

**Passage:** Revelation 5:1-7

**Title:** The Lion, the Lamb, and the Scroll

**Summary:** Revelation chapter 5 is foundational for the understanding of why things are the way they are on this earth. Why is there evil? Why do bad things happen? Will it always be this way? Why does God allow it? Chapter 5 “reveals” the answers to these things. Join us as we study this passage, verse-by-verse.

**Revelation 5:1–7 (NKJV)** <sup>1</sup> And I saw in the right *hand* of Him who sat on the throne a scroll written inside and on the back, sealed with seven seals. <sup>2</sup> Then I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, “Who is worthy to open the scroll and to loose its seals?” <sup>3</sup> And no one in heaven or on the earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll, or to look at it. <sup>4</sup> So I wept much, because no one was found worthy to open and read the scroll, or to look at it. <sup>5</sup> But one of the elders said to me, “Do not weep. Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has prevailed to open the scroll and to loose its seven seals.” <sup>6</sup> And I looked, and behold, in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as though it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent out into all the earth. <sup>7</sup> Then He came and took the scroll out of the right hand of Him who sat on the throne.

### **Blessing / John on Patmos**

The only book that comes with a promised blessing for those who read it:

*(Revelation 1:3 NKJV) Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written in it; for the time is near.*

### **John on Patmos / John wrote 5 Books / Believe – Eternal Life – Be Ready**

John on the Island of Patmos receives this revelation of Jesus Christ. The Apostle John wrote 4 other books to the church. The Gospel of John, and 1,2,3 John, and this fifth book, Revelation. In the Gospel of John he wrote that we might believe, he uses the word believe some 60 times:

*(John 20:31 NKJV) but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.*

He wrote us in 1,2,3 John so that we might know that we have eternal life:

*(1 John 5:13 NKJV) These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God.*

So he wrote that we might believe, then that we might know, and now he writes Revelation so that we might be ready:

*(Revelation 2:7 NKJV) "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give to eat from the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God."*

### **Before Glorified Christ / Write these Things / All Things Coming Before Throne**

John is now before the glorified Christ, and Jesus says John now write these things so that they might be ready, for this book is all about man coming before the Holy God, the flow of all humanity is flowing to the throne of God whether man realizes it or not, John writes so that all of man might be ready:

*(Ephesians 1:10 NKJV) that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth; in Him.*

### **Book of Revelation Outline**

- The Things Which You Have Seen - (Chapter 1).
- The Things Which Are - (Chapters 2-3).
- The Things Which Will Take Place After This - (Chapters 4-22).

*(Revelation 1:19 NKJV) "Write the things which you have seen, and the things which are, and the things which will take place after this.*

### **Recap Outline**

- Chapter 1 is the revelation of the glorified Christ.
- Chapters 2-3 are the 7 churches, the current church period, this period known as the dispensation of grace. The church period ends with the Rapture as God takes us, His Bride, out of here for a 7 year honeymoon with Him. We can see from the signs around us that the rapture is very soon.
- Chapters 4-5 are the scene around the throne of God, before the dispensation of grace ends, and God pours His wrath out on a Christ rejecting world.

- Chapters 6-19, known as the 7 year Tribulation Period.
- Chapter 20, at the end of the Tribulation Period Satan is cast into the bottomless pit, and the saints will rule and reign with Christ for 1,000 yrs (Millennial Kingdom) over those that survived the Tribulation. Then at the end of the thousand years Satan will be loosed, believe it or not, people will chose to follow him, then Jesus will say enough and cast Satan all those who follow him into the Lake of Fire.
- Chapter 21-22, then will come the new heaven, and the new earth, and we shall live happily ever after – but there will be no end as we will spend all of eternity beholding Him, and fellowship with each other.

### **Stage Set / Last Days of Earth**

Chapter 4 we saw what heaven will be like around the throne of God, as we see the brilliance of God and heaven, now the stage has been set for what the Last Days on earth will be like.

### **Lion – Lamb - Scroll**

This is the story of the Lion, the Lamb, and the Scroll. This passage here is foundational for the understanding of why things are the way they are on this earth.

### **Outline: The Lion, the Lamb, and the Scroll**

- The Scroll (What is It?) - (5:1)
- The Weeping (Why is there Weeping?) - (5:2-4)
- The Lion (Why of Judah?) - (5:5)
- The Lamb (Why Slain?) - (5:6-7)

### **Mind You**

May we be reminded that John is in the Spirit, and when we are in the Spirit, we will see things, and behold things, and understand things of the Lord in a deep and clear way.

