

Revelation's Peace Maker

Revelation's Peace Maker



1

My topic tonight is Revelation's Peace Maker



2

A number of years ago a prestigious medical university was doing stress tolerance testing.

They wanted to find out **how much stress** human beings could handle.



3

How much pressure can we take without breaking?

They decided to do their experiments with lambs.



4

They took a lamb and put it in a pen so they could see the lamb but the lamb could not see out.

These researchers placed fourteen different feeding stations in the pen.

Then the researchers hooked up electrodes to the feeding stations.

As the lamb went over to a feeding station and began to eat, the researchers shocked the lamb.

Anxiously the lamb began to run. He went to another feeding station and started eating, but was shocked again.



5

The lamb nervously twitched and bolted. He began running around the pen looking for a secure place to eat.

Finally, they shocked this lamb at every single feeding station.

The lamb was so nervous and so anxious; it was so

Revelation's Peace Maker

stressed that it stumbled into the center of the pen, began to quiver, had a nervous break down and died.

The load of anxiety was too great.

The researchers then took the lamb's twin and put it into the same pen.

But, there was one difference.

They put the lamb's mother in the pen with him.

The little lamb went to the first feeding station and started eating. The researchers shocked the lamb. What do you think the lamb did?

Looked up at mother and went "Bah! Bah!"

And mama went "Bah! Bah!"

And that little lamb did not run from the first feeding station, but kept eating.

The researchers said, "What's going on here"?

They shocked the little lamb again and the lamb looked up and said, "Bah! Bah!" and Mama said, "Bah! Bah!" And the lamb kept eating.

The researchers shocked the lamb again.

And little lamb went over to mama and mama sheep whispered something in little lamb's ear.

Now this is where the scientific research broke down.

They are not quite sure what mama sheep said to the little lamb.

But anyway, little lamb ran back and ate exactly where she was eating before. What's the difference?

The first lamb had no place to run.



6



7



8

Revelation's Peace Maker

The second lamb had the security that there was somebody there. Someone who could bear the burdens.

Who can bear our burdens when the stresses of life weigh us down?



9

Who can handle our guilt
Who can handle our worry and anxiety?
Who, indeed, can give us security?

Is there a refuge in the time of storms in our life?
In our trauma, is there a place of security we can run to?

The book of Revelation reveals Jesus Christ in all of His splendor and all of His beauty.



10

Remember, our theme for these meeting is:

**If it's in the Bible, I believe it.
If it disagrees with the Bible,
It's not for me.**



11

This is true because the whole Bible reveals Jesus, the truth. Particularly is that true of the book that goes by the name

Revelation 1:1 "The revelation of Jesus Christ."



12

Revelation 1:5 calls Him—

"The faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth."



13

He went into the grave, He can comfort men and women

Revelation's Peace Maker

whose hearts are broken by death.
He is ruler over the kings of the earth.
His power and might are supreme in the universe.

Revelation 12 verse 5 says,

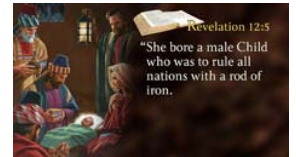
“She bore a male Child who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron.”

He is that male child born of Mary.
He is the Savior who faced Satan’s temptations head on
and was victorious.

Revelation 12:5 continues—

“And her Child was caught up to God and His throne.”

Christ ascended to Heaven and He still lives to carry our
burdens and minister to our needs.



14



15

In chapter 14,
Jesus comes to reap the harvest of the earth:



16

Revelation 14:14

“Then I looked, and behold, a white cloud, and on the cloud sat One like the Son of Man,



17

having on His head a golden crown, and in His hand a sharp sickle.”

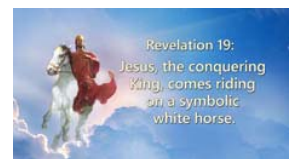
He gathers His believers and takes them to heaven, but He
does away with sin and sinners forever.



18

He is pictured in **Revelation 19** as **the one who rides a white horse** symbolic of conquering, victory, and triumph.

He is the One who has never lost a battle.



19

Revelation's Peace Maker

The general that's never lost a war.
He is the one who will defeat Satan.

From Revelation 1 to Revelation 22 there is a hero and His name is Jesus Christ.



20

But of all the symbols of Christ in Revelation,
The symbol of a dying lamb is the most prominent and most precious.

It is found more times than any other.

Jesus is described as the Lamb 27 times in Revelation.



