

**The Throne Room of God  
Who is There? Part II**

**Daniel E. Woodhead Ph.D.**



Revelation 4:8

*And the four beasts had each of them six wings about [him]; and [they were] full of eyes within: and they rest not day and night, saying, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come (KJV).*

The eyes represent supreme intelligence and omni vision. They are constantly praising God.

Revelation 4:9

*And when those beasts give glory and honour and thanks to him that sat on the throne, who liveth for ever and ever (KJV),*

Revelation 4:10

*The four and twenty elders fall down before him that sat on the throne, and worship him that liveth for ever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying (KJV),*

We will cast our crowns to Christ in honor and worship to Him.

Revelation 4:11

*Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created (KJV).*

The Lamb and the Seven Sealed Scroll 5:1-14

In Chapter Five we continue to see the Throne Room of the Universe. Where in Chapter 4 the central character was God the Father, in Chapter 5 it is God the Son. He is called the Lamb here. The Seven Spirits are there. The Seven Spirits are present, the 24 Elders and so are the Cherubim. There are also millions of angels who have entered the Throne room that weren't there or discussed in Chapter 4. We are going to see where God the Son receives the legal right to carry out the Great Tribulation.

I am going to read through all of Chapter 5 and then we are going to go back and do an exegesis on a verse by verse basis.

Revelation 5:1–14

*<sup>1</sup>And I saw in the right hand of him that sat on the throne a book written within and on the backside, sealed with seven seals. <sup>2</sup>And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, Who is worthy to open the book, and to loose the seals thereof? <sup>3</sup>And no man in heaven, nor in earth, neither under the earth, was able to open the book, neither to look thereon. <sup>4</sup>And I wept much, because no man was found worthy to open and to read the book, neither to look thereon. <sup>5</sup>And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Juda, the root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof. <sup>6</sup>And I beheld, and lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent forth into all the earth. <sup>7</sup>And he came and took the book out of the right hand of him that sat upon the throne. <sup>8</sup>And when he had taken the book, the four beasts and four and twenty elders fell down before the Lamb, having every one of them harps, and golden vials full of odours, which are the prayers of saints. <sup>9</sup>And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; <sup>10</sup>and hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.*

*<sup>11</sup>And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the beasts and the elders: and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands; <sup>12</sup>saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing. <sup>13</sup>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, heard I saying, Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, be unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto*

*the Lamb for ever and ever. <sup>14</sup> And the four beasts said, Amen. And the four and twenty elders fell down and worshipped him that liveth for ever and ever (ASV, 1901).*

We're in the Throne Room of God and we've got this scene where God the Son is going to take this book. The word is actually "scroll" but I have changed it in my Bible to be "scroll" because it actually is a scroll.

Revelation 5:1

*And I saw in the right hand of him that sat on the throne a book written within and on the back, close sealed with seven seals (ASV, 1901).*

The Scroll is Held

God the Father has a "book" in His right hand, which is written on both sides and sealed with seven (7) seals. The right hand signifies honor (1 Kings 2:19) and power (Mark 14:62). This designation of "book" is referring to a scroll. So He has this authority to hold this scroll. The Bible shows us this by designating the "right hand." When we are steeped in the Old Testament we can see how important the "right hand is in the ancient Israelite culture. It is still very important in the Mideast cultures.

When the Arabs decide to cut somebody's hand off for stealing, which they do on a regular basis, they always cut the right hand off. Then the person, this is a little gross, is forced to wipe themselves with their left hand after going to the bathroom and he doesn't have the honor and he doesn't have the power and no one wants to go near him. So the right hand is extremely important in that culture and that's why it's being shown here, that God's right hand has that honor and that power.

The Scroll's Construction

The book or the scroll that we are referring to here is not a bound book similar to this Bible I am holding in my hand; that's why I refer to it as a scroll. [The Bible we have today] is more like a "codex". The codex or books of leaves with bindings that we are familiar with did not come into being until early second century AD. It was because of the propagation of the New Testament that we left scrolls and went to the codex. They couldn't get the New Testament out fast enough with the good news. They couldn't make the scrolls fast enough, they couldn't sew them all together, so they started doing them on a codex and somehow getting them together, eventually they developed into books. Their size as well as the huge number of copies that flooded the Middle East, Europe and Africa required a more expeditious means of organizing and transmitting the documents.

The New Testament [manuscripts] were flooding the whole area – Africa, Europe, Middle East, and Western Asia. Even today, we have manuscripts going back to the 2nd Century in quantities of over 25,000. You can imagine what was there before. There must have been thousands and thousands and thousands of these. The biggest event of all human history had happened, which is the death and resurrection of Jesus the Messiah and people wanted to tell others about it. They just couldn't do it fast enough.

Most scrolls prior to the codex were made of papyrus. Some, for wealthy individuals were made from animal skins (Vellum). The papyri were usually 8" x 10" sheets joined horizontally. They were written in narrow 3" columns with 2 ½" margins in top and bottom with 3 to 4" spaces between the columns. They would then be rolled on a wooden roller. The Book of Jude, 2 & 3 John and Philemon would each be about 1 sheet. The Book of Romans would be about 11 ½ ft long; Mark 19 ft; John 23 ½ feet; Matthew 30 ft; Luke and Acts 32 feet and Revelation 15 feet.

