

December 12

Scriptures: Read Revelation 5

Key Verse: “And they sang a new song: ‘You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because You were slain, and with Your blood You purchased men for God from every tribe and language and people and nation.’” (Revelation 5:9)

Overview

John now sees a “scroll” in “the right hand of Him who sat on the throne” (v. 1). It has writing on both sides and is sealed with seven seals. The value of its message is so great that no one “in heaven or on earth” can break the seals and read it (v.3). John laments, but then hears one of the elders say, “the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has triumphed. He is able to open the scroll and its seven seals” (v. 5).

But, rather than a Lion, John sees a Lamb, “looking as if it had been slain, standing in the center of the throne” (v.6). The multidimensional factor is very evident here, in that “the one who sat on the throne” (v. 1, 7b) is still sitting there even while the Lamb is at the “center of the throne”. His “seven horns and seven eyes” represent “the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth” (v. 6). The “seven spirits” were previously described as seven lamps, but in this instance there may be a reflection of the seven eyes of God in Zechariah 4:10, “which range throughout the earth”.

The seven horns speak of power — omnipotence. The seven eyes speak of knowledge — omniscience. The Lamb of God is all-knowing and all-powerful. He is, in every way, very God. He is the only one “worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals” (v.9). He and the one “who sits on the throne” are one. The hosts of heaven sing, “To Him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honor and glory and power, forever and ever!” (v.13). The Lamb is worthy.

Prayer

Lord God, our hearts rejoice with the hosts of heaven, singing, “To Him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honour, glory and power, forever and ever!”