The Seal Breaker

Rev. 5:1-14David Rountree

God refers to a sealed book in Neh. 9:38, 10:1; Isa. 29:11; and Dan. 12:4, 9, and all are in the context of an official document necessary because of the unfaithfulness of God's national Jewish church. Daniel relates to the exact time frame as Revelation 5, the time of removing Israel's position and power.

Revelation 5 introduces the sealed book of Daniel that God is now ready to unseal. The breaking of the seals and revelation of the judgment contained in this scroll does not begin until chapter 6.

Divorce prediction: Luke 19:41-44; 21:20-24; 23:28-31; Matt. 21:43.

The Scroll (v. 1-4).

- 1. A closed and sealed scroll.
- 2. Similar to the Ten Commandments: Exod. 32:15; 25:16, 21; 40:20; Deut. 10:2.
- 3. No one worthy to open the scroll.
- 4. Divorce proceedings have been initiated but the final divorce decree of Israel as the church of God has not occurred, and it must.
- 5. Why is this significant?

The Savior (v. 5-7).

- 1. An elder presents a lion-- the comforting news of Christ's presence.
- 2. Christ is described as the "Root of David" and "overcomer" (v.5; Isa. 11:1-12:6; Jer. 23:5; Zech. 3:8).
- 3. The reason redemption for us and others is possible is because Christ was found worthy to be a sacrificial substitute for man and able to offer his life for his people.

The Submissiveness (v. 8-14).

- 1. Three separate doxologies submissively burst forth from around the throne.
- 2. There needed to be new songs, new music, new prayers and new joy!
- 3. Christ is double worthy: to break the seals of judgments on Israel, and to get his rightful glory.
- 4. The people Christ redeems constitutes a kingdom and priests who reign on the earth (v. 10). We now reign through our prayers which ascend as incense to the throne.
- 5. Christ makes us more than conquerors so we should lift up praise to the Lion of Judah our sacrificial Lamb.

Concluding Applications

- 1. Anticipation in Christ.
- 2. A New International Picture of Heaven (v.9).
- 3. A Widened Concern for Those Who Are Yet to Believe (Eph.2:13-22).
- 4. Christians Reign with Christ Now.