21

Revelation 5:6

“And I looked, and behold, in the midst of the throne. . . stood a Lamb as though it had been slain,”



22

A bloody lamb is seen up in heaven, as though it was slain,
but still it is standing in the midst of the throne.

In **Revelation 13:8** Christ is

“The Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.”



23

In distant ages of eternity Father and Son met in divine council to come and save fallen human beings. In His infinite love, heaven was prepared for the possibility of sin.

In **Revelation** chapter **12** a dragon-like beast attacks the **Lamb** and then makes war with His followers.



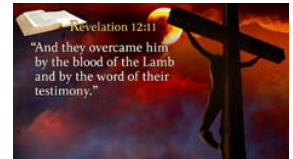
24

But they overcome him in verse 11:

Revelation's Peace Maker

Revelation 12:11

“And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, . . .”



25

In the book of Revelation **the lamb triumphs over the dragon.**

The Lamb defeats all those powers that attack Him and His followers.

The lamb triumphs over every false religious system.



26

Revelation 17:14

“These will make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them,



27

If you and I are on the Lamb's side, what side are we on?
The winning side!

for He is Lord of lords and King of kings; and those who are with Him are called, chosen, and faithful.”



28

In the book of Revelation the lamb wins. And Satan loses.
Praise God!

Why would God, in the book of Revelation, choose something as helpless, weak, and innocent as a lamb to represent His Son

Let's go back and trace the symbolism of the lamb through the Bible and how this symbolism of a lamb reaches down and touches your life today.



29

How does this understanding of the Lamb of God free you from the burden of guilt?

How does it liberate you from sin?

Revelation's Peace Maker

How does it give you the assurance of eternal life?

Let's go back to the days of Adam and Eve.
Adam and Eve disobeyed a direct command of God to not eat the fruit of the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil.
To disobey a command of God is called "sin."



30

God told Adam and Eve that if they disobeyed and ate of that tree they would die.

The Bible says: **Romans 6:23**

"The wages of sin is death"

When Adam and Eve sinned, God said,
"You must bring a sacrifice, a substitute, a lamb that will die in your place"



31

Speaking of the Old Testament sacrifices, Moses in the Old Testament Book of Leviticus says

Leviticus 17:11

"... for it is the blood that makes atonement for the soul."



32

Leviticus 17:11, first part

"For the life of the flesh is in the blood. . ."

Blood represents life.
The wages of sin is death.
The penalty of disobeying God's direct command is death.



33

So shedding the blood of the lamb represents the payment of those wages.

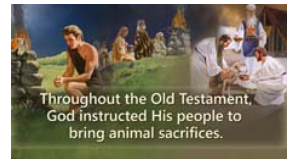
Following God's instruction, Adam brought the pure, spotless lamb.

Revelation's Peace Maker

Adam watched the innocent lamb die and his heart was broken.

Throughout the Old Testament, God instructed His people to bring animal sacrifices.

God told the Israelites to build a sanctuary—a tabernacle. Every day animal sacrifices were slain at the sanctuary.



34

What did it mean when a sinner brought his lamb to the sanctuary? Can an animal atone for the life of a man? Or did it all symbolize something more?



35

Let's imagine that in those days there was an Israelite named Josiah. Josiah gets angry at his neighbor and they fight.

He hits his neighbor in the face and knocks him to the ground. The poor man has a bloody nose and mouth.

That night as Josiah comes to evening prayer he has a sense that he has sinned, a sense that he has wronged his neighbor.



36

He goes to his neighbor and says "I'm so sorry."

But this guilt rests upon Josiah and Josiah knows that he must bring a lamb to the sanctuary.

The next morning he takes the lamb—a pure spotless lamb.

Josiah walks through the camp of Israel. His neighbors see him and know that he has sinned. He is guilty.



37

Josiah comes to the sanctuary.

He kneels, placing his hands on the head of the animal, confessing his sin and plunges the knife through its throat.

As he does, blood runs down his knee and the animal falls



38

Revelation's Peace Maker

limp. It dies

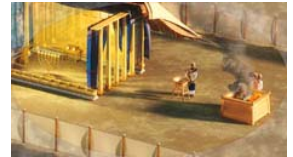
The priest catches the blood in a basin.

The animal is put on the brazen altar and its flesh is consumed.

The priest brings some of the blood into the sanctuary.

Before Josiah came to the sanctuary he was weighed down with the burden of guilt.

But as he confesses his sin over the head of the animal something amazing happens.



39

The Bible tells us about it in **Leviticus 5:5, 6**

***“And it shall be, when he is guilty in any of these matters, that he shall confess that he has sinned in that thing.*”**



40

And he shall bring his trespass offering to the LORD for his sin which he has committed.”



