

Revelation

Lesson 6

Chapter 5

Revelation 5:1-2

- ◆ ¹ And I saw in the right hand of the one seated upon the throne a scroll (βιβλίον) having been written on the inside and on the back, having been sealed with seven seals. ² And I saw a mighty angel proclaiming in a great voice, "Who is worthy to open the scroll and break its seals?"

Ezekiel 2:9-10

- 9 I looked, and a hand was stretched out to me, and a written scroll was in it. 10 He spread it before me; it had writing on the front and on the back, and written on it were words of lamentation and mourning and woe.

Daniel 4:4-10

- ◆ ⁴ But you, Daniel, **keep the words secret and the book sealed until the time of the end.** Many shall be running back and forth, and evil shall increase.” ^{12.5}

Then I, Daniel, looked, and two others appeared, one standing on this bank of the stream and one on the other. ⁶ One of them said to the man clothed in linen, who was upstream, “How long shall it be until the end of these wonders?” ⁷ The man clothed in linen, who was upstream, raised his right hand and his left hand toward heaven. And I heard him swear by the one who lives forever that it would be for a time, two times, and half a time, and that when the shattering of the power of the holy people comes to an end, all these things would be accomplished. ⁸ I heard but could not understand; so I said, “My lord, what shall be the outcome of these things?” ⁹ He said, “Go your way, Daniel, for the words are to remain secret and sealed until the time of the end. ¹⁰ Many shall be purified, cleansed, and refined, but the wicked shall continue to act wickedly. None of the wicked shall understand, but those who are wise shall understand.

Revelation 5:1-2

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Jewish Aramaic incantation bowls



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Worthy

- ◆ In the context of Revelation 5 the idea conveyed by the imagery seems to indicate the unique position occupied by Jesus Christ in the universe. He, and only he, has the proper credentials to be able to break the 'seals' of this auspicious scroll. The 'seals' in this context insure that the contents of the scroll can only be released by the one who is deemed to be 'worthy' to take them from the hand of the 'one seated on the throne'. The recognition of Jesus as the one who is 'worthy' to open the 'seals' of the scroll has wide-reaching ramifications and seems to be a firm affirmation of the deity of Christ. Hurtado states it in these terms '...it would be difficult to imagine a more direct and forceful way to express Jesus' divine status.' None other is 'worthy' of such an affirmation and the 'seals' are used as a symbol of the rights of divinity that belong to Jesus Christ alongside of God.

Revelation 5:3-5

- ◆ ³ And no one was able in heaven or upon the earth or under the earth to open the scroll or to look into it. ⁴ And I was weeping bitterly, because no one was found worthy to open the scroll or look into it. ⁵ And one of the elders says to me, "do not weep, behold, the lion of the tribe of Judah, the root of David, has conquered, therefore he can open the scroll and its seven seals.

Job 11:7-9

- ^{11:7} “Can you find out the deep things of God? Can you find out the limit of the Almighty? ⁸ It is higher than heaven—what can you do? Deeper than Sheol—what can you know? ⁹ Its measure is longer than the earth, and broader than the sea.

Revelation 5:6-7

- ◆ ⁶ And I saw in midst of the throne and the four living beings and in the midst of the elders a lamb standing as if it had been slaughtered, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the [seven] spirits of God having been sent out into all the earth. ⁷ And he went and took (the scroll) out of the right hand of the one seated upon the throne.

The lion of the Tribe of Judah



Lion of Judah



Start here

Revelation 5:8-9

- ◆ ⁸ And when he took the scroll, the four living beings and the twenty four elders fell before the lamb, each having a harp and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. ⁹ And they sing a new song saying, “worthy to receive the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain and bought for God by your blood (people) from every tribe and language and people and nation.”

Revelation 5:10

- ◆ ¹⁰ “And you made them for our God a kingdom and priests and they will reign upon the earth.”

Revelation 5:11-12

- ◆ "And I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels circling around the throne and the living creatures and the elders, and the number of them was ten thousands of of ten thousands thousands and thousands of thousands, "singing in a great voice, "worthy is the lamb who was slain to receive the power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise."

Revelation 5:13

- ◆ ¹³ And I heard every creature who is in heaven and upon the earth and under the earth and upon the sea, and all the ones in them saying, "To the one seated upon the throne and to the lamb (be) the blessing and the honor and glory and the power forever and ever."

Revelation 5:14

- ◆ ¹⁴ And the four living beings said, "Amen." And the elders fell down and worshipped.