

WHO IS WORTHY?

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.

AND I SAW A STRONG ANGEL PROCLAIMING WITH A LOUD VOICE, WHO IS WORTHY TO OPEN THE BOOK, AND TO LOOSE THE SEVEN SEALS THEREOF?

AND NO MAN ON HEAVEN, NOT IN EARTH, NEITHER UNDER THE EARTH, WAS ABLE TO OPEN THE BOOK, NEITHER TO LOOK THEREON.

AND I WEPT MUCH BECAUSE NO MAN WAS FOUND WORTHY TO OPEN AND TO READ THE BOOK, NEITHER TO LOOK THEREON.

AND ONE OF THE ELDERS SAITH UNTO ME, WEEP NOT: BEHOLD, THE LION OF THE TRIBE OF JUDAH, THE ROOT OF DAVID, HAVE PREVAILED TO OPEN THE BOOK, AND TO LOOSE THE SEVEN SEALS THEREOF.

ON THE RIGHT IS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF STRENGTH, POWER, MIGHT, HEALING, AND DELIVERANCE.

DAVID PENNED THAT THE LORD IS ON HIS RIGHT HAND THAT HE SHOULD NOT BE MOVED.

THERE IS A BOOK IN THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD WHO IS THE RIGHTEOUS JUST JUDGE. SEVEN IS SYMBOLIC OF THE KINGDOM OF THE LIVING GOD, HIS SEVEN CHURCHES, AND HIS SEVEN SPIRITS OF JUDGMENT (ISAIAH 11). IT ALSO REPRESENTS AUTHORSHIP AND AUTHORITY.

WHEN YOU HAVE A BOOK, ONE OF THE FIRST QUESTIONS ONE IS ASKED IS, "WHO WROTE THE BOOK?" THERE WAS A NEED FOR RIGHTEOUS JUDGMENT AND THEREFORE THERE WAS A NEED FOR THE AUTHOR BECAUSE EVEN BEFORE WE WERE FORMED IN THE WOMB, THE LORD KNEW US.

MEANING, HE DESIGNED US AND CONSTRUCTED US ACCORDING TO HIS WILL AND PURPOSE.

"FOR THOU HAST CREATED ALL THINGS, AND FOR THY PLEASURE THEY ARE AND WERE CREATED" (REV. 4:11)

Even the strong angel could only proclaim we are all a lump of clay ordained by the master potter all have been given a measure of faith. Within that measure of faith are the gifts of the spirit and the fruits of the spirit. The first is love which covers a multitude of sins. There was no one found (qualified) to even look thereon to determine the love, long suffering, patience, mercy, grace, forgiveness, gentleness, or any other portion of the measure by which the lord is using to judge your life on earth.

John was instructed to bear record of what he saw. He was a seer prophet. When he saw what he saw he wept because within his spirit no one was worthy. The lord designed his creations to desire his righteousness. He said seek the kingdom. He said seek the kingdom and all of its righteousness and all other things shall be added. Our spirit desires to know righteousness. David cried to the lord, teach me to know mine end and to number my days. Teach me thy precepts. His spirit knew that within was the righteousness of God. To be able to prevail, overcome, and to obtain righteous judgement, there was a fight on our behalf.

EPHESIANS 3:17-19

THAT CHRIST MAY DWELL IN YOUR HEARTS BY FAITH; THAT YE, BEING ROOTED AND GROUNDED IN LOVE, MAY BE ABLE TO COMPREHEND WITH ALL SAINTS WHAT IS THE BREADTH, AND LENGTH, AND DEPTH, AND HEIGHT; AND TO KNOW THE LOVE OF CHRIST, WHICH PASSETH KNOWLEDGE, THAT YE MIGHT BE FILLED WITH ALL THE FULLNESS OF GOD.

The elder said weep not because the lamb of God hath prevailed. Often times we weep because of situations that require a Savior. We need our Potter to shape and mold us. Our Spirit weeps with desire to

comprehend the length, breadth, depth, and the height of the Love of Christ, and what he is willing to do to maintain his righteousness and be glorified in our life.

