The Lamb on the Throne

"Do not weep, Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David to open the scroll and to loose its seven seals" (Rev. 5:5)

I. Our Lord – the Lion of the tribe of Juda (Rev. 5:5-10)

A. He is the resurrected and ascended Christ on the throne (Rev. 5:5-6; Heb. 1:8, 13)

- 1. A different view of Jesus Christ from the one in the Gospels. Do not weep, behold!
- 2. He is king and priest
- 3. He is made Lord and Christ (Acts 2:34-36)
- 4. He is the Lord of lords and the King of kings (Rev. 17:14)

B. He is working today to carry out the counsel of His will (Eph. 1:11; Acts 4:27-28)

- 1. He removes kings and raises up kings (Dan. 2:21; 4:14; Jer. 27:6-7)
- 2. He has appointed the nations' times and boundaries (Acts 17:26)
- 3. He turns the kings' hearts like the rivers of water (Prov. 21:1)
- 4. There is no authority except from God (Rom. 13:1; Tit. 3:1; 1Pet. 2:13-17)

C. He is walking among the golden lampstands (Rev. 1:12-13)

- 1. He sanctifies and cleanses the golden lampstands (Eph. 5:26-27)
- 2. Growing into Him as the Head (Eph. 4:15)
- 3. We are made a kingdom of priests (Rev. 1:6; 5:10)
- 4. He was given to be head over all things to the church (Mt. 18:18; Eph. 1:20-23)

II. Beholding the Lamb on the Throne

A. We behold Him and hear Him

- 1. The Father making Jesus Christ the focus of our attention (Mt. 17:8; 1Cor. 2:1-2; Eph. 3:8; Col. 1:15-19; 2:9-10; John 5:39)
- 2. The Father calls on us "Hear HIM!" (Mt. 17:5)
- 3. The revelation concerning the Son as the Lamb of God

B. The mighty victory of the cross

- 1. Over the enemy and his powers (John 12:31; 16:11; Col. 2:15; Gen. 2:14)
- 2. The importance of Jesus Christ's sacrifice and the effect of His blood (Rom. 6:23; Eph. 5:2; Gen. 9:12, 22; 10:14, 19-20)
- 3. A people to our God for His kingdom on the earth (Rev. 5:9-10)

C. The Lamb's work through the seven Spirits of God

- 1. He stands by those who belong to Him (1Pet. 3:12; Rev. 1:4)
- 2. Testing and purifying them (Rev. 2:2; 2:23b; 2:4, 14)
- 3. He brings about the building up of God's dwelling place in the Spirit (Sach. 3:8-9, 12-13; 4:10; Eph. 2:20-22; 1Pet. 2:4-5)

D. The efficacy and might of the Lamb's horns

- 1. Against the attacks from outside (Mt. 16:18b)
- 2. Against the attacks from inside (2Tim. 2:14; 4:1-6)

III. God's Work in this Age

A. The way to the throne (Phil. 2:5-11)

- 1. Incarnation, death and resurrection
- 2. He lived a purposeful life (Luke 9:51; Luke 24:26; Gen. 12:1; Rev. 3:21)
- 3. He ascended to the throne and is now the head of the church (Acts 1:9-10; Eph. 2:20-23)

B. The One who is on the throne has a work going forward on the earth (Eph. 4:7-16)

- 1. He is walking among His churches (Rev. 1:10-12; 22:16)
- 2. The seven spirits are sent out into all the earth (Rev. 5:6; Rev. 3:1)
- 3. Human beings participate in His work (Rev. 5:8; Eph. 4:11-12)
- 4. Henceforth he is waiting for His enemies to be made His footstool (Gen. 10:12-14)

C. What is contrary to God's work

- 1. Teachings tossing to and fro (Eph. 4:14)
- 2. Persons who do not hold fast to the Head (Col. 2:8-23)
- 3. Everything that distracts from the main thing (Gen. 8:1-2; 1Tim. 4:7-8)

IV. His kingdom is not of the world (John 18:36)

A. The distinction between the earthly and the heavenly kingdom (Mt. 16:23-24)

- 1. Living in this fallen, earthly, shakable world and not being of this world (Gen. 12:28; John 17:14)
- 2. Transferred into the eternal heavenly kingdom of the Son of His love (Daniel 7:27; Eph. 2:6; Col. 1:13)
- 3. Living in the spirit to complete God's work (Rev. 1:5, 10; 4:2; 5:5)

B. Being made a kingdom to our God (Rev. 5:10)

- 1. Separated from this sinful world (Luke 11:34-36; 2Cor. 6:14; 1.Pet. 2:9-14; Luke 17:32)
- 2. Separated from the intermixed religious world (Mt. 16:12-13; John 18:36 b; Acts 7:57; Rev. 18:11-13)

C. The church – the called out one (Mt. 16:12, 18)

- 1. Redeemed from all nations, redeemed from the earth (Rev.. 5:10; 14:3-4) made a kingdom
- 2. The earthly concerns in comparison to the authority in the heavenly kingdom (Mt. 17:24-26; 22:17-21; Mk. 2:10)
- 3. Our visible unity the unity of the Spirit (Eph. 4:3)
- 4. Consecrate yourselves for God and His kingdom! (Zeph. 2:3; Luke 9:62; Rom. 6:13)

