

man setting up his puny will against the will of God, and setting up to defy God and to carry out his own purposes as against God's purposes, and we have sin and violence and bloodshed and misery coming into the world through man's spirit through man's sin. The marvel of the Scripture is, the marvel of life is that God did not say, Well, that was just an experiment that did not work; let's wipe them out, put an end to them and we'll start over again. Instead of that He loved us so much He gave His only Son to die on the cross that we might be saved.

So we have that marvelous hymn we noticed in Rev. 4 we noticed with all the forces of the universe praising God. "Thou art worthy O Lord to receive glory and honor, and power for thou hast created all things and for thy pleasure they are and were created." Then in the next chapter we have a new song, 5:9, "Thou art worthy to open the scroll for thou wast slain and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every country and tongue and people and nation, and hast made us unto our God a kingdom of priests and we shall reign on the earth.?"

But as long as we remain on earth we have this problem with us. We have this sin which was forgiven through what Christ did on Calvary. If we believe on Him we are completely saved from our sins, and yet we have the effects of it remaining in our lives and we still have an attitude ready to fight against God. So sanctification is not an instantaneous thing like justification; it is a process that goes on and on until that day when we will be completely sanctified and completely rid of our propensity to sin and completely consecrated to God. During this interval we have two problems that face us. No. 1 we have the problem of this relationship between the world of matter, between the world of cause and effect, and the personal abilities: the spirit vs the flesh. We have this struggle of the spirit against the sinful impulses and attitudes that we have many of which are not material but spiritual.

This then I think is the greatest marvel that God created, the marvelous act of his atonement in saving us and regenerating us. The greatest marvel He created is this marvel of independent minds, independent spirits. Of course that is what man is. We read in John where Jesus said to Nicodemus in v. 6 "that which is born of the flesh is flesh; that which is born of the spirit is spirit." We have here the flesh vs the spirit. We have it in Gal.5 -"the flesh lusts