

Discussion 11

A Book with 7 Seals

(The Revealing of the Dispensations)

Primary Reading:

- Revelation Chapter 5 and 6:1-11

Passages for Comparison:

- DoS Section 45a (LDS DaC 77) v6-7
- Revelation 5:1-7 => Zenos 2:25 :: Book with 7 Seals
- Revelation 5:8-14 => Zenos 2:15-18 :: A New Song
- Revelation 6:1-2 => Zenos 3:29-31 :: 1st Dispensation
- Revelation 6:3-4 => Zenos 4:1-3 :: 2nd Dispensation
- Revelation 6:5-6 => Zenos 6:9-10 :: 3rd Dispensation
- Revelation 6:7-8 => Zenos 7:11-13 :: 4th Dispensation
- Revelation 6:9-11 => Zenos 8:1-5 :: 5th Dispensation

Objectives:

- Unravel the meaning of the first 5 seals

Reading:

Q and A - DoS Section 45a (LDS DaC 77)

Questions	Answers	Discussion Ideas
45a:6 [77:6] <i>Question:</i> What are we to understand by the Book which John saw which was sealed on the back with seven Seals with John?	<i>Answer:</i> We are to understand that it contains the revealed will, mysteries, and works of God; the hidden things of His economy concerning this Earth during the seven thousand years of its continuance, or its temporal existence	
45a:7 [77:7] <i>Question:</i> What are we to understand by the Seven Seals with which it was sealed?	<i>Answer:</i> We are to understand that the first seal contains the things of the first thousand years, and the second also of the second thousand years, and so on until the seventh.	This is more understandable (to me) if I view 1000 Years as one "Day" and then, I view Dispensation and Day as being synonymous. Is this too much of me forcing it to be what I want?

5:1-7 :: Book with 7 Seals

Revelation	Zenos	Discussion Ideas
<p>5:1. 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.</p> <p>5:2. And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, Who is worthy to open the book, and to loose the seals thereof?</p> <p>5:3. And no man in heaven, nor in earth, neither under the earth, was able to open the book, neither to look thereon.</p> <p>5:4. And I wept much, because no man was found worthy to open and to read the book, neither to look thereon.</p> <p>5:5. And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof.</p>		
<p>5:6. 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.</p> <p>5:7. And he came and took the book out of the right hand of him that sat upon the throne.</p>	<p>2:25. And it came to pass that I saw as it were in the midst of the thrones, and elders, and the four beasts, there stood one like unto the Son of Man as a Lamb, waiting to be sent forth to be slain;</p> <p>2:26. And from Him came the seven angels of the seven dispensations, being sent forth into all the earth by the Son of Man, whose blood should be spilt upon the rock, for terrible are the works of mankind.</p>	

5:8-14 :: A New Song

Revelation	Zenos	Discussion Ideas
<p>5:8 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.</p> <p>5:9 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;</p> <p>5:10 And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.</p> <p>5:11 And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the beasts and the elders: and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands;</p>		
<p>5:12 Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing.</p> <p>5:13 And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, be unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever.</p>	<p>2:16. Holy is She who dwelleth in the place which is no place, beyond the infinite height and depth, the infinite of all directions embraced by the Tree of Life;</p> <p>2:17. And YHVH the fruit of Her tree, the Yachad Yachid Echad who was, and is, and is to come.</p>	
<p>5:14 And the four beasts said, Amen. And the four and twenty elders fell down and worshipped him that liveth for ever and ever.</p>	<p>2:18. And the beasts did give glory and honor in thanks, and the four and twenty elders did fall down before Him who liveth forever and ever.</p>	

6:1-2 :: 1st Dispensation

Revelation	Zenos	Discussion Ideas
<p>6:1. And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals, and I heard, as it were the noise of thunder, one of the four beasts saying, Come and see.</p>	<p>3:29. And it came to pass that I saw that Michael had opened one of the seals, and I heard, as it were the sound of a shofar,</p>	<p>The Lion is the beast that was in the South, associated with the fire of Judgement. Does this add any meaning to this passage?</p>
<p>6:2. And I saw, and behold a white horse: and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him: and he went forth conquering, and to conquer.</p>	<p>3:30. And then I heard the beast that was as a lion say: Come and see!</p> <p>3:31. And I saw as it were a man sitting upon a white horse, and unto him was given a crown, and I beheld that he went forth conquering, and to conquer.</p>	<p>Is this horse and writer being sent forth by God? Or is he allied with the Leviathan? Or is it just “events that happen” (neither “team”)?</p>