The Lord Jesus Christ was given to us by the Father. In the Book of Hebrews God said prepare me a body because He desired to give the Son unto us, wounded for our transgressions, bruised for our iniquities. He prevailed for us on the cross. He prevailed having seven horns (authorities, powers) which are the seven Spirits of God.

Isaiah 11:1-5

AND THERE SHALL COME FORTH A ROD OUT OF THE STEM OF JESSE, AND A BRANCH SHALL GROW OUT OF HIS ROOTS: AND THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD SHALL REST UPON HIM, THE SPIRIT OF WISDOM AND UNDERSTANDING, THE SPIRIT OF COUNSEL AND MIGHT, THE SPIRIT OF KNOWLEDGE AND OF THE FEAR OF THE LORD. AND SHALL MAKE HIM OF QUICK UNDERSTANDING IN THE FEAR OF THE LORD: AND HE SHALL NOT JUDGE AFTER THE SIGHT OF HIS EYES, NEITHER REPROVE AFTER THE HEARING OF HIS EARS: BUT WITH RIGHTEOUSNESS SHALL HE JUDGE THE POOR, AND REPROVE WITH EQUITY. FOR THE MEEK OF THE EARTH: AND HE SHALL SMITE THE EARTH WITH THE ROD OF HIS MOUTH, AND WITH THE BREADTH OF HIS LIPS SHALL HE SLAY THE WICKED. AND RIGHTEOUSNESS SHALL BE THE GIRDLE OF HIS LOINS, AND FAITHFULNESS THE GIRDLE OF HIS REIGNS.

AND HE CAME AND TOOK THE BOOK OUT OF THE RIGHT HAND OF HIM THAT SAT UPON THE THRONE.

Jesus Christ is the risen Savior. He is the one slain and the only one worthy to open the book of our lives. He is risen to sit on the right hand of God until his enemies are made his footstool.

AND WHEN HE HAD TAKEN THE BOOK, THE FOUR BEASTS AND FOUR AND TWENTY ELDERS FEEL DOWN BEFORE THE LAMB, HAVING EVERY ONE OF THEM HARPS, AND GOLDEN VIALS FULL OF ODOURS, WHICH ARE THE PRAYERS OF THE SAINTS.

We must rejoice because the account of our works of righteousness and faith is in the hands of the Son of God. Our life is in his hands.

John 10:27-30

MY SHEEP HEAR MY VOICE, AND I KNOW THEM, AND THEY FOLLOW ME: AND I GIVE UNTO THEM ETERNAL LIFE; AND THEY SHALL NEVER PERISH, NEITHER SHALL ANY MAN PLUCK THEM OUT OF MY HAND. MY FATHER, WHICH GAVE THEM ME, IS GREATER THAN ALL; AND NO MAN IS ABLE TO PLUCK THEM OUT OF MY FATHER'S HANDS. I AND MY FATHER ARE ONE.

Luke 10:19-20

BEHOLD, I GIVE UNTO YOU POWER TO TREAD ON SERPENT AND SCORPIONS, AND OVER ALL THE POWER OF THE ENEMY: NOTWITHSTANDING IN THIS REJOICE NOT, THAT THE SPIRITS ARE SUBJECT UNTO YOU; BUT RATHER, BECAUSE YOUR NAMES ARE WRITTEN IN HEAVEN.

Seven is the number of completion. The Lord said on the cross, "It is finished," meaning complete. The work has been signed, sealed and delivered. The Lord has made it clear with His word that he has angels that he has given charge of his people to protect us, lead us, and even keep record of our doings in the earth. The book of records on each life has been written on front and back and sealed until the day of judgment.

The Lord Jesus had Moses establish a pattern of things on earth after the similitude of the things in Heaven. I have heard in the court of law where there was an attempt to bring judgment regarding a circumstance and I heard things such as, "those records are sealed," or "we need the judges' permission to get access to that."

