll, and this visualization will help us understand the significance of the seven sealed scroll. The dictionary definition of a scroll is given below.

scroll (skrol) *noun*: a. A roll, as of parchment or papyrus, used especially for writing a document. b. An ancient book or volume written on such a roll.

A pictorial presentation of the scroll that is being addressed in Revelation, Chapter 5 is shown on the cover of this booklet. It was simply a rolled up sheet of parchment, seven wax seals were placed on the exposed edge, there was writing on the outside which could be read and there was writing on the inside which could not be read until all

seven seals were broken. The significance of this particular scroll and the corresponding placement of the seals are explained in the following pages.

The Scriptural Setting

In our Scripture, we see in the right hand of God the seven-sealed scroll. It is significant that He has it in His right hand. He has removed it from its storage place and has now declared that it is time to reclaim the earth. All that is needed is someone who meets the criteria of redeemer as spelled out on the outside of the document.

The inhabitants of heaven understand the need to find the right person to open the scroll and they search heaven and earth to find one who is qualified.

John weeps because he knows that if the scroll is not opened, then all he has believed and taught is for naught.

One of the elders came to John and told him not to weep for there is one who can open the scroll.

Who Is Worthy To Open The Scroll?

It is clear from our Scripture that only Jesus Christ is found worthy to open the scroll among all the people, angels, spirits, or others beings in heaven and on earth. How has He alone gained this honor?

It all has to do with God's plan for redemption. We see shadows of this throughout the Bible, but His redemptive laws for the nation of Israel describe it best.

When Is Redemption Required?

There are three specific situations where redemption is warranted.

1. The wife whose husband has died and there are no children. (Ref. The Book of Ruth.)
2. The person who has gotten in debt and has become a slave to the person he owes. (Lev. Chapter 25.)
3. The land that has been lost due to indebtedness. (Lev. Chapter 25.)

Qualifications for a Redeemer

There are several specific conditions, which must be met before a person can be a qualified to be a redeemer.

1. He must be a close relative to the one he is redeeming.
2. He must be willing to redeem the person.
3. He must be able financially to pay the redemption price.
4. In the cases of a wife and a slave, they have to agree to the redemption before the transaction can be completed.

Situations That Allow Redemption

In the situation where the husband has died and left no children, his closest male relative is to marry the widow to insure the family name is carried on into the future. This is well illustrated in the Book of Ruth in the story of Ruth and Boaz

In the situation where the person has become a slave to pay a debt, a close kin can pay the owner and set the debtor free.

In the situation where land is involved, there is a kind of mortgage paper that spells out the conditions of redemption. A parchment, written on both sides, is used to record the terms of the mortgage. It is rolled into a scroll, sealed with seven wax seals and stored in the temple under the watch care of the High Priest. On the outside of the scroll, in plain view, is written the open or public terms of the debt; on the inside, that cannot be read until it is opened, is recorded the private or hidden terms of the debt. (Our particular scroll has to do with the loss of the earth to Satan and the requirements to reclaim it. It has been in the safe care of God since the fall of Adam.)

Redemption of Land

When someone seeks to redeem the land, the priest first insures the redeemer's qualifications. He then produces the scroll and insures the public terms are satisfied. (The public terms of our scroll read that the redeemer must be a slain lamb that is totally without sin.) He then gives it to the redeemer who breaks the seven wax seals. This signifies the debt is paid. He then reads the hidden part that is basic instructions for reclaiming the land. Generally, it describes the condition of the land when it was lost and tells how to go about restoring it to its original configuration. This is what is about to happen as described in our Scripture.

Why Do We Need A Redeemer?

The question now comes to mind, why do we need a redeemer? According to God's Word, there are two areas of mankind which have been lost and are in need of redemption; these are man's soul and his inhabitancy, the earth.

God originally created man with a perfect soul, but due to his rebellion, he sold his soul to Satan. He became a slave to sin. He now needs a redeemer to set his soul free from sin and all its implications of judgment and eternal punishment. Only by accepting the conditions of redemption can man ever stand faultless before God. Jesus is the redeemer of our soul if we will only accept Him.

