

# 1 **A STUDY OF THE BOOK OF REVELATION**

## **LESSON 19**

### 2 **OPENING REMARKS**

- Revelation chapter 4 gives us the detail of the prophecy of the Rapture from heaven's view
- John's being "caught up" into heaven is an example of the Rapture and to show us the things that begin to happen at this time
- The 4<sup>th</sup> chapter also give us the organization of God's saints who will continue in the work of redemption
- We have been looking at what redemption means and we realize that what was lost by sin has to be restored through the redemption process

### 3 **OPENING REMARKS cont.**

- The study of this portion should help us understand even more of what He has to do in an individual's life when they come out of the world of sin to be restored back to God
- There are a lot of changes necessary
- This redemption in our individual life, as well as in the life of the church and the life of the world, is something that is taken by steps
- Following the DBR and receiving the Holy Ghost is just the beginning of our redemption

### 4 **REDEMPTION REVIEW**

- There is a cleansing and a working process that begins to go on within us
- We must let God continue this cleansing and working within and without
- The things mankind lost because of sin:
  1. He lost his soul
  2. He lost his body
  3. He lost the earth
- All three of these were gifts from God to His creation

### 5 **WHAT WAS LOST TO SIN**

Genesis 2:17

17 but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.

Ezekiel 18:4-5

4 Behold, all souls are mine; as the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is mine: the soul that sinneth, it shall die.

5 But if a man be just, and do that which is lawful and right,

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•Verse 5 is what keeps a man's soul in the hands of God

6  **WHAT WAS LOST TO SIN cont.**

- Mankind lost his soul out of the keeping of God's hands and into Satan's hands with disobedience
- The second thing man lost due to sin was his eternal body
- He could no longer eat of the tree of life so he began to grow old
- The third thing man lost was the earth
- God created this earth just for mankind and He gave it to mankind

7  **WHAT WAS LOST TO SIN cont.**

Genesis 3:17-19

17 And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life;

18 thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field:

19 in the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.

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•Man lost the earth; he lost dominion that God gave him over the earth and everything upon it

8  **WHAT WAS LOST TO SIN cont.**

- The earth produced a living for mankind only by hard labor
- The earth developed the weeds, the pestilences, the disease, the plagues and the pests after sin came upon it
- The earth passed into control of Satan
- Up unto the time of sin the earth was God's gift to His creation, mankind
- If the result of sin is 3 fold; the loss of the soul, the body and the earth then redemption must be 3 fold

9  **REDEMPTION OF WHAT WAS LOST**

- Through redemption they will be returned to the perfect state, all three
- Redemption is not complete until all that was lost by sin has been restored
- Jesus' death on the cross was only the beginning of redemption
- Redemption is a process that began with the cross, is continued by the preaching of the gospel, and will be brought to consummation in the Day of the Lord

10  **REDEMPTION OF WHAT WAS LOST cont.**

- The three main events of redemption are:
  1. Conversion, the saving of the soul
  2. Resurrection, the redemption of the body
  3. The Second Coming of Jesus Christ, the redemption of the earth
- Peter who walked with Jesus for 3-1/2 years was not yet converted...why?
- All three aspects of the Death, Burial, and Resurrection (DBR) are our conversion not just receiving the Holy Ghost
- In our dispensation of grace the DBR is the gospel

11  **REDEMPTION OF WHAT WAS LOST cont.**

- The Death part of the DBR is us dying out to our old sinful nature which is actually repentance
- The Burial is the washing away of our past sins through baptism in Jesus name
- The Resurrection is the new life in the Holy Ghost
- All three of these together is conversion; this is the redemption of our soul
- The second one, Resurrection, redemption of the body, takes place at the Rapture

12  **REDEMPTION OF WHAT WAS LOST cont.**

- The redemption of the earth takes place at the second coming of Jesus Christ
- The earth is not fully cleansed at this time but it is redeemed as Jesus has taken possession of it
- The entire Word of God is about redemption; bringing mankind back to the perfect state God had him in

- Where we are in our study of Revelation, the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> chapters, the first two main events of redemption have taken place and the third is in preparation

13  **REDEMPTION OF WHAT WAS LOST cont.**

- This third phase of redemption concerns the earth and those who are on the earth after the Rapture
- The devil is in possession of the earth and is reigning in the person of the Antichrist
- He opposes every step in the process of redemption
- He opposes the redemption of the soul first of all
- If we don't make this first step we need not worry about the other two
- First of all is the redemption of the soul and Satan will fight you every step of the way

14  **REDEMPTION OF WHAT WAS LOST cont.**

- As we study in another portion Revelation we find that Satan also fights the redemption of the body, the warfare in heaven at the Rapture
- He also fights the redemption of this earth
- At the Rapture Satan is repulsed by Michael the archangel and all the angels of heaven that are fighting with him
- It is at this time Satan is cast out of heaven down to the earth
- Satan will gather the armies of the earth to try to stop the second coming of Jesus Christ at Armageddon

15  **REVELATION 5:1-4**

1 And I saw in the right hand of him that sat on the throne a book written within and on the back side, 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 thereon.