*Revelation 4:1–2 (NKJV)* <sup>1</sup> *After these things I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven. And the first voice which I heard was like a trumpet speaking with me, saying, “Come up here, and I will show you things which must take place after this.”* <sup>2</sup> *Immediately I was in the Spirit; and behold, a throne set in heaven, and One sat on the throne.*

### **Prayer**

The Word of God is Living and Powerful, and is ready, and will do a mighty work in our lives.

*Hebrews 4:12 (NKJV)* <sup>12</sup> *For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.*

### **In Every Study**

- Who Is God? (How Great is He?)
- What Does He Think of Me? (How Wonderful Are His Thoughts Towards Me?)
- What Does He Want Me to Do?
- What Can I Boldly Request of Him?
- What Do I Need to Be on Guard of When I Leave Here Today?

Boldly come to the throne of grace, ask God to reveal Himself in a mighty way to you, and to do I might work in you, and through you.

*Hebrews 4:16 (NKJV)* <sup>16</sup> *Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need*

### **The Scroll (What is It?) - (5:1)**

**(Revelation 5:1 NKJV) And I saw in the right hand of Him who sat on the throne a scroll written inside and on the back, sealed with seven seals.**

### **Scroll / Papyrus – Horizontal / Book of Revelation - Written 1 Side – 15ft long**

The “book (OKJV)” John sees is actually a scroll. If similar to other scrolls in John’s day, it was made of eight-by-ten-inch sheets of papyrus, which were connected horizontally and wound around a wooden

handle. Epistles the size of Jude, Philemon, and II and III John would all be written on one single piece of papyrus. The Book of Revelation, on the other hand, would require a scroll fifteen feet long. Due to the coarse back of the papyrus, the three-inch-wide columns of writing were penned on only the smooth side.

### **Written Double Sided – Sealed / Title Deed to Property / Backside to Reclaim**

Here, however, we see a scroll written on both sides and sealed with seven seals, which can be perplexing until one studies Jewish history—wherein are found numerous examples of a certain kind of document with writing on both sides and sealed with seven seals: a title deed to a piece of property. Initially, a title deed would be written only on the smooth side and sealed with a single seal (Jeremiah 32:6–29). But if the owner became unable to meet his financial obligations, he would have to relinquish his title deed—upon the backside of which would be written his debts and upon which would be placed seven seals. If at any time during the ensuing seven years he could pay off his debts, the seals would be broken and the title deed returned.

**Jeremiah 32:6–7 (NKJV)** <sup>6</sup> And Jeremiah said, “The word of the LORD came to me, saying, <sup>7</sup> ‘Behold, Hanamel the son of Shallum your uncle will come to you, saying, “Buy my field which *is* in Anathoth, for the right of redemption *is* yours to buy *it*.” ’

**Jeremiah 32:10–12 (NKJV)**<sup>10</sup> And I signed the deed and sealed *it*, took witnesses, and weighed the money on the scales. <sup>11</sup> So I took the purchase deed, *both* that which was sealed *according* to the law and custom, and that which was open; <sup>12</sup> and I gave the purchase deed to Baruch the son of Neriah, son of Mahseiah, in the presence of Hanamel my uncle’s *son*, and in the presence of the witnesses who signed the purchase deed, before all the Jews who sat in the court of the prison.

### **God Owns Earth – gave it to Adam**

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was the Lord’s and the fullness thereof. It belonged to God by virtue of divine creation. But God then gave the earth to man. When He created Adam and placed him on the earth, He told Adam that he was to have dominion over the earth. He was to take care of it and treasure it as a beautiful gift of God.

*(Genesis 1:28 NKJV) Then God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”*

### **Tempter Came / Left Kingdom God – Enter Kingdom of Satan**

But when Satan came and tempted Eve to eat of the tree in the midst of the garden, of which God had told them specifically they were not to eat of that tree, and if they did they would surely die, when Eve ate and gave to Adam and he ate in disobedience to the command of God, but it was also obedience to Satan. A double action. And in so doing, Adam and Eve left the kingdom of God, the kingdom of light and life and they entered into the kingdom of Satan, the kingdom of death and darkness.

**Genesis 3:6–7 (NKJV)**<sup>6</sup> So when the woman saw that the tree *was* good for food, that it *was* pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make *one* wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate. <sup>7</sup> Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they *were* naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings.

### **Adam Forfeited Earth to Satan / Satan god of this World**

And in so doing, the earth, which was theirs was given over to Satan. They forfeited this beautiful earth into Satan’s control. And Satan has control over the world today. Paul calls him the god of this world. Jesus referred to him as the prince of this world.

