

## Revelation 5: The Lamb on the Throne



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### Revelation 5: The Throne

All of chapter 4 is an introduction to the main point of chapters 4—5, that is, to introduce the scroll with its seven seals.

- Description of the Scroll:
  - Scroll is in God's right hand – a symbol of power; God has the power and authority to act
  - Scroll is focus of John's attention in Revelation 5
  - Jesus will open the scroll in Revelation 6
  - Its contents comprise almost all the revelation that will follow, which is God's sovereign plan for His creation (Rev 6-22)
  - Because scroll has writings on BOTH sides, it clearly has much to reveal
  - The contents of the scroll contains all of God's judgments for what will be the Tribulation/Great Tribulation period of humanity's final seven years under human government
  - Scroll was sealed with 7 seals
  - Under Roman law, people were required to seal their wills 7 times showing importance of it
  - 7 may also hint at the absolute inviolability of the scroll
    - Cannot be opened without divine authorization

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### Revelation 5: The Scroll

- The question is asked, "Who is worthy..."
- The identity of the powerful angel is simply unknown
- After he asks who is worthy to open it (v2), no one is immediately found (v3)
- John is so overcome, he begins crying that no one was worthy (v4)
- No CREATED being on earth or in heaven had authority to open the 7 sealed scroll
- An Elder comforts John telling him the Lion of Judah/Root of Jesse has "prevailed"
  - Overcome
  - Jesus lineage goes back to King David
  - These are divine titles for Jesus that only appear together in NT here
  - Christ was worthy because He overcame:
    - Satan
    - Sin
    - Death
  - Christ alone could implement God's purposes for future revealed in scroll

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## Revelation 5: Worship of the Lamb

- John sees in his vision, ALL Creation praising the Lamb (v13)
- This probably involves a FORWARD look to the end of history on this planet and every creature will bow the knee to Christ
- Chapters (4—5) present heaven, God's dwelling place, as a real place
- Even though John saw a vision, it was a vision of something that truly exists
- Revelation 5 sets forth the enthronement of Jesus as King on Earth
- Revelation 6 begins the release of Judgments from the 7 sealed scroll
- Revelation 5 is the pageantry leading up to that point
- The release of judgments could not occur until AFTER Jesus is enthroned as King over and on the earth
- By physically returning to rule planet earth
  - It proves ownership
  - Fulfills prophecy regarding God's promises to King David

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