God originally created the earth in sinless perfection, but all this was lost when Eve succumbed to the wiles of Satan in the Garden of Eden and brought the curse of sin upon all the earth and its future inhabitants. Clearly the earth needed a redeemer, but because of the sinful nature of man, it is impossible for anyone born after the curse to serve in this capacity, for God required one of sinless perfection to redeem the earth and to restore it to its former glory.

Worthy Is the Lamb That Was Slain

Here is where Jesus comes in, for He is the only one who meets the conditions to satisfy the requirements of God. He alone is the sinless one who gave his life as the perfect sacrifice for our sins. He meets the requirements as the Lamb that was slain as addressed in Revelation, Chapter 5. His qualifications as the redeemer are described as follows:

1. He passes the test of being a kinsman. He is related to all intelligent beings as a member of the Godhead. He was a creative partner in the making of mankind when man became a living soul. The very part of man that is part of God, and through the soul of God, He is kin to all who have lived, or will ever live. He can redeem the soul as the kinsman redeemer.

2. He was willing to be the redeemer for a lost world. This is evident in His quest to always do the will of God, even to His death on the cross. His battle with Himself in the Garden of Gethsemane the night before the crucifixion is a prime example of this. We know He could have escaped from the horrible punishment He was about to undertake, but He willingly suffered so that a lost world could be saved.

3. He, and only He, was able to pay the price of the redemption. It was in His willing presentation of a sinless life as a sacrifice, which made Him acceptable to God as the redeemer of mankind. Through His death, He paid in full the redemption price to rid the curse brought on mankind by the deceit of Satan. He has been redeeming lost souls who accept His offer of salvation for almost two thousand years, and He can now, in the time frame of Revelation, Chapter five, redeem the entire world and restore it to its original sinless perfection.

Jesus Alone Fulfilled the Law

Jesus fulfilled the law regarding the redemption of a wife. Israel, the wife of Jehovah, in a true sense was not a widow, but in a spiritual sense, she was for God had departed. Jesus offered her full redemption and an opportunity to return to the family of God, but she rejected Him. He in turn took a new bride, the church.

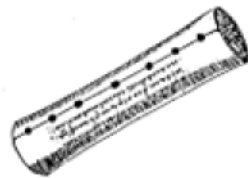
Jesus fulfilled the law regarding the redemption of slaves. We are all slaves to sin, but Jesus gives us a way out with His payment to God. We have to accept His gift of redemption to be free from the bondage of Satan.

Jesus fulfilled the Law regarding the redemption of the land. Unlike the situations of the wife and slave that required acceptance by individuals, the redemption of the earth is full and complete because God accepted it. Satan has no say about whether he can release the curse of creation for God alone holds the mortgage papers, and these papers have been stamped **"PAID IN FULL"** by the very Hand of God.

Jesus, the Son of God, fulfilled every requirement of God to redeem mankind and the place of his inhabitancy. He alone is worthy to open the scroll. He has fully met the requirements of the public part

of the document, which is a perfect sacrifice, and now He is about to open the scroll to implement the hidden part which requires the earth to be purged from all sin. This is the only way it can be reclaimed from Satan for no sin can exist in the presence of God.

The Seals Are Broken



The breaking of the seven seals bring about the beginning of destruction on the sinful world in anticipation of its restoration. This is well described in Revelation, Chapters 6, 7 and 8 as Jesus begins to break each seal individually.

One may ask why all the destruction as Jesus is breaking the seals. It all has to do with the creative and destructive power of God relative to His thoughts and words. In the beginning, He spoke all things into existence. In the end, He will speak all things out of existence as He purges the earth. Here, as He breaks the seals, He is merely thinking about the things to come, and the resulting effects of His simply thinking about the regeneration of the earth brings on terrible consequences. Even as God thinks, things begin to happen.

The First Seal Is Broken.



Seal one - The rider on the white horse. The antichrist appears on the scene as a peacemaker.

The Second Seal Is Broken.



Seal two - The rider on the red horse. Peace is taken from the earth, and there is wholesale killing.

The Third Seal Is Broken.



Seal three - The rider on the black horse. Famine and pestilence are rampant throughout the world.

The Fourth Seal Is Broken.