*(2 Corinthians 4:3 NKJV) But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing,*

*(2 Corinthians 4:4 NKJV) whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.*

*(John 12:31 KJV) Now is the judgment of this world: now shall the prince of this world be cast out.*

### **Jesus came to Redeem the World / Wages of Sin Death / Redeemed not with Gold**

When Jesus came to the earth, His purpose in coming to the earth was to redeem the world back to God. It once belonged to God, God gave it to man, man in a sense gave it to Satan, but Jesus came to redeem the world back to God, to pay the price of redemption. The price of redemption was death, for the wages of sin is death. That was His death upon the cross, the shedding of His blood. The giving of His life for man’s sin--the price of redemption. He paid the price to redeem us from sin. Peter said:

*(1 Peter 1:18 NKJV) knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers,*

*(1 Peter 1:19 NKJV) but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.*

*(Romans 6:23 NKJV) For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

## **Had to buy Land to Get Bride / Law of Kinsman / Book of Ruth / Matt 13**

In order to get us, Jesus had to buy the whole world back. That is what is called the Law of the Kinsman Redeemer, as taught in the Old Testament Scriptures. We saw it so beautifully displayed to us in the Book of Ruth as Boaz would buy the land to get the Gentile bride. Boaz only wanted the Bride, but as we read he had to purchase the land in order to get all that came with the land. Boaz is a type of Jesus, and Ruth the Gentile Bride is a picture of us, and Naomi, Ruth's mother-in-law is a picture of Israel, and she too would be included in the purchase. The Book of Ruth unlocks this passage for us here in Revelation 6. Jesus gave the parable in Matthew 13, saying He bought the field to get the treasure.

*(Leviticus 25:47 NKJV) 'Now if a sojourner or stranger close to you becomes rich, and one of your brethren who dwells by him becomes poor, and sells himself to the stranger or sojourner close to you, or to a member of the stranger's family,*

*(Leviticus 25:48 NKJV) 'after he is sold he may be redeemed again. One of his brothers may redeem him;*

*(Leviticus 25:49 NKJV) 'or his uncle or his uncle's son may redeem him; or anyone who is near of kin to him in his family may redeem him; or if he is able he may redeem himself.*

*(Leviticus 25:50 NKJV) 'Thus he shall reckon with him who bought him: The price of his release shall be according to the number of years, from the year that he was sold to him until the Year of Jubilee; it shall be according to the time of a hired servant for him.*

Ruth 2:20 (KJV 1900)<sup>20</sup> And Naomi said unto her daughter in law, Blessed be he of the LORD, who hath not left off his kindness to the living and to the dead. And Naomi said unto her, The man is near of kin unto us, one of our next kinsmen.

*(Matthew 13:44 NKJV) "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and hid; and for joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.*

## **Jesus did not Dispute Satan**

Satan, when Jesus began His public ministry, after He was baptized and the Holy Spirit had come upon Him, Satan took Him to a high mountain. He showed Him all of the kingdoms of the world and the glory of them. And Satan said to Jesus, All of these will I give to You if You will bow down and worship me. For they are mine and I can give them to whomever I will. Jesus did not dispute the claim of Satan. But acknowledged that he was the possessor of the earth at that time. Now if you offered to give me all of Pasadena, I would say you are a nutcase, you have no claim to Pasadena, therefore you have no power to give it to me. Jesus never disputed Satan's ownership. Jesus came to redeem the world back to God. But not by bowing down to Satan but by going to the cross and giving His life as a ransom for all. And so Jesus in answer to Satan said, It is written, Thou shall worship the Lord thy God and Him only shalt thou serve (Matthew 4:8-10). But Satan is the god of this world and is in control to the present time.

*(Matthew 4:8 NKJV) Again, the devil took Him up on an exceedingly high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory.*

*(Matthew 4:9 NKJV) And he said to Him, "All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me."*

*(Matthew 4:10 NKJV) Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.'"*

## **Satan will give to Anti-Christ**

Now a little further on in the Book of Revelation when we get to chapter thirteen, we're going to find that there's going to arise a world ruler and Satan is going to empower this man. He is going to give to him his throne and his authority. This man will be known as the antiChrist. And Satan empowers him with his power and with his authority and Satan will seek to be worshipped through this man. Of course, Satan has desired worship. His fall was perpetrated by his desire of being exalted above the other angels, above the stars of God. And his endeavor to elevate himself to the position of worship that belongs only to God. And so, Satan still possesses. He hasn't yet turned the world over to this antiChrist. We will get that, as I said, in chapter thirteen of the book of Revelation where Satan turns over the power and authority of the earth to him. He offered it to Jesus. He will give it to his emissary in chapter thirteen.