41

When Josiah confesses his sin, the guilt of that sin is transferred to the sacrificial animal.

The animal then becomes symbolically guilty.

Since the wages of sin is death and since Josiah's sin causes the animal to die, it is Josiah himself who must take the knife and slay the animal. The animal falls dead.

Its carcass is placed on the altar and its blood is taken into the sanctuary and sprinkled on the veil before the Law of God in the Ark of the Covenant.

Josiah disobeyed and has broken the ten commandment law. He deserves to die. But the sacrifice died instead and Josiah was free from the guilt and penalty.

Revelation's Peace Maker

Why did God require these countless of thousands of sacrifices?

Did those animals give the sinner eternal life?
Did they cleanse the people from their sins?
Or did they merely represent something else?
Did they point forward to a better sacrifice?



42

In the New Testament book of Hebrews, we find a key to understand what these sacrifices pointed forward to:

Hebrews 9:11, 12

“But Christ came as High Priest of the good things to come, with the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is not of this creation.



43

Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption.”



44

And verse 28:

Hebrews 9:28

“So Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many...”

The blood of the sacrificial animal foreshadows the shed blood of Christ.

The sanctuary services in the Old Testament were designed to teach us God's plan of salvation.

A number of years ago a woman in her forties attending a series of meetings like this one came to the preacher for counsel.



45

She carried a great deal of guilt and didn't know what to do. She told the Pastor, “I've done something terrible and have a hard time even talking about it.”

She told of an affair 17 years before with a married man that

Revelation's Peace Maker

had resulted in an abortion.

“Pastor,” she said, “for 17 years I’ve carried this burden of guilt. This guilt has crushed my spirit. It has taken the joy out of my life. I know what I did 17 years ago was so tragically wrong but I can’t bring that little life back. It is breaking my heart.”

The Pastor gently responded, “You know if you lived in Old Testament times you would bring a lamb and confess your sin over the head of the lamb.



47

“The guilt would be transferred to the lamb and the lamb would die for your sin, symbolically.

“The blood would be taken into the sanctuary and you would walk away free knowing that burden was off your back.”

The pastor continued, “But we are not living in the Old Testament and your problem is you don’t have a lamb and you haven’t accepted a Savior.

“If you come and kneel before Him confessing your sin, that burden will be taken off your shoulders.



48

“Your guilt is wiped clean because there was a lamb—

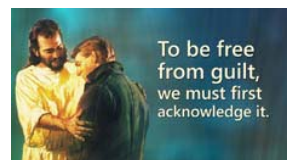
And every lamb or sacrifice pointed forward to the Lamb of God.”



49

Looking to the Lamb of God, she confessed her sin in prayer to God, and accepted the sacrifice made for her and found repentance and forgiveness.

To be free from guilt, we must first acknowledge it.



50

A sinner in the Old Testament would never be free from guilt until they acknowledged it by bringing their lamb.

Revelation's Peace Maker

It's only as we acknowledge our guilt, and then go in prayer confessing it to God, and, if necessary, to the one we have wronged, that we find forgiveness and relief from guilt.

We say,
"God, I understand that I have sinned against you.
I've lost my temper. I've gotten angry.
I've been filled with lust. I've been dishonest."

This seems a very basic concept but it is often overlooked. Before we can be free from addictions and the pain that keeps us going back to them, we must be willing to stop hiding them from God.

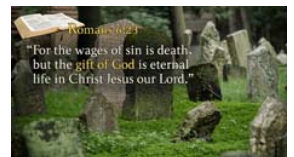
When we acknowledge we are guilty, we then need to confess to God the specifics of what we have done.

Having done these two things, we have the privilege of freely accepting Jesus, the Lamb of God, as our substitute.

The wages of sin is death, but that verse has more...

Romans 6:23

"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."



51

The gift of God can be freely accepted. It is not wages, there is not a series of good deeds that qualifies us to receive it.

When a friend offers us a gift, we don't say, "What do I have to do to earn this?" We merely accept it.

Having accepted the gift, we believe God's promises. Believing doesn't convince God to do something, He

Revelation's Peace Maker

already has done everything.

Believing is the act of choosing to continue in our acceptance of the free gift,

Belief provides the bond that causes us to hold on to what God has already willingly provided.

As an Israelite followed God's plan in the Sanctuary so long ago, the guilt of their transgression was by faith removed from them. Their guilt was gone. You and I can have the same experience.

If I come to Jesus and confess my sin, the burden of guilt is rolled away. It is rolled from me to Jesus.

