

Revelation 35

The Scroll with Seven Seals

I. Remember that the Book of Revelation contains parallel accounts of heaven and earth during Daniel's 70th Week. Chapter five is a continuation of the story of heaven that began in chapter 4. In (Rev. 5:1-5 NKJV) we read about the scroll that is sealed with 7 seals.

A. *¹And 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. ²Then I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, "Who is worthy to open the scroll and to loose its seals?" ³And no one in heaven or on the earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll, or to look at it. ⁴So I wept much, because no one was found worthy to open and read the scroll, or to look at it. ⁵But 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."*

B. This scroll written on the inside and on the back, sealed with seven seals, contains the foreordained events of Daniel's 70th week.

C. It contains a perfect and complete revelation of the events which will take place during the seven year Tribulation Period.

D. Jesus is the only one worthy to open the scroll and to loose its seals.

E. Notice that in verse 5 Jesus is referred to as the Lion of the Tribe of Judah.

1. This is a reference to Jacob's prophecy of Him in (Gen. 49:8-10 NKJV) *⁸"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. ⁹Judah 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? ¹⁰The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor lawgiver*

from between his feet, Until Shiloh comes; And to Him shall be the obedience of the people.

2. This prophecy foretold that Judah would be the ruling tribe in Judah from which the Messiah or Shiloh would come.

3. The Lion symbolizes the great strength of the Messiah from the tribe of Judah; thus, Jesus is called the Lion of the tribe of Judah.

F. Jesus is also referred to as the **Root of David**.

1. This is a reference to the Deity of Christ.

2. **(Matt. 22:41-45 NKJV)** ⁴¹*While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them, ⁴²saying, "What do you think about the Christ? Whose Son is He?" They said to Him, "The Son of David."⁴³He said to them, "How then does David in the Spirit call Him 'Lord,' saying: ⁴⁴'The LORD said to my Lord, "Sit at My right hand, Till I make Your enemies Your footstool"'? ⁴⁵If David then calls Him 'Lord,' how is He his Son?" ⁴⁶And no one was able to answer Him a word, nor from that day on did anyone dare question Him anymore.*

3. The title "Son of David" refers to Christ's humanity.

4. The title "Root of David" refers to Christ's Deity.

5. In His humanity, Christ is David's descendant, but in His Deity, Christ is David's root, source, and creator.

II. In (Rev. 5:6 NKJV) Jesus is referred to as the Lamb. ⁶*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.*

A. Here Jesus is symbolized as a lamb that had been slain, but who is alive again; indicating his death for sin and resurrection from the dead.

B. In His death, Jesus fulfilled the type of the sacrificial lamb of the Passover.

1. (John 1:29 NKJV) ²⁹ *The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!"*

2. (1 Cor. 5:7 NKJV) ⁷ *Therefore purge out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, since you truly are unleavened. For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us.*

3. The seven horns and seven eyes represent the perfect authority and omnipresence of the Holy Spirit with whom the Lamb of God is anointed. It denotes the perfect anointing of the Holy Spirit upon the Lamb of God.

4. (John 3:34 NKJV) ³⁴ *For He whom God has sent speaks the words of God, for God does not give the Spirit by measure.*

5. (GW) *The man whom God has sent speaks God's message. After all, God gives him the Spirit without limit.*

C. Also notice that the Lamb of God is standing, not sitting.

1. Presently He is sitting on the right hand of God making intercession for the church.

2. (Rom. 8:34 NKJV) ³⁴ *Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.*

3. The fact that He is standing in the midst of the throne rather than sitting at the right hand of God indicates that a change has taken place.

4. You see, here He has just left the throne in order to appear in the atmosphere of the earth to receive the church and take it to heaven where it now also appears.

5. Now He is standing in the midst of the throne before the church.

III. Now in the presence of the church company He walks up to the throne to receive the scroll and to open its contents.

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

B. The Father delegates the opening of the scroll and the release of its events to His Son.

C. Only He is worthy to carry out this assignment to bring final judgment on this world. Why?

D. (Rev. 5:8-10 NKJV) ⁸ *Now when He had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each having a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. ⁹and they sang a new song, saying: "You are worthy to take the scroll, And to open its seals; For You were slain, and have redeemed us to God by Your blood Out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation, ¹⁰and have made us kings and priests to our God; and we shall reign on the earth."*

E. The reason He is worthy is because He did for us what no one else has done or ever could do.

1. He was slain for our sins.

2. He redeemed us to God by His blood.

F. Therefore, He alone is worthy to bring about the final series of events that usher in His Second Coming and result in the judgment of the world.

IV. In (Rev. 5:11-14) we learn something about the angels.

A. ¹¹ *Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne, the living creatures, and the elders; and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands, ¹²saying with a loud voice: "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain To receive power and riches and wisdom, And strength and honor and glory and*

blessing!"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, I heard saying: "Blessing and honor and glory and power Be to Him who sits on the throne, And to the Lamb, forever and ever!"¹⁴ Then the four living creatures said, "Amen!" And the twenty-four elders fell down and worshiped Him who lives forever and ever.

B. In this passage, John sees the angelic company in heaven.

C. Dr. Dake says that the expression *ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands*, means myriads of myriads and chiliads of chiliads. This is an expression which denotes an innumerable company...countless numbers.

D. It is the ministry of angels to minister to and care for every believer.

E. (Heb. 1:14 NKJV) ¹⁴*Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation?*

F. These angels operate as we hold fast our confession of faith in God's Word.

G. (Psalm 103:20 NKJV) ²⁰*Bless the LORD, you His angels, who excel in strength, who do His word, heeding the voice of His word.*

H. In Revelation 5, their presence in heaven is further proof that the rapture has taken place at this point.

I. If the church was still on the earth, then all of the angels who are assigned to minister to it would not be in heaven.

V. The worship of Jesus along with the Father in (Rev. 5:11-14 NKJV) is also another proof of the Deity of Christ. ¹¹*Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne, the living creatures, and the elders; and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands,* ¹²*saying with a loud voice: "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain To receive power and riches and*

wisdom, And strength and honor and glory and blessing!"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, I heard saying: "Blessing and honor and glory and power Be to Him who sits on the throne, And to the Lamb, forever and ever!"¹⁴ Then the four living creatures said, "Amen!" And the twenty-four elders fell down and worshiped Him who lives forever and ever.