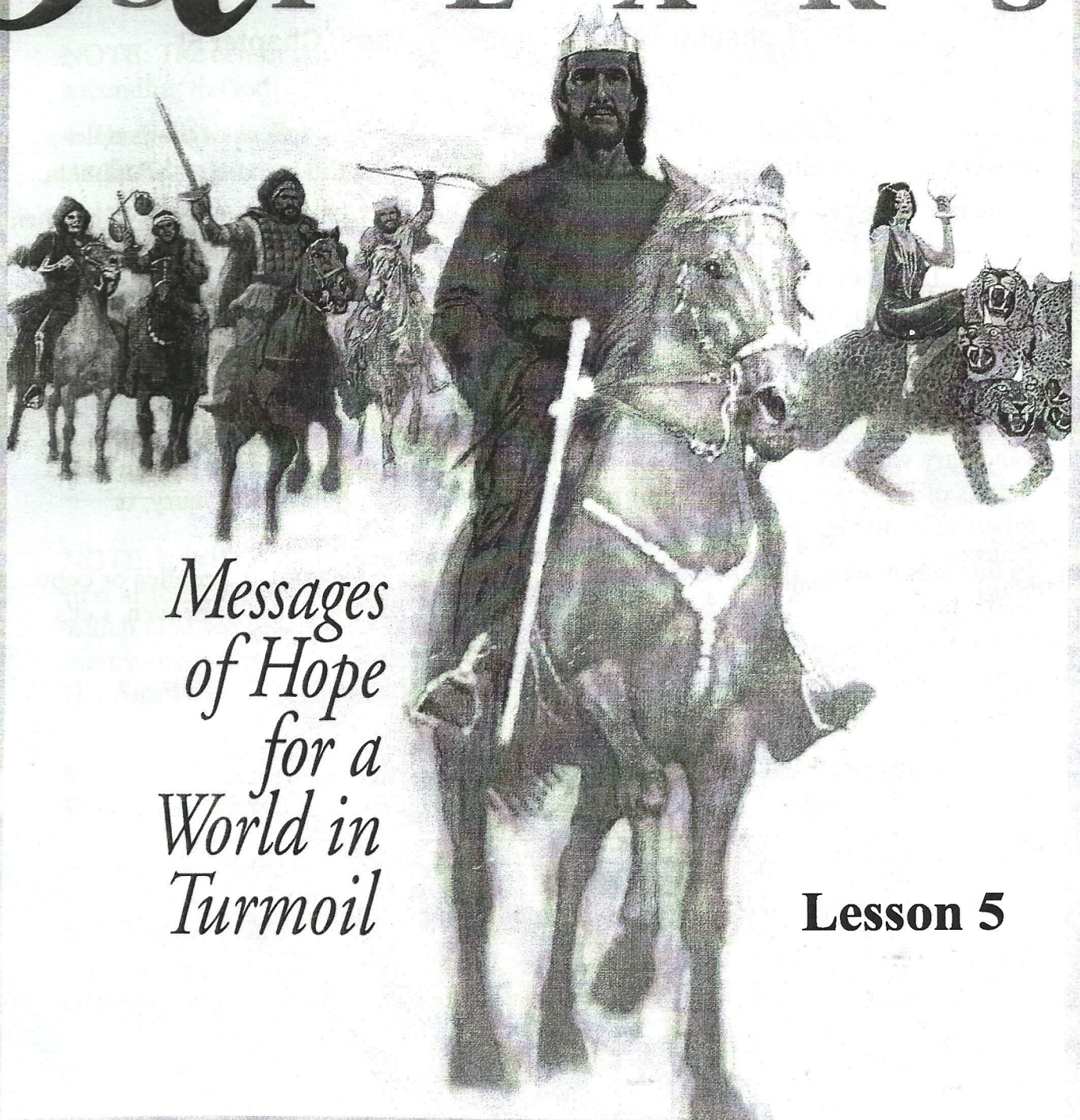


# Revelation

## S P E A K S



*Messages  
of Hope  
for a  
World in  
Turmoil*

**Lesson 5**



# Jesus the Lamb and High Priest

**[This chapter is based on Revelation, Chapter 5]**

Perhaps some of the most mystifying and misunderstood practices of the people living in Old Testament times were their rituals requiring the sacrificing of animals.

Why did these people shed the blood of innocent beasts? Was it some form of heathen idolatry? Was it just a pagan ritual practiced by a superstitious people to appease a wrathful god? Or could it be that centuries before Christ came and died on the cross, God devised, in advance, a method of teaching the way of salvation through a sinless Redeemer—a dramatized prophecy of the saving work of Christ?