Jesus Christ, the Divine Lamb was slain for you and me. What happened on the cross that day was far more than the blood of animals being shed.

Hebrews 9:14

“How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God,

cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?”

Your conscience can be cleansed.
Your guilt can be forever removed.

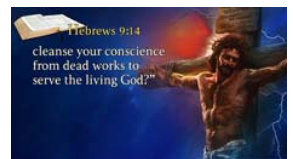
Psychiatrists tell us that **guilt** keeps people from living the kind of life that enables them to be happy, cheerful productive people.



52



53



54



55

Revelation's Peace Maker

Guilt creates **fear**. Guilt creates **anxiety**.
Guilt can eat out the heart of your life.
Guilt can destroy you inside.



56

But you and I can come to Jesus and kneel before Him and say, "God, I failed, I know I failed, God wash away that sin and take away that guilt"



57

We can know that the blood of Christ was shed for us to pardon our sins and cleanse our consciences and to reconcile us to God.

To believe that God in reality does these things for us, lifts our burden of guilt.

There is only One who can take away our guilt.
Friends, people need forgiveness today.
We need it desperately.



58

Because guilt does terrible things to us, guilt can rob us of peace and destroy our lives.

There is only One who can take away our sins. There is only One who can redeem us—the One who died.

2 Corinthians 5:21

"For He (that is God) made Him (that is Jesus) who knew no sin to be sin for us,



59

Why did He do this?

that we might become the righteousness of God in Him."

Did Jesus ever sin? No.
Did He become sin for us?

Revelation's Peace Maker

He who knew no sin became sin for us.

When Jesus hung on the cross He experienced more than the pain of the nails in His hands and feet—



60

Or the crown of thorns on His head.

It was more than the blood running down His face.

It was much more than the physical suffering.

When Jesus hung on the cross, the darkness of sin enshrouded Him. It hid Him from the Father's face.

That's why as Jesus hung there so alone, dying He cried out:

Matthew 27:46

“My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?”



61

Jesus was bearing the guilt of humanity.

He felt the condemnation of sin crushing out His life.



62

All Jesus could see was the guilt of sin and He made the decision while He was dying on the cross, that He would go into the grave and bear the guilt of our sin, even if He could never come out.

His only goal was to save us.

To bear for us the burden of guilt.

Your burden can be rolled away today.

Ephesians 2:8, 9

“For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves;



63

Revelation's Peace Maker

it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.



64

Salvation is a gift.
When does God want to give it to you? Right now!
When by faith we say—

“Lord, give me the gift of salvation.
I come with an open heart.
I come to that cross,
I come believing that Jesus is my Lamb.”

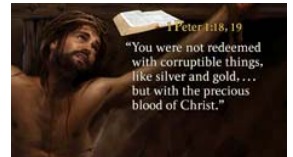


65

I kneel before the cross. I confess my sin.
The burden of guilt is taken off my shoulders.
It is put on Jesus.
I am forgiven! I am redeemed.

1 Peter 1:18, 19

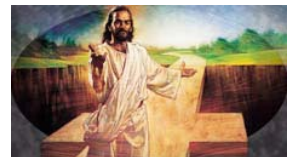
“You were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver and gold, . . . but with the precious blood of Christ . . .”



66

Redemption is a gift.

Have you disobeyed and done that which you knew to be wrong?



67

You can come now.
Come with all of your guilt.
Come with all of your sins.

To make it simpler, think of these

5 simple steps to receive the gift of eternal life.



68

Revelation's Peace Maker

1. Accept the fact that God loves you.
(Jeremiah 31:3)



69

Jeremiah 31:3

"... I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore with lovingkindness I have drawn you."



70

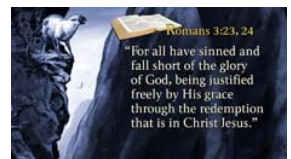
2. Recognize that you cannot save yourself. (Romans 3:23, 24)



71

Romans 3:23, 24

"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus."



72

3. Believe that Jesus can and will save you. (John 3:16)



73

John 3:16

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."



74

You cannot save yourself. That is impossible.
Believe that God loves you. Believe He will save you.

Revelation's Peace Maker

4. Confess your sins to Jesus and believe you are forgiven. (1 John 1:9)



75

1 John 1:9

“If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”



76

Come right now. In your heart – wherever you're sitting confess your sins to Jesus.
Believe that you are forgiven.

5. Claim His gift of eternal life and decide to serve Him forever. (John 3:16)

People all over the world are making this decision.
They are coming by the hundreds.
They are coming by the thousands to Jesus.
They have come.