*(Revelation 13:1 NKJV) Then I stood on the sand of the sea. And I saw a beast rising up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and on his horns ten crowns, and on his heads a blasphemous name.*

*(Revelation 13:2 NKJV) Now the beast which I saw was like a leopard, his feet were like the feet of a bear, and his mouth like the mouth of a lion. The dragon gave him his power, his throne, and great authority.*

## **Jesus Paid Redemption Price – But hasn't Claimed / Hebrews 2**

Now Jesus paid the price to redeem the world back to God. However, He has not yet laid claim to that which He purchased. In the book of Hebrews, it talks about how that "Jesus was made a little lower for the suffering of death, that He might be crowned with glory and honor. And that all things might be put under His feet. But the writer said, We do not yet see all things put under Him" (Hebrews 2:7-9). We have

this period of time since the price of redemption was paid until the Lord redeems His purchased possession.

*(Hebrews 2:7 NKJV) You have made him a little lower than the angels; You have crowned him with glory and honor, And set him over the works of Your hands.*

*(Hebrews 2:8 NKJV) You have put all things in subjection under his feet." For in that He put all in subjection under him, He left nothing that is not put under him. But now we do not yet see all things put under him.*

*(Hebrews 2:9 NKJV) But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone.*

### **Jesus not Claimed yet – Period of Grace – before Kicking Out / Glad not 1990 / Still Today**

Why hasn't Jesus claimed, why hasn't He kicked Satan out and reclaimed His land? Because when Jesus kicks Satan out, He will have to kick everyone else out who is not in His family – and that we will see begins in Revelation chapter 6, when He breaks the first seal, and the tribulation begins. It is the end of grace, it is the end of man receiving Jesus and following Him by their own free-will, it will be the worst time ever on the face of this planet. So Jesus for these last 2,000 years has been extended grace to all of man, that more may receive Him freely as King. I am ever so thankful that He didn't come back in 1990, because I got saved in 1991. I am glad He didn't come back in 2004, because I watched people get saved in 2005, and I am glad that I can stand here today and still point the way to salvation and be glad that He has not come back to reclaim the land, and I can tell those of you who have not received the free gift, now is the time, for today is the day, for I cannot promise anything but today, this moment, and even this moment might pass.

### **Book Ephesians / Down payment**

In the book of Ephesians, we are told concerning the faith that God has given to us the gift of the Holy Spirit "which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession." So in the meantime, God has given us the Holy Spirit. It's sort of a down payment. It's sort of God's indication that He is intent, He is earnest in His intention of redeeming you. And so the blessed gift of the Holy Spirit and as Paul talks again to the Ephesians, "We are sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise":

*(Ephesians 1:13 NKJV) In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise,*

*(Ephesians 1:14 NKJV) who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.*

### **All of Creation Groans / Yet Future**

In the book of Romans, Paul said that "we and all of creation are groaning and travailing together until now as we wait for the manifestation of the sons of God, to wit, the redemption of our body" (Romans 8:23). That is yet future, the redeeming of the world.

*(Romans 8:22 NKJV) For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now.*

*(Romans 8:23 NKJV) Not only that, but we also who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body.*

*(Romans 8:24 NKJV) For we were saved in this hope, but hope that is seen is not hope; for why does one still hope for what he sees?*

*(Romans 8:25 NKJV) But if we hope for what we do not see, we eagerly wait for it with perseverance.*

### **Full Understanding / Satan behind – AIDS – Hurricanes – Rape / Gives us Answers for Today**

When we get the full understanding of this, we find out why the world is the way it is. So many people are confused with why this world is in such a mess. When people say, "Well, if God is so good, why are there wars, cancer, floods, AIDS, depression, rape, and injustice?"—they're blaming the wrong person. The planet God gave man was absolutely perfect. Man is to blame for turning the planet over to Satan. And he is the reason the people to whom John was writing were watching their brothers and sisters incarcerated or fed to the lions, crucified, or dipped in hot wax. This book was written not only to deal with prophecy, but primarily to deal with the questions with which John's flock wrestled—and the questions with which Christians have wrestled ever since.