After the exodus of the children of Israel from bondage in Egypt, God expanded the sacrificial system by including the ceremonies and sacrifices connected to the sanctuary worship services. This would be a visual aid in teaching the people the details of His plan to save mankind. God asked Moses to build a sanctuary, or tabernacle, that He might dwell among them.

In this lesson we will learn about this earthly sanctuary, which was a replica or copy of the heavenly sanctuary. John was shown in vision the sanctuary in heaven. Let's take a look at this sanctuary and its services.

**1. What was John shown in the very first part of the Book of Revelation?  
Revelation 1:12, 13.**

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**2. Where did John see the seven golden candlesticks? Revelation 4:5**

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## **Revelation Speaks - 2**

NOTE: The candlesticks were not only given to light the sanctuary but were to be a type of the glorious light the Holy Spirit would bring into the lives of God's people to illuminate their way to the Kingdom. Pictured here in this verse is the throne room of God or the heavenly sanctuary.

**3. Where do we find the first of the seven angels with the seven trumpets standing as he ministered for God? Revelation 8:3, 4.**

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NOTE: The censer and the incense were to represent the prayers of God's people ascending to God.

**4. Earlier in the book of Revelation we find another vision of the altar. What do we find happening there? Revelation 6:9-11.**

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NOTE: The vision of those who had been martyred for the cause of God once again reminds us that the altar of incense John sees is in the heavenly sanctuary, or temple.

**5. What else was John shown that proves that the temple of God is an exact pattern of the sanctuary that Moses built? Revelation 11:19, 15:5.**

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NOTE: It is interesting to note what was placed in the Ark of God here on earth. The first article God commanded Moses to place in the Ark was the perfect law of liberty which God wrote with His own finger on tables of stone. This was placed under the mercy seat, which represented the throne of God. His holy law is the foundation of His righteous government. Exodus 40:20.

**6. When the Israelites were in the wilderness, why did God want them to build Him a sanctuary? Exodus 25:8, 22.**

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NOTE: Great care was taken to prepare a fit dwelling place for the presence of God. Exodus chapters 25 through 40 describes the building of the earthly sanctuary. The entire book of Leviticus describes its services, and the book of Hebrews explains its



### **Revelation Speaks - 3**

beauty and significance. God set up a judicial department on earth in temporary quarters to meet the problem of sin until Jesus could come and die on the cross as the true sacrifice.

**7. Where did Moses get the blueprints for the sanctuary he was to build? Exodus 25:9, 40.**

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**8. Who were appointed to care for the sanctuary and its services? Numbers 3:5-8; Numbers 18:1-7.**

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NOTE: "In the earliest times every man was the priest of his own household. In the days of Abraham the priesthood was regarded as the birthright of the eldest son. Now, instead of the first-born of all Israel, the Lord accepted the tribe of Levi for the work of the sanctuary.

... The priesthood, however, was restricted to the family of Aaron. Aaron and his sons alone were permitted to minister before the Lord; the rest of the tribe were entrusted with the charge of the tabernacle and its furniture." -*Christ and His Sanctuary*, pp. 28, 29.

**9. What were the two apartments, or rooms, called that were separated by the curtain? Exodus 26:33.**

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**10. What was in the Holy Place, or the first apartment? Hebrews 9:2.**

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**11. What was in the second room, or the Most Holy Place? Hebrews 9:3-5.**

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**12. How often did the priests minister in the Holy Place? Hebrews 9:6.**

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**13. If a person sinned, what was he to do to receive forgiveness? Leviticus 4:2, 3, 13, 14, 22, 23, 27, 28.**

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## **Revelation Speaks - 4**

NOTE: "The repentant sinner brought his offering to the door of the tabernacle, and, placing his hand upon the victim's head, confessed his sins! thus in figure transferring the sins from himself to the innocent sacrifice. By his own hand the animal was then slain and the blood was carried by the priest into the holy place and sprinkled before the veil. By this ceremony the sin was, through the blood! transferred in figure to the *sanctuary*."-*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 354.

**14. What is necessary before sin can be forgiven? Hebrews 9:22.**

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NOTE: We read in 1 John 1:7, "The blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin." It is Christ's blood that cleanses from sin, not the blood of animals, but this was man's way of showing his faith in the fact that Christ would come and shed His own blood as a sacrifice for mankind. Only His blood could make atonement for man's sins.

**15. How often did the high priest go into the Most Holy Place? Hebrews 9:7**

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NOTE: "Once a year on the great Day of Atonement, the priest entered the Most Holy Place for the cleansing of the sanctuary. The work there performed completed the yearly round of ministration." -*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 355).

