

09012024 Revelation 5....**Jesus Mission is not just to save people from the consequence of sin and make sure they have a place in Heaven when they die. From the third chapter in Genesis to the last chapter in Revelation, God reveals his plan to bring a redeemer who would not only offer forgiveness of sins and salvation, but would reconcile his fallen creation back to himself.**

- **Jesus did this through the shedding of His blood on the ...this includes you...**

NLT REV 5:9....and your blood has ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation.

- **Salvation thru the cross... then the coming restoration to rule as Priests of the King on earth...**

NLT REV 5:¹⁰ And you have caused them to become a Kingdom of priests for our God, and they will reign on the earth.”

And that day is coming...when King Jesus will literally rule on earth...

NLT REV 11:15 Then the seventh angel blew his trumpet, and there were loud voices shouting in heaven: “The world has now become the Kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ and he will reign forever and ever.”

Until that day becomes our reality...we remember what Christ did and that he is coming back to rule and reign...

ESV 1 Cor 11: 23 For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, ²⁴ and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, “This is my body, which is for^[f] you. Do this in remembrance of me.”^[g] ²⁵ In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”²⁶ For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Today we start chapter 5 of the book of Revelation which begins the narrative of the restoration of the creation back to Jesus and how this will happen... **The History of our Future! Chapter 5 continues the vision of the throne in Heaven of the preceding chapter. John is now introduced to an item of central importance, **a scroll which contains the prophecy of impending events to be unfolded in the book of Revelation.****

It starts at the Throne with God the Father sitting on it... he describes lights and colors, the floor, angels speaking and humans around it...then he see something clearly in the right hand of the one on the throne...

ESV REV 5:1 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. 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 .

- In the first century, scrolls were made of papyrus and sheep or goat skin sewed together, and often averaged 15 feet in length. The scroll was written on both sides, indicating a full or comprehensive message. **Show pictures**

This scroll had “seven seals” (v. 1).

- It was common in the first century for a person in authority to seal an important document so that its contents would remain secret.
- Roman law required a last will and testament to be sealed seven times, as illustrated in the wills of Caesar Augustus and Emperor Vespasian.¹ **Such documents were sealed with wax or clay and could be opened only by a qualified person.**
- **Many believe that it represents Christ's title deed to planet Earth. This is partially true, however the scroll's contents represent much more.**

******This scroll describes the history of the future.**

- 1) It reveals the judgments of God to be poured out on the earth**
- 2) Christ's Second Coming to rightfully inherit and implement the title deed of redemption to planet earth and His righteous rule.** John weeps because no one can be found to open it...it appears hopeless... but

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."*⁶ *And between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders I saw a Lamb standing, as though it had been slain, with seven horns and with seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth.*

- Three descriptions are given for the one who is qualified to open the seven-sealed scroll.
- **First, he is "the Lion of the tribe of Judah"** (v. 5). This reference originated in Genesis 49:9, where Judah was called a lion.

- The lion is considered king of the beasts because of his majestic dignity, strength, courage, and ability to rule over his domain. Christ is from the tribe of Judah (Mt. 1:2; Heb. 7:14)—majestic and strong, and, **after His Second Coming, He will reign as King over the earth.**
- **Second, the one qualified to open the scroll is from “the Root of David”** linking Christ to the Davidic line...
- This is a reference from

NLT Isaiah 11:1 Out of the stump of David’s family will grow a shoot— yes, a new Branch bearing fruit from the old root....

But Christ is greater than His father David for he was before David...

NLT Mt. 22: 41 Then, surrounded by the Pharisees, Jesus asked them a question: ⁴² “What do you think about the Messiah? Whose son is he?” They replied, “He is the son of David.” ⁴³ Jesus responded, “Then why does David, speaking under the inspiration of the Spirit, call the Messiah ‘my Lord’? For David said, ⁴⁴ ‘The LORD said to my Lord, Sit in the place of honor at my right hand until I humble your enemies beneath your feet.’ ⁴⁵ Since David called the Messiah ‘my Lord,’ how can the Messiah be his son?”

and will one day sit on David’s throne to rule in his Kingdom on earth in his resurrected body

ESV Luke 1:30 And the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹ And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. ³² He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father

David, ³³ and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.”

Third, the one qualified to open the scroll is identified as “a Lamb” (v. 6).

The Lamb is Christ, pictured in three ways:

1. **The Lamb is standing in “the midst of the throne”** (v. 6). Christ has stepped down from His throne at the Father’s right hand and moved in front of God the Father to receive the scroll (v. 7).
2. **The Lamb looks as if it “had been slain”** (v. 6), although it is still standing. Christ is often portrayed in the New Testament as a slain Lamb (Jn. 1:29; Acts 8:32; 1 Pet. 1:18–19; Rev. 13:8) who still possesses the scars of His death (the crucifixion).
3. **The Lamb has “seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent forth into all the earth”** (v. 6). This is a picture of Christ in the fullness of His omnipotence, omniscience, and omnipresence. Twenty-eight times in the book of Revelation Christ is referred to as a Lamb.

The symbols of a Lamb and a Lion complement each other, portraying Christ’s vicarious redemptive work on behalf of mankind and His victorious resurrection and rule.

The elder announced that the one qualified, *has conquered*, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals. (v. 5).

Christ secured the right to open the scroll based on His Messianic office as King, holiness, and redemptive death on the cross and Resurrection.