16  **THE SEVEN-SEALED BOOK**

- John's weeping here shows how serious the situation would be if no one could be found worthy to open the book

- John was not weeping because he had been denied a knowledge of the contents of this book
- This book is never said to be read
- It was not for the purpose of reading the book that the seals were to be broken
- John probably knew the nature and contents of the book being a prophet of God

17  **THE SEVEN-SEALED BOOK cont.**

Ezekiel 2:8-10

8 But thou, son of man, hear what I say unto thee; Be not thou rebellious like that rebellious house: open thy mouth, and eat that I give thee.

9 And when I looked, behold, a hand was sent unto me; and, lo, a roll of a book was therein;

10 and he spread it before me; and it was written within and without: and there was written therein lamentations, and mourning, and woe.

18  **THE SEVEN-SEALED BOOK cont.**

Ezekiel 3:1-5

1 Moreover he said unto me, Son of man, eat that thou findest; eat this roll, and go speak unto the house of Israel.

2 So I opened my mouth, and he caused me to eat that roll.

3 And he said unto me, Son of man, cause thy belly to eat, and fill thy bowels with this roll that I give thee. Then did I eat it; and it was in my mouth as honey for sweetness.

4 And he said unto me, Son of man, go, get thee unto the house of Israel, and speak with my words unto them.

5 For thou art not sent to a people of a strange speech and of a hard language, but to the house of Israel;

19  **THE SEVEN-SEALED BOOK cont.**

- Ezekiel saw the same vision as John and he was shown what was within the seven-sealed book; the lamentations, the mournings, and the woes
- Revelation chapter 10 gives an even better description

20  **THE SEVEN-SEALED BOOK cont.**

Revelation 10:8-11

8 And the voice which I heard from heaven spake unto me again, and

said, Go and take the little book which is open in the hand of the angel which standeth upon the sea and upon the earth.

9 And I went unto the angel, and said unto him, Give me the little book. And he said unto me, Take it, and eat it up; and it shall make thy belly bitter, but it shall be in thy mouth sweet as honey.

10 And I took the little book out of the angel's hand, and ate it up; and it was in my mouth sweet as honey: and as soon as I had eaten it, my belly was bitter.

11 And he said unto me, Thou must prophesy again before many peoples, and nations, and tongues, and kings.

21  **THE SEVEN-SEALED BOOK cont.**

- The information concerning this book was written to all; it was given first to the Jews by Ezekiel and then to the saints here in Revelation
- As the seals are broken one by one, they produce upon the earth lamentations and mourning and woe
- The word "redemption" comes to us from an Old Testament custom regarding the the even distribution of land among the people.
- God gave us this process in the Old Testament so we could really understand the full meaning while we're still here and before we get there

22  **REDEMPTION OF THE PURCHASED POSSESSION**

- We need to read this portion in the Old Testament natural examples so we can clearly understand the spiritual meanings
- When the children of Israel possessed the land that God had given them (the Promised Land), certain provisions were made to keep the land evenly distributed among the people
- It could be sold or otherwise disposed of, but the bill of sale was of the nature of a lease, which would expire automatically in the year of jubilee, and the land would revert to its original owner

23  **REDEMPTION OF THE PURCHASED POSSESSION cont.**

- The earth was given to mankind forever, no one else could ever own it
- There comes a time when it has to revert back to its original owner
- If a man lost his property or sold it, thus disinheriting his children, any kinsman could buy back the land at any time by paying the purchase price
- Then the land could be restored back its rightful owner

- This process was known as redemption, and the man who bought it back was the redeemer

24  **REDEMPTION OF THE PURCHASED POSSESSION cont.**

- Later the land would actually pass into the hands of the heirs, and they would move onto it and possess it
- This was called the "*redemption of the purchased possession*"
- In the spiritual we are the redeemed and Jesus Christ is the redeemer as He paid the purchase price
- When a kinsman thus redeemed the property, an instrument of writing was drawn up
- On the inside were written the specifications, terms of sale, and the like

25  **REDEMPTION OF THE PURCHASED POSSESSION cont.**

- On the back were the signatures and witnesses
- This deed was rolled up and sealed
- The sealed book was delivered to the original owner or to the heir
- The heir could at his convenience break the seals, and with the opened book as his authority, take possession of the land, by force if necessary
- Such a transaction is recorded in Jeremiah 32:6-15

26  **LEVITICUS 25:23-28**

23 The land shall not be sold for ever: for the land is mine; for ye are strangers and sojourners with me.

24 And in all the land of your possession ye shall grant a redemption for the land.

25 If thy brother be waxen poor, and hath sold away some of his possession, and if any of his kin come to redeem it, then shall he redeem that which his brother sold.