6:3-4 :: 2nd Dispensation

Revelation	Zenos	Discussion Ideas
<p>6:3. And when he [<i>the Lamb</i>] had opened the second seal, I heard the second beast say, Come and see.</p>	<p>4:1. And it came to pass that I beheld Zaphkiel open the second seal, and I heard the beast like unto an ox say: Come and see!</p>	<p>The Ox is the beast that was in the North, associated with the earth and grounded in Wisdom. Does this add any meaning to this passage?</p>
<p>6:4. And there went out another horse that was red: and power was given to him that sat thereon to take peace from the earth, and that they should kill one another: and there was given unto him a great sword.</p>	<p>4:2. And it came to pass that I saw as it were another horse going out that was red, and power was given to him that sat thereon to take peace from the earth;</p> <p>4:3. And that mankind should war and should kill one another, and there was given unto him a great sword.</p>	<p>Is this horse and writer being sent forth by God? Or is he allied with the Leviathan? Or is it just “events that happen” (neither “team”)?</p>

6:5-6 :: 3rd Dispensation

Revelation	Zenos	Discussion Ideas
<p>6:5. And when he [<i>the Lamb</i>] had opened the third seal, I heard the third beast say, Come and see. And I beheld, and lo a black horse; and he that sat on him had a pair of balances in his hand.</p> <p>6:6. And I heard a voice in the midst of the four beasts say, A measure of wheat for a penny, and three measures of barley for a penny; and see thou hurt not the oil and the wine.</p>	<p>6:9. And it came to pass that I saw that Gabriel opened the third seal, and I heard the beast with the face of a man say: Come and see!</p> <p>6:10. And I saw as it were a black horse, and his rider bore judgment in his right hand, and a sword in his left.</p>	<p>The beast with the face of a man was in the East, associated with the waters, flowing in Mercy. Does this add any meaning to this passage?</p> <p>Is this horse and writer being sent forth by God? Or is he allied with the Leviathan? Or is it just “events that happen” (neither “team”)?</p>

6:7-8 :: 4th Dispensation

Revelation	Zenos	Discussion Ideas
<p>6:7. And when he [<i>the Lamb</i>] had opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth beast say, Come and see.</p> <p>6:8. And I looked, and behold a pale horse: and his name that sat on him was Death, and Hell followed with him. And power was given unto them over the fourth part of the earth, to kill with sword, and with hunger, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth.</p>	<p>7:11. And it came to pass that Raphael opened the fourth seal, and I heard the voice of the beast as an eagle in the air saying: Come and see!</p> <p>7:12. And I saw as it were a pale horse whose rider is Death; and sheol came after them;</p> <p>7:13. And power was given them over the fourth part of the earth, to kill with a sword, and with hunger, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth.</p>	<p>The eagle was the beast in the West, associated with the air and Heavenly Knowledge. Does this add any meaning to this passage?</p> <p>Is this horse and writer being sent forth by God? Or is he allied with the Leviathan? Or is it just “events that happen” (neither “team”)?</p>

6:9-11 :: 5th Dispensation

Revelation	Zenos	Discussion Ideas
<p>6:9. And when he [the Lamb] had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held:</p>	<p>8:1. And it came to pass that Haniel opened the fifth seal, and I beheld all the souls that have been and were yet to be slain for Israel, and for the testimony which they held.</p>	<p>What was given in the torah that mankind didn't have before?</p> <p>What made that a blessed day?</p> <p>What does that have to do with the Martyrs?</p>
<p>6:10. And they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth?</p>	<p>8:2. And it came to pass that they cried with a loud voice, saying: How long will ye judge unjustly, and accept these wicked people?</p>	
<p>6:11. And white robes were given unto every one of them; and it was said unto them, that they should rest yet for a little season, until their fellow servants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled.</p>	<p>8:3. Defend the poor and fatherless: do justice to the afflicted and needy; yea, deliver the poor and needy and rid them out of the hand of the wicked!</p> <p>8:4. And it came to pass that white robes were given unto each of them; and these were told that their patience was to be rewarded,</p> <p>8:5. Yea, and that these should rest yet for a little season, for now is the blessed day that the Torah is given unto mankind.</p>	

Discussion:

What is meant by the contradiction in the idea that only the Lamb can open the seals, and that the angels of each dispensation open the seals? In what way are the angles opening the seals? In what way is only the Lamb able to open them? Is it reasonable to allow both of these to be true? Or is it just "reaching" for a way to accept a contradiction?

Why don't the dispensations line up with 1000 year segments of time? When the dispensations don't line up well, is it due to corruption in academic history? Is it due to corruption in ecclesiastical history? Or are they both correct, and it's just a misunderstanding of the intended meaning? If it is a misunderstanding, was it "sealed up" by God, or just obscured by Mankind?

What do the "seals" honestly represent? They aren't "all" of the events in the dispensation, we can see that Zenos has additional things from each dispensation: Trumpets, Vials, etc. Do the seals capture a particular kind of event(s), and, If so what?