Therefore, the Lord has sealed the lives of his people and he has also sealed up the judgments of the nations until the set appointed time. At the appointed time the Word/the Lamb of God does the judging. However, the Lord shares in the book of psalms the judgment of the righteous will not be with the unjust.

Psalm 4:5

Therefore, the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.

Then the Lord also shares with us in Paul's letter to the Corinthians not to judge things ahead of the time. The Lord has an appointed time for all things and he is merciful, long suffering, and faithful to forgive. Therefore, he pleads with us to watch and pray so that we are ready when he comes.

I Corinthians 4:5

Therefore, judge nothing before the time, until the Lord come, who both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest the counsels of the heart: and then shall every man have praise of God.

These things have the Lord appointed even before the foundations of the world. For when we were formed in the womb, the judgment was set. The plan was complete. Remember, this is not just any kind of judgment; it is righteous judgment. The word states there is none righteous, none, but the Son of God, Jesus Christ.

Revelation 5:8-9

And when he had taken the book, the four beasts and four and twenty elders fell down before the lamb, having every one of them harps, and golden vials full of odours, which are the prayers of the saints.

And they sung a new song, saying, thou art worthy to take the book, and 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;

IS IT A SWEET AROMA?

REV 6:9

And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the alter the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held:

And they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O' Lord, Holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth?

And white robes were given unto every one of them; and it was said unto them, that they should rest yet for a little season, until their fellow-servants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled.

Rev 8:1-5

And when He had opened the seventh seal, there was silence in Heaven about the space of an half an hour.

And I saw the seven angels which stood before God; and to them were given seven trumpets.

And another angel came and stood at the altar, having a golden censer; and there was given unto him much incense, that he should offer it with the prayers of all saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne.

And the smoke of the incense which came with the prayers of the saints, ascended up before God out of the Angel's hand.

And the angel took the censer, and filled it with fire of the altar and cast it onto the earth: and there were voices, and thundering, and lightnings, and an earthquake.

When the Lord Jesus Christ opened the fifth seal, He revealed the need for justice and judgment for those who were slain for the Word of God. They held fast to the testimony of the Lord Jesus Christ.

I Corinthians 9:13-14

Do ye know that they which minister about Holy things live of the things of the temple? And they which wait at the altar are partakers with the altar?

Even so hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the gospel should live of the gospel.

The Lord revealed that there was an altar. An altar is where sacrifice takes place. An altar is where his all-consuming fire accepts our sacrifice, and where petitions and prayers are made. The Lord through the Apostle Paul stated that we ought to present ourselves living sacrifices unto God, Holy, and acceptable and that it is our reasonable service. Those who had sacrificed themselves for the word of God cried unto the Lord asking, "how long?" He advised them that there were others who would die in the like manner as they. They were given white robes until the Lord's will was fulfilled concerning them. As gatekeepers and royal priesthood, we are first partakers of those things pertaining to the altar. We must walk in holiness. We must worship. We must praise. We must seek the Lord's face and pray. When our obedience is fulfilled, then shall the Lord recompense vengeance for our sake.

Zechariah 2:12-13

And the Lord shall inherit Judah his portion in the Holy Land, and shall choose Jerusalem again. Be silent, O' all flesh, before the lord: for He is raised up out of His Holy habitation.

So, when the Lord had opened the seventh seal there was silence in Heaven for approximately one-half hour. The word confirms in the Holy prophet Zechariah that the Lord shall inherit his people and that the silence took place because it was commanded of the Holy angels because the Lord had moved out of His Holy place. Some moved the Lord from his throne and it is confirmed in chapter 8 that it was the partakers of the altar, the saints of God who were willing to watch and pray. Remember, that the Lord used Moses to show us a pattern that was established on the earth according to how things have been established in Heaven.