26 And if the man have none to redeem it, and himself be able to redeem it;

27 then let him count the years of the sale thereof, and restore the overplus unto the man to whom he sold it; that he may return unto his possession.

28 But if he be not able to restore it to him, then that which is sold shall remain in the hand of him that hath bought it until the year of jubilee: and in the jubilee it shall go out, and he shall return unto his possession.

27  **JEREMIAH 32:6-15**

6 And Jeremiah said, The word of the Lord came unto me, saying,  
7 Behold, Hanameel the son of Shallum thine uncle shall come unto thee, saying, Buy thee my field that is in Anathoth: for the right of redemption is thine to buy it.

8 So Hanameel mine uncle's son came to me in the court of the prison according to the word of the Lord, and said unto me, Buy my field, I pray thee, that is in Anathoth, which is in the country of Benjamin: for the right of inheritance is thine, and the redemption is thine; buy it for thyself. Then I knew that this was the word of the Lord.

9 And I bought the field of Hanameel my uncle's son, that was in Anathoth, and weighed him the money, even seventeen shekels of silver.

10 And I subscribed the evidence, and sealed it, and took witnesses, and weighed him the money in the balances.

28  **JEREMIAH 32:6-15 cont.**

11 So I took the evidence of the purchase, both that which was sealed according to the law and custom, and that which was open:

12 and I gave the evidence of the purchase unto Baruch the son of Neriah, the son of Maaseiah, in the sight of Hanameel mine uncle's son, and in the presence of the witnesses that subscribed the book of the purchase, before all the Jews that sat in the court of the prison.

13 And I charged Baruch before them, saying,

14 Thus saith the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel; Take these evidences, this evidence of the purchase, both which is sealed, and this evidence which is open; and put them in an earthen vessel, that they may continue many days.

15 For thus saith the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel; Houses and fields and vineyards shall be possessed again in this land.

29  **REDEMPTION OF THE PURCHASED POSSESSION cont.**

- These scriptures are natural examples of the spiritual application of the redemption of the purchased possession
- Jesus is the heir and owner of all things, but the devil is in possession
- In the last days Satan will reign supremely in this world but he has no right here

- The land has already been bought back as the redemption price was paid on Calvary
- Here in Revelation the evidence of ownership is in the right hand of Him that sits upon the throne

30  **REDEMPTION OF THE PURCHASED POSSESSION cont.**

- The devil, the "the lawless one" knows no law
- He not only refuses to leave, but he is fortifying himself and preparing to resist eviction
- Therefore it will be necessary for Jesus to break the seals and proceed with the authority of the open book
- This authority is what will take back by force the purchased possession
- There isn't any body that ever lived in heaven, under heaven or on the earth, or under the earth that was able or authorized to open the book except Jesus Christ

31  **REDEMPTION OF THE PURCHASED POSSESSION cont.**

- Who else dares to attempt to evict Satan? Who has a chain that can bind him?
- We see from the earth's point of view further in our study of Revelation that all heaven is thrown into a state of consternation
- They have not forgotten the great war in heaven when Satan attempted attempted to prevent the Resurrection
- And when Michael and all his angels, the greatest force in all the universe, succeeded only in driving Satan down to the earth
- Jesus Christ is the only one who has the ultimate power

32  **REDEMPTION OF THE PURCHASED POSSESSION cont.**

- Heaven never underestimates the power of Satan, neither do God's people
- Only the uninformed on earth underestimate Satan's power
- It is only Jesus Christ in us that can overcome Satan's deceit and seductions
- We cannot just receive this power in us but we have to stay full of this power
- We need to take time for ourselves get full and stay full of the Holy Spirit

33  **EPHESIANS 1:1-16**

1 Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, To the saints which are at Ephesus, and to the faithful in Christ Jesus:

2 Grace be to you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ:

4 according as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:

5 having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will,

34  **EPHESIANS 1:1-16 cont.**

6 to the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved:

7 in whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;

8 wherein he hath abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence;

9 having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself:

10 that in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him.

35  **EPHESIANS 1:1-16 cont.**

11 In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will:

12 that we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ.

13 In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also, after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise,

14 which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.

15 Wherefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus, and love unto all the saints,

16 cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers;

36  **REVELATION 5:1-4**

1 And I saw in the right hand of him that sat on the throne a book written within and on the back side, 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.

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