

The Lion and The Lamb

Revelation 5:1-14

- Chapter five continues the vision of what John saw in heaven when a door was opened and he was called to come up here. As we are given some incredible insight into what goes on in heaven, as those around the throne of God give glory and Praise unto Him. But as we'll see that's not all that happens there, for just like in John fourteen when Jesus said "there are many mansions in glory, and if it was not so He wouldn't have mentioned it" well, we see a similar thing happening here.

V1-14

- **V1** the focus of chapter four was the throne and Who occupies it, now we'll see John shift to a seven sealed scroll held by The enthroned Lord. During this time ancient scrolls usually was read horizontally not vertically, and it was written from left to right laying in narrow columns, but this scroll has so much written on it that it has writing on the inside of it and the outside on the back.
- After a roll was finished it was fastened with strings and then sealed with wax at the knots, but this scroll was sealed with seven seals meaning there was seven strings around the scroll, and each string was sealed with wax. So this wasn't seven writings each separated by a seal, but seven seals all set upon one scroll, therefore all the seals must be opened before the scroll could be read.
- **V2-5** John sees a mighty angel speak saying "Who is worthy to break the seals and open the scroll"? At least a dozen times the phrase "**loud voice**" and its interpreted at least twenty times the last in **Rev 21:3**. So needless to say there will be no one saying "Huh, or what you say" as communication is clear and concise.
- When no one was found worthy in heaven, on earth, even under the earth, John began to cry, and in the Greek this wasn't a single tear falling down his cheek but it means to sob profusely. This is symbolic of man not having anyone to redeem us of our sin, can you imagine God asking Who is worthy and none able to answer, then what state would we be left in? Still in our sins, an eternity separated from God.

- **V5-7** so John cried and cried until one of the twenty four elders rescued him from his grief; telling him not to weep, and showing Him there is One Who is worthy to loose the seals and open the scroll. It is The Lion of the tribe of Judah, this title comes from **Gen 49:9-10**, **Is 31:4** and **Hos 11:10**, also The Root of David is mentioned in **Hos 11:10** and is repeated in **Rev 22:16**.
- Because of what John is told he expected to see a lion, but what he saw was a Lamb instead, and although this Lamb had been killed He is living and standing. This meant He still had the marks of the previous sacrifice upon Him > **Jn 20:24-29**- Thomas said unless he sees the nail prints on Jesus He will not believe He is risen. Jesus will carry these scars in glory to remind us what he sacrificed for us to be with Him for all eternity, so every time I see Him it's a reminder that He is worthy.
- Even though He has the marks of His sacrifice The Lamb was not presented as an object of pity, for He bore the marks of omnipotence (Seven horns) and omniscience (seven eyes) for He is all powerful and all knowing. Eyes in scripture point to knowledge and wisdom, horns suggest power, this describes Jesus perfectly.
- After no created being is found worthy to take the scroll, The Lamb Who was slain but yet lives, Who is all knowing, All wise, all powerful, is worthy. This is why before He bowed His Head and died "it is finished" Telestai" it is paid in full, completed, accomplished, now no more sacrifices are needed, nothing is left to do but trust.
- **V8-10** once The Lamb takes the scroll the weeping ends and the praising begins > **Dan 7:13-14**- we see a similar picture shown to Danile the prophet, as Jesus comes to The Father Who gives Him ever lasting dominion that everyone will bow down to Him no matter who they are and what their station in life they are to give Jesus glory
- As the praise goes up the prayers of the saints comes out, these prayers are not intercessory prayers, as they are prayers of praise not for man but to Jesus. The new song is His Mercies are forever new, as notice it's the song of the Redeemed, as we who once were sinners and beggars are now Kings and priests to our God Amen!
- **V11-12** in **V8** the angels and the elders fell down together before The Lamb, but in **V9-10** only the elders sang the song of the redeemed, because in no place in scripture are we told of the redemption of angels. Here the angels join back in declaring the worthiness of The Lamb because of the redemption He accomplished.

- **V13-14** finally all of creation praises The Father and The Lamb, if anyone had any doubt as to The Deity of Jesus show them this verses. Here is combined worship of both The Father and of The Lamb, and then in complete submission the four and living creatures fall down and worship Him Who lives forever and ever. Caesars, Kings, queens, and presidents, come and go, but our Lord lives forever and ever.
- I believe the contents of this scroll are the same contents that were sealed up by God in **Dan 12:8-9**, sealed “**till the time of the end**” and the only One that is worthy to unseal the book and read its contents becomes the focus of worship in chapter five. For what was sealed up in Daniel’s day was unsealed in John’s, and The One unsealing the book is “The Lion of the tribe of Judah” Jesus Himself.