### **The Weeping (Why is there Weeping?) - (5:2-4)**

**(Revelation 5:2 NKJV) Then I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, "Who is worthy to open the scroll and to loose its seals?"**

### **Not Who Willing – but Able / Hitler – Napoleon – Wanted Power / But who is Worthy**

In other words, “Who is able to meet the requirements, to pay off the debt?” Notice he does not say, “Who is willing?” Nebuchnezzar, Alexander the Great was willing. Genghis Khan was willing. Charlemagne was willing. Napoleon was willing. Hitler was willing. There have been lots of people who have said, “I want to be in power. Give me a crack at it. Let me see what I can do.” But the angel doesn’t ask, “Who is willing?” The angel asks, “Who is worthy?” Who was and is the near kinsman to Adam, that they might be in the family line to buy back this earth.

**(Revelation 5:3 NKJV) And no one in heaven or on the earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll, or to look at it.**

**(Revelation 5:4 NKJV) So I wept much, because no one was found worthy to open and read the scroll, or to look at it.**

### **Sobbed Convulsively / Not Redeemed – Perpetual Ownership**

The Greek word translated “wept much” actually means “sobbed convulsively.” Because under the law of redemption found back in Leviticus chapter twenty-five, under the law of redemption, a person who sold his property had the right to redeem it if it was in the city, within a walled city, he had the right to redeem it within a year. If it wasn’t redeemed within the year, the transfer of the property became complete and it remained in the new ownership perpetually. But if it is outside the city walls it could be redeemed at the 50<sup>th</sup> year, the year of Jubilee:

*(Leviticus 25:23 NKJV) 'The land shall not be sold permanently, for the land is Mine; for you are strangers and sojourners with Me.*

*(Leviticus 25:24 NKJV) 'And in all the land of your possession you shall grant redemption of the land.*

*(Leviticus 25:25 NKJV) 'If one of your brethren becomes poor, and has sold some of his possession, and if his redeeming relative comes to redeem it, then he may redeem what his brother sold.*

*(Leviticus 25:26 NKJV) 'Or if the man has no one to redeem it, but he himself becomes able to redeem it,*

*(Leviticus 25:27 NKJV) 'then let him count the years since its sale, and restore the remainder to the man to whom he sold it, that he may return to his possession.*

*(Leviticus 25:28 NKJV) 'But if he is not able to have it restored to himself, then what was sold shall remain in the hand of him who bought it until the Year of Jubilee; and in the Jubilee it shall be released, and he shall return to his possession.*

*(Leviticus 25:29 NKJV) 'If a man sells a house in a walled city, then he may redeem it within a whole year after it is sold; within a full year he may redeem it.*

*(Leviticus 25:30 NKJV) 'But if it is not redeemed within the space of a full year, then the house in the walled city shall belong permanently to him who bought it, throughout his generations. It shall not be released in the Jubilee.*

*(Leviticus 25:31 NKJV) 'However the houses of villages which have no wall around them shall be counted as the fields of the country. They may be redeemed, and they shall be released in the Jubilee.*

### **No Man can Redeem / If not Redeemed – Stays under Satan’s Control / Satan the Destroyer**

No man can redeem the world. No man is worthy. No man can save himself, much less others. And surely no man can redeem the world. And so John begins to sob. Why? If the earth is not redeemed in the specified time, the consequence is that it stays under Satan’s control forever. This is more than John could take. The thought of the world going on under Satan’s power. The thought of the powers of darkness ruling and continuing to rule over the world. Satan’s name, we’ll get later on in the Book of Revelation as he unlooses the evil spirits that are in the abusso, his name in the Hebrew is Abaddon and in the Greek Apollyon which means destroyer. Satan is a destroyer! Look at how many lives are being destroyed by Satan! If you are under Satan’s power tonight, he is in the process of destroying your life and if you will look at yourself honestly, take a true inventory, you would have to admit that your life is being destroyed because you’ve given yourself over to the flesh, which is destructive. And it is destroying you.

### **Look at last 30 Years / Consider the Kids**

Imagine just the changes we have seen in the last 30 years. Think how far perversion has come to be totally acceptable in our society, top ratings on the TV. Look at the increases in natural disasters, wars, virus and plagues, and think how much worse they will be in another 30 years. If I didn’t know this book, and this story, I too would sob convulsively thinking what life will be like for my son and grandchildren. Imagine 6000 more years of this (let alone 43000 – to year of Jubilee), how wicked this world would be, if it even would be, most likely would destroy itself by then.

### **John Sobs at the Thought of Satan**

And so the thought of the world staying under Satan's control and power is more than John can handle. And John begins to sob with the thought that the world is going to be under Satan's control forever.

