

## CONQUERORS

Scenes from Heaven

April 1, 2018

Introduction: Happy Easter everyone! For over 15 years the perspective of my Easter lessons has focused from the vantage point of the tomb – the power of the resurrection here on earth. It's a great perspective and one we often need to hear. But, this morning I would like to offer a different perspective, one from the vantage point of heaven.

Scripture Reading: Revelation 5:3-6a

### I. Why Are You Weeping? (John 20:11-18)

*They said to her, "Woman, **why are you weeping?**" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him" (John 20:13).*

<sup>5</sup> ... "Why do you seek the living among the dead? <sup>6</sup> He is not here, but has risen... (Luke 24:5b-6a).

*Jesus said to her, "**Woman, why are you weeping?** Whom are you seeking?" (John 20:15a).*

### II. Scenes from Heaven

<sup>3</sup> And no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll or to look into it, <sup>4</sup> and **I began to weep loudly because no one was found worthy to open the scroll or to look into it.** <sup>5</sup> And one of the elders said to me, "**Weep no more; behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals.**" <sup>6</sup> And between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders **I saw a Lamb standing, as though it had been slain...** (Revelation 5:3-6a).

*And they sang a new song, saying, "Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, **for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God** from every tribe and language and people and nation" (Revelation 5:9).*

<sup>13</sup> ... they hand over their power and authority to the beast. <sup>14</sup> They will **make war on the Lamb, and the Lamb will conquer them, for he is Lord of lords and King of kings, and those with him are called and chosen and faithful**" (Revelation 17:13-14).

### III. The Scars

*So the other disciples told him [Thomas], "**We have seen the Lord.**" But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands **the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe**" (John 20:25).*

<sup>11</sup> Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, <sup>12</sup> saying

with a loud voice, **“Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!”** (Revelation 5:11–12).

<sup>9</sup> When he opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar **the souls of those who had been slain for the word of God and for the witness they had borne.** <sup>10</sup> They cried out with a loud voice, **“O Sovereign Lord, holy and true, how long before you will judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?”** (Revelation 6:9–10).

#### SCARS ARE LEFT WHEN WOUNDS ARE HEALED

*He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away”*  
(Revelation 21:4).

#### IV. More the Conquerors

The **one who conquers**, I will grant him to sit with me on my throne, **as I also conquered** and sat down with my Father on his throne (Revelation 3:21).

<sup>10</sup> And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, **“Now the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ have come, for the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God.** <sup>11</sup> And **they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb** and by the word of their testimony, **for they loved not their lives even unto death.** <sup>12</sup> Therefore, rejoice, O heavens and you who dwell in them! But woe to you, O earth and sea, for **the devil has come down to you in great wrath, because he knows that his time is short!”** (Revelation 12:10–12).

<sup>37</sup> No, in all these things **we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.** <sup>38</sup> For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, <sup>39</sup> nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord (Romans 8:37–39).

#### WE ARE MORE THAN CONQUERORS, BECAUSE HE CONQUERED ALL!

<sup>4</sup> For everyone who has been born of God **overcomes the world.** And this is the victory that **has overcome the world—our faith.** <sup>5</sup> Who is it that **overcomes** the world except the one who **believes that Jesus is the Son of God?** (1 John 5:4–5).

#### V. To the One Who Overcomes – Who Conquers – Who has Scars

To the one who overcomes...

- I will grant you the Tree of Life – Revelation 2:7
- You will not be hurt by the second death – Revelation 2:11
- I will give you hidden manna – Revelation 2:17
- I will give you authority over the nations – Revelation 2:26

- You will be clothed in white garments – Revelation 3:5
- I will never blot your name out of the book of life – Revelation 13:8
- I will confess your name before my Father and before the angels – Revelation 13:8
- I will make you a pillar in the temple of God – Revelation 3:12
- I will write on you the name of God, and the name of the city of God – Revelation 3:12
- I will grant you to sit with me on the throne – Revelation 3:21
- You will have this heritage, I will be your God and you will be my son – Revelation 21:7

<sup>6</sup> And he said to me, "**It is done!** I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of **life without payment.** <sup>7</sup> **The one who conquers will have this heritage,** and I will be his God and he will be my son. <sup>8</sup> But as for the cowardly, the faithless, the detestable, as for murderers, the sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars, their portion will be in the lake that burns with fire and sulfur, which is the second death" (Revelation 21:6–8).