

HEALING STREAM MINISTRIES presents...

THE UNDILUTED, FULL STRENGTH, THREE ANGELS' MESSAGES
with enough power to...

- **cleans** from all sin
- **set us free** from all bondage
- **break all the power** of the enemy over us
- **restore us to total spiritual health**
- **develop immunity** to all last-day deceptions

#31 – Singing in the Courtroom

How would you feel about going to court if you were the defendant? Perhaps you would try to postpone the trial. In any case, you would want to get the best lawyer possible to defend you (if you could afford it). On the other hand, how would you feel about going to court to receive the proceeds from an inheritance? Would you not want to see such proceedings speeded up?

Would you with me look into heaven's open courtroom in Revelation chapters 4 & 5, where we see heaven's court engaged in "probate proceedings" about God's last will and testament, the sealed scroll. Many Bible scholars agree that the scroll is God's covenant. This covenant, made before the foundation of the world, contains God's intention to save all who will come to God through the saving work of the Executor of the covenant, Jesus Christ.

The issues before the heavenly court are these:

- Is God and His Son, Jesus Christ, worthy of worship? The core accusation of Satan against God is that He is NOT worthy of worship.
- Is the covenant, the will, a valid document before the entire heavenly universe?
- Is Jesus Christ qualified to dispense the benefits of the covenant, His last will and testament? Another charge of Satan is that we are NOT worthy, i.e. we do not qualify to receive salvation – the benefits of the covenant, Christ's last will and testament. Or, he will contest the sufficiency of Christ's atoning work by his claims that the atonement is incomplete and unsatisfactory.

To settle these charges before the universe, God brings in witnesses from both earth and heaven. The four living creatures are the witnesses from heaven, and the twenty-four elders are the witnesses from earth (Revelation 5:9). Ask yourself this question, What if there were no witnesses from earth, but only witnesses from heaven testifying, what would this do to Satan's case?

Listen to the judicial depositions of the witnesses from heaven, the four living creatures: *“Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come”* (Revelation 4:8).

Listen next to the depositions by both the witnesses from heaven AND earth (the twenty-four elders). *“You are worthy to take the scroll, and to open its seals; for You were slain, and have redeemed us to God by Your blood out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation, and have made us kings and priests to our God; and we shall reign on the earth.”* (Revelation 5:9,10).

Listen then to the approval of the “jury” (thousands of angels): *“Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom, and strength and honor and glory and blessing.”* (Revelation 5:12).

What does all this mean? By studying these verses and the rest of chapters 4 – 7 of Revelation, is it not possible that we can draw the following conclusions?

1. The covenant (last will and testament) is valid. Satan cannot contest the truthfulness of testimonies by these witnesses that both the Father and the Son are worthy of worship.
2. The atoning work of Christ is sufficient to save. If we do not believe the testimonies of the witnesses in heaven’s courtroom, whose side are we really on? Do we believe that these witnesses are telling the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth about the sufficiency of Christ’s saving work on Calvary’s cross?
3. Jesus Christ is declared worthy to dispense the benefits of the covenant. As each of the seals of the scroll are opened, we see Jesus providentially superintending the flow of history until at last the wicked are judged (Revelation 6:12-17) and the saints come before the throne of God to serve Him and be led by the Lamb to living fountains of water (Revelation 7:15).
4. The witnesses give their testimonies in an act of worship. There is singing in heaven’s courtroom. And when we here on earth worship, are we not joining in agreement with the witnesses in their singing in heaven’s courtroom? Instead of looking upon worship as just a Sabbath morning ritual, think instead of worship as our participation with the witnesses in heaven’s courtroom to defeat the charges of Satan. In every Sabbath morning worship service we are through our joyful praises on the offensive against the enemy.

Singing in the courtroom! Because we are Christ’s, and because He has included us in His Last Will and Testament (the everlasting covenant), we come to heaven’s courtroom not cowering in fear and trembling, but

with full assurance that the death of Christ is sufficient to cover all our sins.
“Worthy is the Lamb!”

If we are Christ’s, we are no longer headed to the courtroom as defendants, but as heirs who will inherit all things. So come and join the singing in heaven’s courtroom! Our singing will be a continuing and powerful testimony to defeat the accusations of Satan. *“And they overcame him (Satan) by the blood of the Lamb and the word of their testimony”* (Revelation 12:11).

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