John is weeping because at this point he's in a vision state, he doesn't know who can take the scroll, and he weeps because he therefore believes that there is nothing that can stop the endless depravity of earth and that man will live on and on and on in his state of depravity, in his state of oppression by the devil. That man and earth will continue on and on and on as it is. And I think there's many of us, even though you've seen the Lamb that was slain, received Him as Lord and Savior, can continue on and think that there's still no power to set you free while on this earth in this body. You believe that you are saved and will go to heaven, but here on Earth, the bondage will never end, the defeat, that the discouragement, will never end because there's none who can set you free.

But this throne room scene for us is a declaration to us that far be it and far from it. Are we sentenced to never being victorious and overcomers here in this life? Because the same Lamb who could take the scroll and redeem the earth is the same lamb who takes the scroll and redeem you and I individually.

But the earth redeemed after "cleansed of sin", and then made new. But you have been cleansed by the blood of the Lamb, and are made new, and given power to live the victorious life Jesus offers. And that freedom and power is just a decision away, and that decision is called "repentance", which means to turn away from that, and turn to the Lord, and be given all you need to live victoriously.

*John 8:32 (NKJV)* <sup>32</sup> *And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."*

*John 8:36 (NKJV)* <sup>36</sup> *Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.*

*Ephesians 1:19-21 (NKJV)* <sup>19</sup> *and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power* <sup>20</sup> *which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places,* <sup>21</sup> *far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come.*

*John 10:10 (NKJV)* <sup>10</sup> *The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.*

Let's read on.

### **The Lion (Why of Judah?) - (5:5)**

**(Revelation 5:5 NKJV) But one of the elders said to me, "Do not weep. Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has prevailed to open the scroll and to loose its seven seals."**

#### **Lion of Judah / Scepter shall not Depart**

*Verse 5 - Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah* - The "Lion of the tribe of Judah" takes us back to Genesis 49, where Jacob calls his twelve sons together to pronounce a blessing upon them. As he comes to Judah, Jacob likens him to a lion's whelp, and then says that power and authority would be his until the coming of Messiah...

*(Genesis 49:8 NKJV)* *"Judah, you are he whom your brothers shall praise; Your hand shall be on the neck of your enemies; Your father's children shall bow down before you.*

*(Genesis 49:9 NKJV)* *Judah is a lion's whelp; From the prey, my son, you have gone up. He bows down, he lies down as a lion; And as a lion, who shall rouse him?*

*(Genesis 49:10 NKJV)* *The scepter shall not depart from Judah, Nor a lawgiver from between his feet, Until Shiloh comes; And to Him shall be the obedience of the people.*

#### **AD 12 – Roman Decree**

The year is A.D. 12. In the springtime, the Romans issue a decree declaring that the Jewish people would no longer be able to carry out capital punishment. The rabbis' response to the decree was immediate because they believed capital punishment was the cornerstone of government as defined in the Noahic Covenant. When they were denied this fundamental right of government, and thereby rendered powerless as a nation, the rabbis rushed into the streets of Jerusalem, rending their clothes and smiting their breasts. Remember when they wanted to crucify Jesus they had to ask the Romans to do it because they were no longer allowed to:

*(John 18:31 NKJV)* *Then Pilate said to them, "You take Him and judge Him according to your law." Therefore the Jews said to him, "It is not lawful for us to put anyone to death,"*

### **Rabbis Wailing – Scepter Departed – Jesus 12 in the Temple**

In fact, we are told (Josephus the Historian) the whole city was filled with the wailing of rabbis who understood that something terrible was happening. The scepter had departed. The authority was gone. Yet Messiah had not come—or so they thought. For on that very day, guess who was sitting in the temple in Jerusalem as a twelve-year-old confounding the scribes and thinkers of the day: The Lion of the Tribe of Judah—Jesus Christ.

### **We Wail – Not Realizing Jesus is in our Midst Working**

So, too, how often we throw dirt in the air and wail and moan, ripping our clothes and crying, “Where are You, Lord?”—when He’s right in our midst, working everything out perfectly.

### **Root of David / Jesus has Claim to Throne / Till Enemies Your Footstool**

Verse 5 - the Root of David: Jesus was born in the house and lineage of David, but obviously Jesus is eternal, but the main point being made here is that Jesus has the right to the claim of the throne. He is King Jesus, and He sits on the throne forever. And back in Acts, Jesus will put all things under His foot, and the 7 seals and all we see in Revelation is final culmination of this:

*(Acts 2:34 NKJV) "For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he says himself: 'The LORD said to my Lord, "Sit at My right hand,*

*(Acts 2:35 NKJV) Till I make Your enemies Your footstool.'"*

### **Expecting a Lion – Seeing a Lamb**

At this point, John turns around, expecting, no doubt, to see a massive figure, a roaring lion, but instead will see a Lamb.....