This service was centered in the second apartment and was the exclusive, personal ministry of the high priest. Every Israelite was required to be present at the Day of Atonement service. If a person refused to participate or voluntarily absented himself, he was cut off from the congregation. The Day of Atonement was viewed as a yearly day of judgment and is still so regarded by the Jews.

**16. After the high priest had presented the blood of the sacrificed goat and sprinkled it upon the mercy seat! what did he do with the live goat, or the scapegoat? Leviticus 16:10, 21.**

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## Revelation Speaks - 5

NOTE: Read the entire chapter of Leviticus 16.

**17. What happened to the veil, or curtain, in the temple when Christ died on the cross? Matthew 27:50, 51.**

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NOTE: Suddenly the curtain is torn from top to bottom by an unseen hand, leaving the holiest place open to the gaze of all! The trembling priest drops the knife, and the lamb escapes. The glory of the Lord had departed from the temple. No longer did men need to offer lambs, for the Lamb of God had just been sacrificed on Calvary. All the ceremonies and ordinances connected with the sacrificial system were nailed to the cross (Colossians 2:14). These had pointed forward to the time when Christ would shed His blood for the sins of mankind. That sacrifice had now been accomplished.

**18. How do we know that the earthly sanctuary built by Moses was only a copy of the great original sanctuary in heaven? Hebrews 9:23, 24.**

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NOTE: No earthly sanctuary could possibly reveal the vastness and glory of the heavenly sanctuary. "Yet important truths concerning the heavenly sanctuary and the great work there carried forward for man's redemption were to be taught by the earthly sanctuary and its services." -*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 357. The earthly sanctuary was but a miniature model of the one in heaven, but it helps us understand how the heavenly sanctuary services are conducted.

(For a description of the heavenly sanctuary, read Hebrews 9:11, 12)

**19. When did the ministry begin in the heavenly sanctuary? Hebrews 8:3-5; 9:11-14; 10:12.**

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NOTE: After Jesus returned to heaven, He began His work as our High Priest. "Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us." Hebrews 9:24. The heavenly sanctuary consists of two great divisions, just as in the earthly sanctuary. Christ is now in the presence of God as our Intercessor, "Wherefore he is able to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them." Hebrews 7:25.

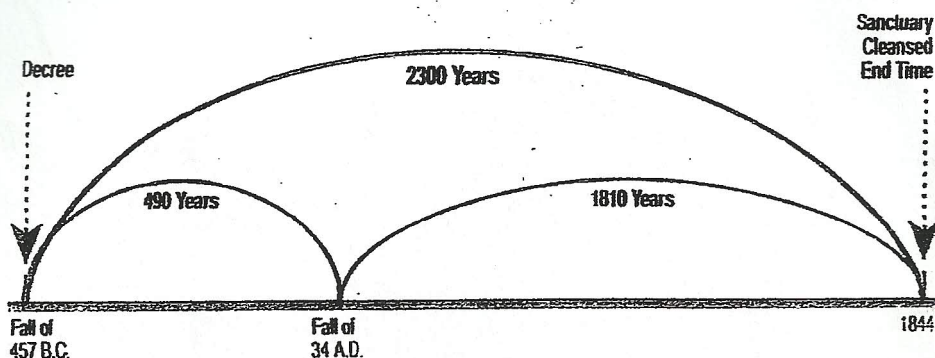
## Revelations - 6

### 20. When was the sanctuary to be cleansed in heaven? Daniel 8:14.

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NOTE: A remarkable prophecy is found in Daniel foretelling the cleansing of the heavenly sanctuary. Below is a diagram showing the primary dates involved in this prophecy.

The details of this great prophecy will be the focus of Chapter II - "The Truth About the Time of the End," beginning on page 69.



### 21. When Christ finishes His priestly work in the heavenly sanctuary, what decree goes forth? Revelation 22:11.

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NOTE: Probation is closed! No longer is there a mediator, or advocate, to make atonement for man's sins—every case is settled! So you see, the sanctuary service instituted in the wilderness was actually a gigantic telescope by which the people before Calvary could gaze across the centuries to the cross and to the final cleansing of the heavenly sanctuary and Christ's second coming. We have salvation and forgiveness, just as did the ancient Hebrews. We must take the same steps: We must come to Jesus, our High Priest, confess our sins, and claim forgiveness through the shed blood of Jesus, the True Sacrifice.

## Revelation Speaks - 7

### *My Response*

\_\_\_ I want Jesus to be my High Priest and make atonement for my sins.

\_\_\_ Knowing that my sins played a part in the sacrifice of the Lamb of God on the cross, I choose to let Him have control of my life and to follow Him with my whole heart.