Papyrus or bulrushes were 15 ft high, and grew 6 ft under water and were as thick as a man's wrist. Pith was extracted from them and then the remainder was cut into thin strips with a sharp knife. The rows were laid out vertically and then horizontally. They were moistened with Nile water and glue, pressed together and beaten with a mallet, and smoothed with a pumice stone. The front side, with horizontal grain, was called recto (where writing was normally done); the back side (vertical grain) verso. A sheet written on the back was called an opisthographic, or a sheet written behind. Only with unusual documents did you write something on the back. They almost always just wrote in the front because you either were going to be writing with the grain or if you turned it over on the back – against the grain and it's going to be bumpy and real had to write. One document that we know of that was written on both sites was Aristotle's Constitution of Athens. Most documents were only written on the front side.

#### The Scroll's Contents

A sealed book/scroll, with the conditions [or brief explanation of its contents] on the exterior, suggests [that the content of the scroll contained] a title deed. We get this from Jeremiah 32. Roman law required that there be seven seals. This scroll with the seals had one seal on the outside. It was taken off and the scroll was unrolled and read. There would be another seal and that seal would be taken off and the book unrolled and read again, and so-on. The Romans had in their law the concept of a will or a testament that had to be sealed with seven seals. The wills left by Augustus and Vespasian had seven seals on them.

#### Revelation 5:2

*And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a great voice, Who is worthy to open the book, and to loose the seals thereof (ASV, 1901)?*

Now a strong angel now appears from the millions and millions that are now there. Somehow this particular angel has the strength that God recognizes to make this proclamation. He asked this key question about the eligibility of the one who would open the book and unseal the seals. At this time in the chronology [of events], we don't know that it is Jesus that is able to open the book. The Apostle John is having a real tough time with this. His emotions must have been just raging there when they're asking this question in the Supreme Headquarters of the Universe about who's going to open this book. The book, we are going to find out, is Title Deed of the Earth. Who is going to take back the earth? [The angel] was asking this key question "Was there anybody who was going to get the book?" and there wasn't anybody who was qualified.

#### Revelation 5:3

*And no one in the heaven, or on the earth, or under the earth, was able to open the book, or to look thereon (ASV, 1901).*

Initially there did not appear that anyone was qualified to open this title deed/will/contract held in the right hand of God The Father. The three realms identified are:

Heaven  
On the earth  
Under the earth

The Apostle John then says,

Revelation 5:4

*And I wept much, because no one was found worthy to open the book, or to look thereon (ASV, 1901):*

The apostle John starts weeping because there is no one worthy. Worthiness as in Revelation 4:11 implies deity-worthy of our worship. Those falling short of this nature are in the three realms listed above.

Heaven-angelic  
On the earth-human  
Under the earth-demonic

John doesn't know what the book is. He just sees this activity that the Lord Jesus has lifted him up to observe and he sees what's going on and he's not sure what's taking place. So, he starts weeping because nobody is worthy. The [lack of anyone meeting the qualifications to open the book] implies that there is a deity-worthiness that's required to take this command and open this book. If we look in heaven, except for God the Father, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit, there isn't anybody worthy. The millions of angels aren't worthy; on the earth, the humans aren't worthy; and under the earth, the demonic powers are obviously not worthy.

Christ qualifies [to open the book] because he is a kinsman of Adam. He is a kinsman of Adam.

Revelation 5:5

*and one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not; behold, the Lion that is of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, hath overcome to open the book and the seven seals thereof (ASV, 1901).*

The Lion, the Lord Jesus

We know that the designation; The Lion of the Tribe of Judah is a reference to the Lord Jesus Christ (Genesis 49:8-12). He came through the tribe of Judah. We remember from Geneses that Jacob blessed his twelve sons and he gave this special blessing to Judah – saying that Judah is a

lion's whelp and the rule [scepter] was not going to depart from him until Shiloh came. This is Shiloh; this is the Lord Jesus. He has come in His fullness.

### Jesus is Qualified

The Lord Jesus Christ also qualifies [to open the book] because He died for us and He took our sins [the sins of the world] on the cross and all who would look to Him, appreciate and appropriate that are saved. That's the principle reason that He did this. But just as God demands perfect justice for sin, He demands perfect justice for carrying out all the aspects of His Law. We're going to see how the Lord Jesus is presented in the Law, how the Law has specific stories that show illustrations about how the Law is enacted, and finally how Jesus fulfills those aspects of the Law.

We all know about God's justice, sin has a penalty, and Christ paid the penalty. But there is more. In the Bible there are three concepts regarding the Law that we need to identify and explain:

[From] the first five books of the Bible, the Laws are presented throughout the writings in the Old Testament.

The Laws are given and then examples of their usage and of their implementation. In the New Testament, we see their fulfillment - Most of which are in the Lord Jesus Christ. Not all [are fulfilled] in the Lord Jesus Christ - Some of it simply goes away.

The Lord said:

Matthew 5:17-18

*Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil. For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled (ASV, 1901).*