### **The Lamb (Why Slain?) - (5:6-7)**

**(Revelation 5:6 NKJV) And I looked, and behold, in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as though it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent out into all the earth.**

### **All Grace**

What we read is truly great grace! You would think we would read all through chapter 6-19, this Tribulation Period, The Lion, The Lion, The Lion..... but you wont, only the last verse is the Lion. For chapters 6-19, for 29 times in 27 verses, you will read....The Lamb! That is great grace that all the way through God is still calling and showing nailed scars hands, of the Lamb of God who came to take the sin of every man that would receive this offer of grace.

### **The Lamb in the Midst**

Back in chapter 1 we saw Jesus in the midst of the 7 churches, and here He still is in the midst of His people now in heaven, just as He was in the midst in AD 12. We know He will be with us in heaven, how important to see Him in our midst today. In heaven we will lay our crowns at His feet, may we here on earth lay all our troubles and burdens, and our very life before Him:

*(Revelation 1:13 NKJV) and in the midst of the seven lampstands One like the Son of Man, clothed with a garment down to the feet and girded about the chest with a golden band.*

### **Lamb – Pet Lamb / Transfer of Guilt**

Verse 6 - stood a Lamb as though it had been slain - The Greek word translated “Lamb” is in the diminutive form—meaning a pet lamb. That first Passover sacrifice would then become the pattern for all Passovers thereafter. The idea was to make sin personal, it is no big deal to go to the store pickup a lamb and kill outside the house. But imagine getting a lamb, so soft, innocent, and cute, and having it live in the home, on the grounds for 4 days. And then after the family had been attached to the lamb, seeing the father take a knife, slice the throat of the lamb, catching its blood, and then sprinkling it over the doors of the home. Sin would become personal, sin would become very real, and sin would mean something to you. The Lamb was a picture of God who would become the Lamb, that would take your sin personally. Before they would kill the lamb they would lay their hands upon the head of the lamb, confess their sin – transfer of guilt, and then kill the lamb. Thus Jesus did for us, and we would lay hands upon His head



and transfer our guilt unto Him. The picture is a pet lamb, a member of the home, not store bought and common – personal and here now.

*(Exodus 12:3 NKJV) "Speak to all the congregation of Israel, saying: 'On the tenth day of this month every man shall take for himself a lamb, according to the house of his father, a lamb for a household.*

*(Exodus 12:4 NKJV) 'And if the household is too small for the lamb, let him and his neighbor next to his house take it according to the number of the persons; according to each man's need you shall make your count for the lamb.*

*(Exodus 12:5 NKJV) 'Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year. You may take it from the sheep or from the goats.*

*(Exodus 12:6 NKJV) 'Now you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of the same month. Then the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it at twilight.*

*(Exodus 12:7 NKJV) 'And they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and on the lintel of the houses where they eat it.*

### **Marred Beyond Recognition / Still Bears the Mark in Heaven / Reminder in Heaven**

According to Isaiah 52, Jesus' visage is marred more than that of any other man. Possibly for all of eternity Jesus will bear the scars that He received purchasing us back, redeeming us from destruction, so that we may be called sons and daughters. But until the redemption is complete, until the scroll has the seven seals removed, it is possible that He will still bear the marks of the price of redemption that we might see what He was willing to endure because He loves you so much that words cannot describe it. Jesus said to His disciples, "Greater love has no man than this, than a man will lay down his life for his friends" (John 15:13). And when we see the marks of the cross, we'll realize the depths of His love and I'm sure that it will tug at each of our hearts.

**Isaiah 52:14 (NKJV)** <sup>14</sup> Just as many were astonished at you, So His visage was marred more than any man, And His form more than the sons of men;

### **As Though / 7 Horns – Power / 7 Eyes – Perfect Insight / 7 Spirits – Fullness of God**

*Verse 6 - , having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent out into all the -*

Notice it says "as though", John is using picture language here, it isn't that Jesus has 7 horns and 7 eyes. Horns represent leadership and power in the Scriptures so the 7 horns speak of perfect power. The number seven is the number of completeness. And thus the complete power or the omnipotence of Jesus! And the 7 eyes speaks of His perfect insight, the number seven again, all seeing or the omniscience of Jesus. Seeing all things. So the seven horns, the omnipotence; the seven eyes, the omniscience of Jesus—the characteristics and attributes of deity. The 7 Spirits of God speaks of the fullness of God's Spirit.