⁷ And he went and took the scroll from the right hand of him who was seated on the throne.

Christ stepped forward “and took the scroll out of the right hand of him that sat upon the throne” He alone has the credentials and is qualified to implement God’s judgement against evil and His redemptive program recorded in the sealed scroll.

- There is a parallel between Christ’s qualification to take the scroll and loose its seals with that of the kinsman-redeemer in the Old Testament.
- The kinsman-redeemer is a male relative who, according to various laws of the Pentateuch, had the privilege or responsibility to act on behalf of a relative who was in trouble, danger, or need.
- So the kinsman-redeemer designates one who delivers or rescues ([Genesis 48:16](#); [Exodus 6:6](#)) or redeems property or person ([Leviticus 27:9–25](#), [25:47–55](#)).
- This is illustrated most clearly in the [book of Ruth](#), where the kinsman-redeemer is Boaz. Related to
- Like the kinsman-redeemer, Christ paid the redemptive price to regain the title deed to man’s lost inheritance.
- **The ransom price was paid through His blood** (v. 9).
Worthiness is not based on mankind’s performance but on Christ’s personal blood sacrifice (1 Pet. 1:18–19), which made it possible for God’s grace and mercy to be manifested to mankind.
- In the future, He will take possession of His inheritance (planet earth) and exercise sovereign rule over it.⁴

Yahweh is Israel’s Redeemer, the one who promises to defend and vindicate them.

NLT EX 6:6 “Therefore, say to the people of Israel: ‘I am the LORD. I will free you from your oppression and will rescue you from your slavery in Egypt. I will redeem you with a powerful arm and great acts of judgment. ⁷ I will claim you as my own people, and I will be your God.

In the New Testament, Christ is our kinsman-redeemer because, he is our brother

NLT Hebrew 2:11 So now Jesus and the ones he makes holy have the same Father. That is why Jesus is not ashamed to call them his brothers and sisters.

- Lord Jesus Christ redeems us for Himself, out of the curse, out of our destitution; made us His own beloved bride; and blessed us for all generations. **He paid the price...he can take the scroll**

⁸ And when he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each holding a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. ⁹ And they sang a new song, saying, “Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, ¹⁰ and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth.” ¹¹ Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands,

- **When Christ took the scroll, “the four living creatures and four and twenty elders fell down before the Lamb” Christ is God, for heavenly beings would never worship anything less.**

The elders possessed “harps, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of saints”

- Harps used in the Old Testament and in heaven to offer praise and adoration to God.(Ps. 33:2; 98:5;147:7)(Rev.14:2; 15:2)
 - **The 24 elders hold the prayers carefully in empathy for the people presumably still on earth..**
 - In the O. T. Tabernacle and Temple, the altar of incense stood next to the veil in the center of the holy place, separating it from the holy of holies where God manifested His presence.
 - The high priest burned incense symbolic of the prayers of God’s people on the altar in the center of the holy place and it ascended to God, next to the veil separating it from the holy of holies where God manifested His presence. (Ps. 141:2). The same is true in (Rev. 8:3–4).
 - Harps were used in the Old Testament (Ps. 33:2; 98:5; 147:7) and in heaven (Rev. 14:2; 15:2) to offer praise and adoration to God.
1. **The heavenly host sang “a new song” (v. 9) to the Lamb, celebrating His redemptive work.** The word *new* means something previously unknown and unprecedented. The new work of redeeming the earth bringing justice to his people...initiating the Kingdom to come... calls for a new song.
 2. **Uncountable worldwide number of people.. “out of every tribe...(ethnic group), and language, and people (disabled, rejected, broken, poor rich), and nation(every country)” were redeemed appears they are singing 24 elders?**

3. Sinners who once were under Judgment... transformed into a royal “kingdom of priests” (v. 10; 1 Pet. 2:9). And Will rule and “reign on the earth” with Christ

No wonder heaven breaks out in songs of praise to the Lord, who has provided all this for His creation.

No where else in scripture since the fall of man are angels told of singing... praising yes singing no.....

They sang t creation

Job 38:4 “Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth? Tell me, if you know so much.⁵ Who determined its dimensions and stretched out the surveying line? ⁶ What supports its foundations, and who laid its cornerstone ⁷ as the morning stars sang together and all the angels shouted for joy?

The participants are “many angels ... living creatures ... elders ... ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands:” (v. 11) of beings around God’s throne. The number is incalculable (cp. Dan. 7:10)

Then This heavenly host offers a symphony of praise to the “Lamb that was slain

ESV REV 5:12 saying with a loud voice, “Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!” ¹³ And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, saying, “To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!” ¹⁴ And the four living creatures said, “Amen!” and the elders fell down and worshiped.

- 1.(v. 12). The praise emanating from heaven builds to a crescendo of worship as every creature sings **Worship combining praise to both God the Father and the Lamb proves that Christ is God.**
- 2.(v. 13 **then “Every creature,” including the demonic world and unsaved humanity, will ultimately praise.** Christ as Lord (cp. Phil. 2:9–11). reverberating throughout all creation

John concludes this scene with the “four living creatures” calling an end to the Praise...saying, “Amen,” whereupon the twenty elders fell down who I tend to believe representing all the humans fell on their face...and worshipped individually and intimately ...corporate and personal...

(v. 14). What a fitting conclusion to an awesome introduction of the third section of revelation—the “things which must be hereafter” (4:1).

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