Hebrews 8:1-5

Now of the things which we have spoken this is the sum: we have such a high priest, who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the Heavens;

A minister of the sanctuary, and of the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, and not man.

For every high priest is ordained to offer gifts and sacrifices: wherefore it is of necessity that this man have somewhat also to offer.

For if he were on earth, he should not be a priest, seeing that there were priests that offer gifts according to the law: Who serve unto the example and shadow of heavenly things, as Moses was admonished of God when He was about to make the tabernacle (For, see, saith He, that thou make all things according to the pattern shewed to thee in the mount.

So, the saints of God prayed and offered sacrifices of prayer and petition to the living God and the angels of the Lord completed the work in Heaven having a golden censer and much incense. The Lord is not just the author, but is also the finisher of our faith (Heb 11:6). He who hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Oftentimes throughout scripture references the Lord has mentioned Gold as symbolic of purity (See 1Peter 1:7) *That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than that of Gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour, and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:*

So, there is no coincidence that the angel used a golden censer to offer prayers of the saints before the throne of God. The incense was burned often during times of prayer to offer sweet aroma as a gift unto God and to honor Him.

In Rev 8 the angel is given duty to offer the prayers with much incense and it was a sweet savoring aroma that moved the Lord from his throne to act in judgment and justice on behalf of the saints of God.

Psalms 54:7

For he hath delivered me out of all trouble: and mine eye hath seen his desire upon mine enemies.

The angel of God using the censer which is somewhat of a shovel. He used it to move the fire of the altar (consuming fire) and cast it to the earth. Because of his unity with his heritage and his chosen people, the Lord, by His spirit, pours his judgment in the earth according to the prayers of the righteous for they availed much.

For these reasons, we must be sure that our prayers are righteous and in unity by the spirit of God. We must decrease and the spirit must increase. We must allow the Holy Spirit to pray because we in the flesh cannot pray prayers that are pure and pleasing unto God, but He has given us His Holy Spirit to utter unto Him His will with the refining fire that will purify on our behalf so that we offer a sweet aroma unto the throne of God in unity with the other saints for judgment's sake. We have other saints crying unto God, "How Long?" So, we must do these things for the sake of those who have paved the way for us so that we could have such a privilege to come before the throne of grace and move God from His habitation place on our behalf.

The Lord mentions on numerous occasions that he will make manifest the counsel of the hearts, and had addressed with the churches that they needed to return to their first love and do their first work of faithfulness and righteousness. He said a marvelous work would he do and a wonder that they wouldn't believe it if it were told to them because many honor with their lips but their hearts were far from him.

Isaiah 29:6

Thou shalt be visited of the Lord of hosts with thunder, and with earthquake, and great noise, with storm and tempest, and the flame of devouring fire.

Isaiah 29: 10-12

For the Lord hath poured out upon you the spirit of deep sleep, and hath closed your eyes: the prophets and your rulers, the seers hath he covered.

And the vision of all is become unto you as the words of a book that is sealed, which men deliver to one that is learned, saying, read this, I pray thee: and he saith, I cannot; for it is sealed:

And the book is delivered to him that is not learned, saying, read this, I pray thee: and he saith, I am not learned.

Thank God for righteous judgement! The scroll is given to the Lamb of God who is the God of all righteousness. The ancient of days has placed judgment in the hands of the Son of God. There isn't going to be a conspiracy. There isn't going to be anyone who has planted fake evidence or twisted the truth, or perverting of justice at the throne of the Most High. The truth only shall stand at the seat of judgment.

Before the Lord allows for the seals to be opened, there is praise in Heaven among the four beasts and the twenty-four elders (advisors), with these praises there is an offering of sweet aroma unto God with the prayers of the saints of God. The Lord considers the prayers of his saints when judging the nations. We have been made joint-heirs with Christ and therefore will reign with him in unity as one.