77

They have said, “God, I’m a sinner. I know I cannot save myself. I can’t redeem myself.”

They’ve come declaring, “Lord, you are my Lamb. You are the Lamb of Revelation.”

Come with me and meet this Jesus.



78

He cleansed lepers, healed sufferers, and forgave sinners.



79

Revelation's Peace Maker

He touched the eyes of the blind and they were opened.
He unstopped the ears of the deaf.
Lame men walked. And the dumb sang.



80

Peace and love and joy flowed from His very being.
Children loved to be in His presence.



81

The crowds wanted to make him king. They believed He
was going to lead their armies in victory over the Romans.



82

Just days before His crucifixion. They triumphantly
celebrated His marvelous love



83

They thought He would usher in the kingdom of glory.
But He did not come to sit on an earthly throne, but to hang
on a wooden cross, and usher in the kingdom of grace.

All of His life, He revealed the Father's love and grace.

In His presence death fled away.



84

He broke up every funeral He ever attended.
His death would provide life for the entire human race.

Come with me tonight, to a place two thousand years ago
where God revealed to the whole universe how much He
cares.



85

It's Pilots' courtyard, a crown of thorns is jammed on His
head. Watch as the blood runs down His face.
Look at the agony in His eyes.

Revelation's Peace Maker

Listen to the snap of the whip as the Roman soldiers lash His back.



86

The righteous one is being condemned as a sinner.
Watch this scene. Let it touch your heart tonight.
Who is this that suffers so?

Watch as strong armed soldiers drive nails through His hands.



87

He is the one who created Sun, Moon and Stars.

Who is this who hangs on Calvary's cross?
Who is this with nails in His hands?
Who is this who bears the guilt of the world?



88

How can you walk away from a love like that?
Can anybody turn their back on a God that loves them so much?

A God that cares for them so much.
A God that wants to save them.

John 3:16

“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.”



89

You can have everlasting life.

The text says **whoever!**
It doesn't say a rich man or a poor man.
It doesn't say a wise man or an ignorant man.
It doesn't say a black man or a white man.



90

It says **WHOEVER** believes in Him shall have everlasting life.

Revelation's Peace Maker

Just as Jesus freely forgives us, at times he invites us to freely forgive others. Christ has forgiven us, not because we deserve it, but because forgiveness has been in His heart all the time. He is a God of forgiveness.

Many years ago, during a period of time in Rwanda of severe pain and heartache, a Christian pastor and his two sons were brutally murdered by a violent mob. His wife survived, but she had seen a young man with a machete kill one of their sons before she herself had been attacked and left for dead with many others in the church yard that day.



91

The young man who killed her son fled and hid in the mountains but after about 3 years she saw him again. Instead of hatred, the love of God flowed out of her toward the young man who had once been a member of their church, having been baptized by her own husband. She told the young man, "You must become my son." And she regularly visited him in prison and cared for him, visiting him every week.

This young man sensed the love and forgiveness of Adelle and it broke his heart. He had never experienced love like this before. When we come to Jesus, we too, have never experienced a love like this before, the one who knows us best love us most.

His grace mercy and forgiveness are reaching out to you right now. Salvation is yours for the asking, Listen to these word of Scripture:

Revelation 22:17

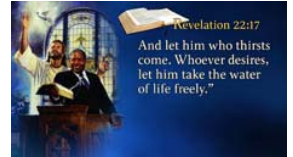
“And the Spirit and the bride say, ‘Come!’ And let him who hears say, ‘Come!’



92

Revelation's Peace Maker

And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires let him take the water of life freely.”



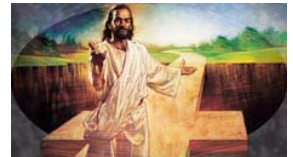
93

Are you thirsty for His love?
Are you thirsty for His forgiveness? — His mercy?
Are you so thirsty that you want more and more of His grace?



94

Have you come to the foot of the cross where this guilt problem is solved once and for all?



95

Why not come there just now?
Come to the hero of the book of Revelation.
And call Him your Lord.

If you have come before, why not recommit your life to Him today.

If you have committed your life to Him once and have drifted away, He is looking for you to return.

He is yearning for you to come back.
He is lonely without you.
His peace and joy can be yours.

If you have never accepted Him before – why not do it right now. He offers you eternal life right now.

He said, “. . . the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out.” (John 6:37).

He will never, ever, ever, cast you out. Why not say, “Yes Lord I am coming,” by standing together with me as we pray.