**(Revelation 5:7 NKJV) Then He came and took the scroll out of the right hand of Him who sat on the throne.**

### **Dramatic Moment**

What a dramatic moment! Here we see the scroll in the right hand of Him who sits upon the throne, the strong angel with a loud voice asking who is worthy to take the scroll and loose the seals. No one found worthy until Jesus steps forth there in the midst of the throne, taking the scroll out of the right hand of Him who sits upon the throne.

### **Great News – We Don't have to be Worthy**

You know what is some of the greatest news of this passage, and that is that we do not have to be the worthy one. What a relief that we can rest in that, that we can rest in the One that is worthy.

### **Context / Holy – Holy- Holy / Separate – Love – Giving - Forgiveness**

May I remind you that all of this we are reading and visualizing is in the context of God's Holiness. Back in chapter 24/7 around the throne the praises of God goes out – Holy, Holy, Holy. Holy means to be separate, set apart, and the Lord is separate. Only 2 things exist, the Creator, and those created: there is the Creator, and everything else is created – the angels, heaven and earth, the devil, and you and me. That makes Him separated, set apart, Holy. God is also separate from us by the way He loves; His love comes with no strings attached, unconditional. He loves us even when there was nothing worth loving – dead in trespass and sin. We love our spouse because we saw something in them that drew us to them. God loves even when there was nothing loveable about us, that makes Him separate from us. His giving is different from ours, He gives freely of Himself, as we look at what is in it for us (can't believe I did all that for them and they didn't say thank you) – that makes Him different, separate from us. His

forgiveness is different from ours, He forgives and wipes it from His memory bank, we forgive but never forget, that makes Him different, separate from us.

### **The Lamb**

John is before the throne of God watching the worship of the saints before the Holy God. To see the beauty and awe and then everything come to a screeching halt because no one was found worthy to take the scroll. John weeps convulsively because then nothing would ever change down on earth, and things would just continue to get worse and worse. The Church would never be taken-up, the saints would never enjoy the marriage supper of the Lamb, Satan would never be cast into the Lake of Fire, and the New Heaven and the New Earth would never be established. But the Lamb steps forward, as one who had been slain. Up to this point (chapters 1-4) Jesus has been described in 24 different ways, but we will see that His predominate description used most often to describe in through the rest of the book (27 times) is the Lamb. When the seals are loosed and all the tribulation begins, the battle with Satan and unrepentant rebellious men, I would expect to continually hear the description as the Almighty One, The Awesome God, but Jesus chooses the Lamb. When the wrath begins, He still identifies Himself as the Lamb, the way the truth and the Life is through the Lamb, always has and always will be. The Lord wants all men everywhere to see Him as the Lamb that was slain, for their sin. The Lamb, God wants the Lamb to be central in every aspect of our lives, in our marriages, in our child rearing, in my eye gate, in my ear gate, in my business dealings, in all that I am, may it be in Light of the Lamb.

### **Outline: The Lion, the Lamb, and the Scroll**

- The Scroll (What is It?) - (5:1)
- The Weeping (Why is there Weeping?) - (5:2-4)
- The Lion (Why of Judah?) - (5:5)
- The Lamb (Why Slain?) - (5:6-7)

### **The Fulfillment**

So we see the fulfillment of Jesus's promise that no one can snatch us out of his hand as here we are before the throne of grace, and here we have the fulfillment of a lifetime that we in this body groan for our redemption. And here we are finally out of these bodies, glorified bodies before the glorified God of this world. Perfect fulfillment. Just as he says it will be God speaks this throne and this scene of heaven to remind us of the fulfillment that shall come and cannot be undone. Will you rest in that today? Can I rest in that

### **Prayer**

The Word of God is Living and Powerful, and is ready, and will do a mighty work in our lives.

*Hebrews 4:12 (NKJV) <sup>12</sup> For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.*

### **In Every Study**

- Who Is God? (How Great is He?)
- What Does He Think of Me? (How Wonderful Are His Thoughts Towards Me?)
- What Does He Want Me to Do?
- What Can I Boldly Request of Him?
- What Do I Need to Be on Guard of When I Leave Here Today?

Boldly come to the throne of grace, ask God to reveal Himself in a mighty way to you, and to do I might work in you, and through you.

*Hebrews 4:16 (NKJV) <sup>16</sup> Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need*