

# THE TESTIMONY OF JESUS IN THE BOOK OF REVELATION

by  
William D. Barrick

The Bereans Adult Bible Fellowship  
Placerita Baptist Church  
2011

## Mission Statement

This study of the Book of Revelation gives special attention to the testimony it provides concerning our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. “The testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy” (Rev 19:10; cp. 1:2), leading us to worship and serve Him in everything.

- I. What you have seen (Rev 1).
- II. What is now (Rev 2–3)—the seven churches of Asia Minor.
- III. What will take place after these things (Rev 4–22).
  - A. The Seven Seals (4:1–8:1)
    1. John’s Position (4:1–2)
    2. John’s Vision (4:3–8:1)
      - a. “behold, a THRONE” (4:3–11; see v. 2)
      - b. “I saw . . . A BOOK” (5:1–8:1)—actually a SCROLL
        - (1) The Scroll (5:1)
          - In the Father’s right hand.
          - Written on front and on back.
          - Sealed with seven seals. Cf. Isaiah 29:11; Daniel 12:4, 9.
        - (2) The Person Opening the Scroll (5:2–14)
          - The Question: “Who is worthy . . . ?” (v. 2)
            - ✓ “to open the scroll”
            - ✓ “to break its seals”
          - The Disappointment (vv. 3–4)
            - ✓ No one worthy anywhere (3).
            - ✓ John’s disappointment (4).
          - The Answer: One is worthy! (vv. 5–14)
            - ✓ The Lion of the tribe of Judah (5a)—Genesis 49:8–10.
            - ✓ The Root of David (5b)—Isaiah 11:10.
            - ✓ The Overcomer (5c)—cf. Revelation 3:21; 1 Corinthians 15:54–57; Colossians 2:15.
            - ✓ A Lamb (6–14)—As the Lion He is *able*; as the Lamb He is *worthy*.
              - “standing”—living, not dead (6a)
              - “as if slain”—as though freshly slain (6b)
                - Jesus bears the marks of His sacrifice. See Zechariah 12:10.

The Blood of the Lamb provides Pardon (5:5).  
 The Blood of the Lamb provides Peace (5:9).  
 The Blood of the Lamb provides Purity (7:14).  
 The Blood of the Lamb provides Power (12:11).

- “seven horns” (6c)—all powerful
- “seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God” (6d)
  - The Spirit of God (cf. 1:4; 4:5) or
  - angelic beings “sent out into all the earth.”
- “took the book” (7)
- Praise to the Lamb (8–14)!

#### **A New Song (vv. 8–10)**

“Worthy are You to take the book and to break its seals; for You were slain, and purchased for God with Your blood *men* from every tribe and tongue and people and nation. You have made them *to be* a kingdom and priests to our God; and they will reign upon the earth” (vv. 9–10).

- ▶ Christ’s redeeming work impacts people from every ethnic, linguistic, and national group.
- ▶ The redeemed will reign as king-priests on the earth.

#### **The Angels’ Song (vv. 11–12)**

“Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing” (v. 12).

#### **All Created Beings’ Song (v. 13)**

“To Him who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb, *be* blessing and honor and glory and dominion forever and ever.”

- ▶ Evidence of the Lamb’s deity.
- ▶ Identical attribution of praise to the Father.
- ▶ Responses from the four living creatures (“Amen”) and the twenty-four elders (“fell down and worshiped”; v. 14).

### **Questions for Discussion**

- a. What does the scroll contain and represent?
- b. Why should we serve Christ without reservation?
- c. How can we serve Christ as king-priests today?

### **Implications Regarding Jesus Christ**

Everything in chapter 5 directs the attention to Christ.

- ▶ All heaven and earth give Christ praise.
- ▶ Only Jesus Christ can bring about the consummation of all prophetic history.