Seal four - The rider on the pale horse. One fourth of the earth's inhabitants are killed by the sword, hunger, death, and wild beast

The Fifth Seal Is Broken.



Seal five - The souls under the altar who were slain for the Word of God. These souls are given special comfort for God is greatly honored when one dies defending the Word of God.

The Sixth Seal Is Broken.



Seal six - Natural happenings due to the anticipation of God's wrath. A great earthquake, a darkened sun, a bloody moon and falling stars mark the nearness of the opening of the scroll.

The Seventh Seal Is Broken.



Seal seven - God's wrath on the human race begins. A time of silence in heaven marks the beginning of the purging of the earth as the inhabitants of heaven realize the destruction to come.

The rest of Revelation takes place after Jesus reveals the words of the hidden part of the scroll. As he reads the scroll, the events described take place. (The Word of God only has to be spoken to happen.) God has declared this total destruction as necessary to completely purge the earth of the results of eons of sin. He recorded these events prior to human history to warn the people of the earth so that they may escape His wrath, and now it is coming to pass. The third woe follows the opening of the seventh seal.

The Seven Trumpets Sound



The seven trumpets begin to sound at the breaking of the seventh seal. This is the announcement that the restoration of the earth is about to begin. All the scroll seals have been broken and the hidden part of the scroll is about to be read, and as Jesus reads, the events happen.

The First Trumpet Sounds



The first trumpet - Hail and fire mingled with blood that kills one third of the grass and trees.

The Second Trumpet Sounds



The second trumpet - One third of the sea turns to blood.

The Third Trumpet Sounds



The third trumpet - One third of the waters are made bitter. Many die.

The Fourth Trumpet Sounds



The fourth trumpet - One third of the sun, moon, and stars are smitten.

The Fifth Trumpet Sounds



The fifth trumpet - The first woe. The bottomless pit is opened and locusts like beast are released upon the earth to torment mankind.

The Sixth Trumpet Sounds



The sixth trumpet - Four angels are released who kill one third of mankind. An angel reads the final proclamation to the earthly inhabitants. The two witnesses prophesy for forty-two months and are killed. The second woe, a great earthquake kills seven thousand.

The Seventh Trumpets Sounds



The seventh trumpet - The final act of God in the restoration of the earth. The temple is opened in heaven. Israel is saved by the miraculous power of God. The political beast and the religious beast are identified. The mark of the beast is instituted. The final Gospel is preached. The false religious system falls.

The Seven Golden Vials of the Wrath of God



The seven vials of God's wrath are poured out on the earth.

Vial One Is Poured Out



Vial one - Those who accepted the mark of the beast are punished.

Vial Two Is Poured Out



Vial two - The sea is turned to blood.

Vial Three Is Poured Out



Vial three - The rivers and fountains turn to blood.

Vial Four Is Poured Out



Vial four - The sun becomes extremely hot.

Vial Five Is Poured Out



Vial five - The kingdom of the beast becomes extremely dark.

Vial Six Is Poured Out



Vial six - The Euphrates River dries up to prepare the way for the opponents in the battle of Armageddon.

Vial Seven Is Poured Out



Vial seven - **It is done!** The final act in the drama of life is played out. The false religion and the kingdom of the beast are destroyed as Jesus returns as King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Satan is bound for one thousand years and those who were slain for the cause of Jesus during the Tribulation are resurrected to reign with Him for One thousand years.

After one thousand years. Satan is loosed for a season. He is finally cast into the lake of fire. Then the Great White Throne Judgment takes place as all the unsaved are raised from the dead and also cast into the lake of fire. The old heaven and old earth are totally destroyed, and the Word of God brings a new heaven and new earth into existence.

It is clear from God's Word that the seven sealed scroll plays a major part in the redemption of mankind. God wrote Himself it Himself. He alone set the requirements for the redeemer, He also provided the redeemer and you and I must accept His way of salvation if we are to miss the wrath to come.

“And when He had taken the book, the four beasts and the four and twenty elders fell down before the Lamb, having every one them harps, and golden vials full of odors, which are the prayers of the saints. And they sung a new song, saying Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for Thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; and hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.” Rev. 5:8-10

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