

## The Seventh Seal

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When is the Seventh Seal being opened?

### The Sealed Book

And I saw in the right hand of him that sat on the throne a book written within and on the backside, sealed with seven seals. And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, Who is worthy to open the book, and to loose the seals thereof? And no man in heaven, nor in earth, neither under the earth, was able to open the book, neither to look thereon.

And I wept much, because no man was found worthy to open and to read the book, neither to look thereon. And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Juda, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof.

And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth. And he came and took the book out of the right hand of him that sat upon the throne.

And when he had taken the book, the four beasts and four and twenty elders fell down before the Lamb, having every one of them harps, and golden vials full of odours, which are the prayers of saints. And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation. Revelation 5:1-9.

**“It was the Lion of the tribe of Judah who unsealed the book and gave to John the revelation of what should be in these last days.**

“Daniel stood in his lot to bear his testimony which was sealed until the time of the end, when the first angel’s message should be proclaimed to our world....The book of Daniel is unsealed in the revelation to John, and carries us forward to the last scenes of this earth’s history.” *Testimonies to Ministers*, 115.

**“Prophecies of Revelation Repeat Prophecies of Daniel—Revelation is a sealed book, but it is also an opened book.** It records marvelous events that are to take place in the last days of this earth’s history. The teachings of this book are definite, not

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mystical and unintelligible. In it the same line of prophecy is taken up as in Daniel. Some prophecies God has repeated, thus showing that importance must be given to them. The Lord does not repeat things that are of no great consequence.” *Manuscript* 107, 1897

### **Daniel and Revalation**

**“In the Revelation all the books of the Bible meet and end. Here is the complement of the book of Daniel. One is a prophecy; the other a revelation. The book that was sealed is not the Revelation, but that portion of the prophecy of Daniel relating to the last days. The angel commanded, “But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end.” Daniel 12:4.”** *Acts of the Apostles*, 585.

But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the **time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.** Daniel 12:4.

And I saw another mighty angel come down from heaven, clothed with a cloud: and a rainbow was upon his head, and his face was as it were the sun, and his feet as pillars of fire: And he had in **his hand a little book open**: and he set his right foot upon the sea, and his left foot on the earth. Revelation 10:1,2.

### **Prophecies represent History**

“We ask John what he saw and heard in the vision at Patmos, and he answers: “And I saw in the right hand of him that sat on the throne a book written within and on the backside, sealed with seven seals. **And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, Who is worthy to open the book, and to loose the seals thereof?** And no man in heaven, nor in earth, neither under the earth, was able to open the book, neither to look thereon.”

“There in His open hand lay the book, **the roll of the history of God’s providences, the prophetic history of nations and the church.** Herein was contained the **divine utterances**, His authority, His commandments, His laws, the whole symbolic counsel of the Eternal, and the history of all ruling powers in the nations. **In symbolic language was contained in that roll the influence of every nation, tongue, and people from the beginning of earth’s history to its close.**” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 20, 197.

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**“The prophecies present a succession of events leading down to the opening of the Judgment.** This is especially true of the book of Daniel. But that part of his prophecy which related to the last days, Daniel was bidden to close up and seal “to the time of the end.” Not till we reach this time could a message concerning the Judgment be proclaimed, based on a fulfillment of these prophecies. But at the time of the end, says the prophet, “many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.” [Daniel 12:4.].

**“But since 1798 the book of Daniel has been unsealed, knowledge of the prophecies has increased,** and many have proclaimed the solemn message of the Judgment near.” *The Great Controversy* 1888, 355,356.

### **The Unsealing**

“What Daniel was commanded to seal up and close, (Daniel 12:4) is now, through the all-powerful mediation of **the Lion of the tribe of Judah**, revealed unto us. Revelation 5:5. Hence ‘many run to and fro, and knowledge is increased.’ . . . **The opening, then, and unfolding of the prophetic word, is another convincing proof that we are arrived at the end of the age; the unsealing of prophecy, and the revelation of the ‘mystery of God,’ being reserved unto ‘the time of the end.’ Daniel 12:9; Revelation 10:7.**” James White, *Review and Herald*, November 1, 1853.

But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, the **mystery of God** should be finished, as he hath declared to his servants the prophets. Revelation 10:7.

Even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints: To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is **Christ in you, the hope of glory.** Colossians 1:26,27.

### **The 7th Seal**

And when he had opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven about the space of half an hour. Revelation 8:1.

## Silence

### Gethsemane

“But God suffered with His Son. Angels beheld the Saviour’s agony. They saw their Lord enclosed by legions of satanic forces, His nature **weighed down** with a shuddering, mysterious dread. **There was silence in heaven. No harp was touched.** Could mortals have viewed the amazement of the angelic host as in silent grief they watched the Father separating His beams of light, love, and glory from His beloved Son, they would better understand how offensive in His sight is sin.” *The Desire of Ages*, 693.

### The Cross

“But while the Son of God was being wounded, bruised and smitten for our transgressions and sins, **all Heaven was watching over the scene, and every harp was hushed in silence** while the Beloved of the Father was suffering. He died on Calvary’s cross—Angels witnessed it.” *The Youth Instructor*, April 1, 1854, par. 3.

### 2nd Coming

“Soon there appears in the east a small black cloud, about half the size of a man’s hand. It is the cloud which surrounds the Saviour and which seems in the distance to be shrouded in darkness. The people of God know this to be the sign of the Son of man. In solemn **silence** they gaze upon it as it draws nearer the earth, becoming lighter and more glorious, until it is a great white cloud, its base a glory like consuming fire, and above it the rainbow of the covenant.” *The Great Controversy*, 640.

“Before his presence, “all faces are turned into paleness;” upon the rejecters of God’s mercy falls the terror of eternal despair. “The heart melteth, and the knees smite together,” “and the faces of them all gather blackness.” [Jeremiah 30:6; Nahum 2:10.] The righteous cry with trembling, “Who shall be able to stand?” **The angels’ song is hushed, and there is a period of awful silence.** Then the voice of Jesus is heard, saying, “My grace is sufficient for you.” The faces of the righteous are lighted up, and joy fills every heart. And the angels strike a note higher, and sing again, as they draw still nearer to the earth.” *The Great Controversy*, 641.

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### **God Dealing With Men**

“The work of God in the earth presents, from age to age, a striking similarity in every great reformation or religious movement. **The principles of God's dealing with men are ever the same.** The important movements of the present have their parallel in those of the past, and the experience of the church in former ages has lessons of great value for our own time.” *Great Controversy*, 343.

- The unsealing to the seven seals takes places from 1989 till the Close of Probation. Midnight for the Priest is the close of Probation. Therefore the seven seals are unsealed from 1989-M. Shortly before Midnight the seventh seal is being opened which causes the silence at Midnight.