

Online CGH 9/26

“He is Worthy”

Rev 5:1-5 Then I saw in the right hand of him who was seated on the throne a scroll written within and on the back, sealed with seven seals. **(2)** And I saw a mighty angel proclaiming with a loud voice, “Who is worthy to open the scroll and break its seals?” **(3)** And no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll or to look into it, **(4)** and I began to weep loudly because no one was found worthy to open the scroll or to look into it. **(5)** And one of the elders said to me, “Weep no more; behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals.”

In Revelation we have seen several images not commonly seen in the NT to this point. We have seen images of the heavenly realms. We have seen images of the hosts of heaven in all of their glory. And we have seen images of Jesus as the almighty king that He is. Christ has been revealed to be the Heavenly King, the victorious Lamb who conquered death and reigns forever.

(1)Then I saw in the right hand of him who was seated on the throne a scroll written within and on the back, sealed with seven seals

What is the significance of the scroll and what does it represent?

Why is it significant that it is written on both sides? Where have we seen this before in prophesy?

Why is it significant that the scroll is in the right hand?

What is the significance of the seals? Why seven seals?

Exo 15:6 Your right hand, O LORD, glorious in power, your right hand, O LORD, shatters the enemy.

Eze 2:9-10 And when I looked, behold, a hand was stretched out to me, and behold, a scroll of a book was in it. **(10)** And he spread it before me. And it had writing on the front and on the back, and there were written on it words of lamentation and mourning and woe.

Scrolls contained knowledge. The scroll is a symbol of God’s counsels, possibly prophesies. Usually scrolls are written on only one side. This one is written on both sides to symbolize the completeness of the Lord’s plans. We have seen the same imagery in Ezekiel 2:9-10. The right hand signifies the strength of the Lord and the strength of his word. These words are a blessing to those of His people who receive it.

The seals are an image of security and keeping something safe. We have seen this before in the OT. The image of seven seals keeps the scroll contents safe from those who would improperly use it or from uses for evil purposes. Only the worthy my open the seal.

Isa 29:11 And the vision of all this has become to you like the words of a book that is sealed. When men give it to one who can read, saying, “Read this,” he says, “I cannot, for it is sealed.”

Mat 27:66 So they went and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone and setting a guard.

(2) And I saw a mighty angel proclaiming with a loud voice, “Who is worthy to open the scroll and break its seals?” (3) And no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll or to look into it (4) and I began to weep loudly because no one was found worthy to open the scroll or to look into it.

What is the significance of the mighty angel? Why does he ask the question?

Why is John weeping? What might he be thinking?

What might have happened if no one in all of Heaven or Earth could open the scroll?

How might these verses be a mini-illustration of Revelation as a whole and end time prophesy?

(5) And one of the elders said to me, “Weep no more; behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals.”

Why was an elder with John and not an angel at this point?

What is the significance of the imagery of the lion?

-The tribe of Judah?

-The root of David?

-The Conqueror?

Only Christ the King is worthy to open the scroll and reveal God’s plan for all of creation and the final judgement. These passages show that Christ is the risen conqueror reigning eternally with complete power over all creation!