V. Recognizing the essence of Christ's Reign

A. The Lord Jesus is on the throne as the lion and as the slain lamb (Rev.. 5:5-6)

- 1. The lion represents the eternal reign of the Lord and the slain lamb His serving nature (Gen. 49:9-10; John 13:13-17)
- 2. The Lord Jesus is the King of Righteousness and the King of Peace (Gen. 7:1-3; 1:8-9; 2Pet. 3:13)
- 3. The righteousness of the Lord surpasses by far our own righteousness (Mt. 5:20-48)

B. The judgement of the Lord serves our restoration

- A bent reed He will not break, and a smoldering wick He will not snuff, till He sends justice to victory (Mt. 12:18-21)
- 2. If the Church is in a fallen state, He clearly shows the problem, as well as the way to repentance (Rev. 2-3)
- 3. Godly sorrow brings repentance leading to salvation without regret (2Cor. 7:8-11; 10:8)

C. The essence of the Lord's reign is different from that of the world's rulers (Is. 11:1-5)

- 1. The fear of God finds His pleasure
- 2. He does not judge according to outward appearances
- 3. He strikes down the ruthless and godless with His spirit-filled word (Mt. 4:1-11; 1John 2:14)
- 4. We should learn from His reign, not from that of the world (Luke 22:24-30)

VI. Our oneness with the exalted Christ

A. Our cooperation, in order to correlate with Him here on earth (John 1:50-51; Eph. 1:20-23)

B. We look to Him who is seated upon the Throne (Rev. 5:6-14; 2Cor. 3:18)

- 1. What we perceive determines our experience
- 2. We need revelation (Eph. 1:16-17; Gal. 1:11-12, 15-16; 1Cor. 2:9-10)
- 3. We need His light. (2Cor. 4:6; Col. 1:12)
- 4. We see with the eyes of our heart (2Cor. 3:16-18; Eph. 1:18; 2Cor. 4:18)

C. Being living (Rev. 4:6-8; Mt. 22:32; John 10:10; 6:63; Eph. 2:5-6)

- 1. We cherish the life which comes from God (John 5:57; Phil. 1:21; Gal. 6:8)
- 2. It is resurrection-life (John 11:25; Rev. 1:17-18)
- 3. It has authority, for it comes from the throne (Rev. 22:1-2; Num. 17:16-25)
- 4. Various expressions of life
- 5. We rule in life (Rom. 5:17; Rev. 5:9-10)

D. Expressing our frankness

- 1. The expression of our faith, bound with authority (Acts 4:13, 29, 31; 28:31)
- 2. We let our frankness not be stolen from us (John 10:10; Rev. 12:10-11; Gal. 5:1; Gen. 10:35)
- 3. For we sing, pray, testify and profess, praising and exalting Him (Rev. 5:9-14)

VII. The prayer of the Church

A. Golden bowls of incense

- 1. The prayers of the saints are precious to God
 - a) gold = God's substance
 - b) incense = the prayer of the spirit (Jude 20; 1Pet. 2:5; Eph. 6:18)
- 2. These prayers are essential for the completion of the age

B. God is waiting for the saints' cooperation

- 1. We are not only waiting for the Lord's coming, we want to accelerate it
- 2. The Lord teaches us to pray (Mt. 6:9-10)
- 3. We have the power to bind and release (Mt. 18:18)
- 4. The church prays (Acts 4:24-31)
- 5. The sounding of the seven trumpets is released by the prayer of the saints (Rev. 8:1-6)

VIII. An exercise in the kingly priesthood for the church His body, the fullness

A. Christ the glorified son of man is our portion

(Col. 1:12, 27; 1John 5:11-13; Rev. 1:4-6, 12-18; 5:5-6, 9-10)

- 1. The Lord is God's truth for us. We receive Him by faith and draw on Him in every respect (John 1:12; Rom. 6:10-11)
- 2. Beholding Him and being transformed into His image (2Cor. 3:18)
- 3. Looking unto Jesus makes us humble, courageous and faithful servants in His house (Gen. 3:1-6; 7:25-26; 12:1-2)

B. The kingly priesthood rehearsing in the practical church life

- 1. Learning to know Christ and to live him (Gal. 2:19-20; Phil. 1:19-21; Eph. 4:20-32; Col. 2:2-3, 6-7; 1Pet. 2:1-5, 9)
- 2. Serving the Lord and the saints (Rom. 16:1-4; 2 Cor. 8:4-5; Col. 3:23; Gen. 6:10)

C. The church, His body, the fullness (Eph. 1:19-23)

- 1. In Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily (Col. 2:9; 1:15-19; 2:2-4)
- 2. We are completed in Him: realizing the riches we possess in Christ (Col. 2:10; 1Cor. 1:4-6, 9; 2Cor. 4:7)
- 3. Through Him and the fellowship in the church we are being filled unto all the fullness of God, dispensing His riches as good stewards to build up His church with Him in glory (Eph. 1:19-23; 3:8-11; 4:12-16; 1Cor. 14:26; Eph. 5:25-27)