In the last days, the Lord said that there will be perilous times, and that the people will not be able to endure sound counsel. Therefore, they heap to themselves their own teachers and prophets. In doing so, the prophetic in Isaiah is fulfilled, because when the Lord begins to pour out his wrath, these people will attempt to go to these worldly seers and rulers they have put in high places (as we discussed in the book of Daniel); yet the words will not come forth, their eyes will be shut to them; as if it had been a book sealed for their hearts are far from the Lord.

1Thess 4:14-17

For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.

For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep.

For the Lord himself shall descend from Heaven with a shout, with the voice of the arch angel, and with the trump of God and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: so shall we ever be with the Lord.

Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

We have mentioned in other chapters (Ch. 4) that we must be sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise. The Lord is coming back for a people without spot and without blemish. The Lord Jesus wants us to know that we have something to look forward to. He tells us to seek for those things which are above. Surely, he has gone to prepare a place and he will come again to receive us. The reward is truly in the finish. Therefore, he says to be not weary in well doing for in due season you shall reap if you faint not (Gal. 5).

Here he tells us that when he receives us, that the quickening will be a glorious occasion. Those that have died in Christ will be lifted first and then those that remain. He states this will take place in the air. He

is not yet setting his feet on earth at this appointed time. Here is the perfecting of the saints...the collecting of the saint, the stature of the fullness of Christ as mentioned in Paul's letter to the Ephesians.

Ephesians 4:13

Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ:

These same things the Lord also confirmed in a similar way with his prophet Ezekiel. We have heard said often that the Lord is with us. He will never leave us neither forsake us; that we can boldly say that he is our helper and our keeper. However, we don't really allow ourselves to fully absorb the reality of the devastation for those that must attempt to endure the "trouble of Jacob", if they are not sealed when the Lord returns.

Ezekiel 10:18-19

Then, the glory of the Lord departed from off the threshold of the house, and stood over the cherubims.

And the cherubims lifted up their wings, and mounted up from the earth in my sight: when they went out, the wheels also were beside them, and every one stood at the door of the east gate of the Lord's house; and the glory of the God of Israel was over them above.

Here the Lord Jesus confirms that there is an appointed time for his spirit to be taken up. We want to be in unity with righteousness when these things take place.

Ps 118:19

Open to me the gates of righteousness: I will go into them, and I will praise the Lord:

This gate of the Lord in which the righteous shall enter.

The Lord's spirit returns back to God and the people are at the door of the east gate. The has redeemed his people and he has said we shall reign on earth. Here at the gate, they are waiting for that place that has been "prepared" for them (John 14:3).

Rev 5:11-14

And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the beasts and the elders: and the number of them was then thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands;

Saying with a loud voice, worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honor, and glory, and blessing.

And every creature which is in Heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, blessing, and honor, and glory, and power, be unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb, for ever and ever.

And the four beasts said, Amen. And the four and twenty elders fell down and worshipped him that liveth for ever and ever.

Therein is the comfort. Therein is our reason to glorify the Most High! Glory to his righteous name! Praise the Lord, Praise the Lord, praise the Lord for he alone is worthy to be praised.

II Corinthians 5:1

For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in Heavens.

As we wait faithfully the Lord God has given his chosen a comfort and reassurance that he is our exceedingly great reward. Sometimes it seems as though this earthly body is failing us because the flesh is weak, yet the spirit is willing. However, the Jesus will make us new. He will give us a glorified body that is not made with hands. That which is mortal must put on immortality.

I Corinthians 15:52-53

In a moment, in a twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.

Therein is the victory! What a reason to praise, as if we need another! The Lord uses the word “must” as to say it is not an option...we will be made new, and be given a glorified body. That which once could have been corrupted is no longer corruptible, but we will live eternally on high with him. Jesus is worth it all! He is worthy of our faithfulness. He is worthy of our praises. He is worthy of our worship. He is worthy of all the warfare and the affliction we endure. There will be a day where there will be no more pain, no more agony, no more hunger, no more thirst, and the Lord of all glory shall wipe away our tears. Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of the Lord.