

# REVELATION CHAPTER 5



***BLESSED IS HE THAT READETH,  
AND THEY THAT HEAR  
THE WORDS OF THIS PROPHECY....***

## **REV 5:5-7**

**5And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof.**

**6And 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.**

**7And he came and took the book out of the right hand of him that sat upon the throne.**

## REV 5:5-7

**NLT** <sup>5</sup> But one of the twenty-four elders said to me, “Stop weeping! Look, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the heir to David’s throne, has won the victory. He is worthy to open the scroll and its seven seals.” <sup>6</sup> Then I saw a Lamb that looked as if it had been slaughtered, but it was now standing between the throne and the four living beings and among the twenty-four elders. He had seven horns and seven eyes, which represent the sevenfold Spirit of God that is sent out into every part of the earth. <sup>7</sup> He stepped forward and took the scroll from the right hand of the one sitting on the throne.

## REV 5:5-7

**AMP** <sup>5</sup>Then one of the elders [of the heavenly Sanhedrin] said to me, Stop weeping! See, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root (Source) of David, has won (has overcome and conquered)! He can open the scroll and break its seven seals! <sup>6</sup>And there between the throne and the four living creatures (beings) and among the elders [of the heavenly Sanhedrin] 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 [the sevenfold Holy Spirit] Who have been sent [on duty far and wide] into all the earth. <sup>7</sup>He then went and took the scroll from the right hand of Him Who sat on the throne.



The elder in his consoling of John, explains to John the nature and the work of the Messiah via his titles. The first title used is Lion of the tribe of Judah. This is reference to the Jacob's prophecy in Genesis about the coming Messiah. (**Genesis 49:9-10**) Judah is called a Lion, because out of Judah would come the Messiah (Shiloh) who would rule the world. In the pictures of Messiah in the Old Testament, we see two distinct portraits, one a *conquering king* (Lion) the other a *suffering servant* (Lamb).

**The Lion that is of the tribe of Judah ...**

**This expression occurs nowhere else in the Bible.“**

**Despite this, the conception is nevertheless found in the patriarchal blessing of Judah (**Genesis 49:10**), who earned the right to have his name stand in a title of the Messiah when he unselfishly offered himself as a ransom for his brother Benjamin (**Genesis 44: 18-34**).**

**John's application of this glorious title to Christ, or rather its being so done in heaven, confirms Jesus Christ as the true occupant of the throne of David. Jesus Christ is now the true and only King of the true Israel, "the seed of David" who sits upon David's throne exalted in the heavens. David was the first "lion of the tribe of Judah," although not so-called in Scripture; but Christ, David's greater Son, became the true Lion.**

**David, as ruler of the temporal kingdom of Israel, was the type or forerunner of Christ the ruler of spiritual Israel forever. The adoption of this title by Christ is but a continuation of the New Testament pattern of ascribing to Him all of those glorious things of David, such as "the tabernacle, the throne, the mercies, the blessings, the key of David, etc..**

### **The Root of David ...**

**This title goes back to Isa. 11:1, in which it was prophesied that, "A rod out of the stem of Jesse ... there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people ... his rest shall be glorious." This means that Jesus Christ, the son of David, was the promised Messiah."**

**The celestial elder tells John that the Lion (King) from the tribe of Judah (Jesus was from Judah) "has the power" to open the book (the words "had prevailed" in the King James seems to give a different meaning in today's English than the author intended).**

***Rev 5:5 And one of the rulers said to me, Do not be sad: see, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has overcome, and has power or has overcome to undo the book and its seven stamps.***

**Verse four says no man was worthy but this verse says there is one worthy. This sounds like a contradiction but it is not, because Jesus was not born from the seed of a man. He was born of God but He also qualifies to be a kinsman redeemer because His human blood lines came from His mother. He was born a man from the seed of the woman.**

***Gen 3:15 And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.***

He is the root of David because His royal blood line is from David. The fleshly genealogy from Eve to David to Mary is given in the gospel of Luke while the genealogy that gives Jesus the authority to be king of Israel is given in the genealogy of Matthew. Jesus in the end will also fulfill the role of **the avenger of blood** (**Deut. 19:6**) (the person in the Old Testament that legally sought out and killed the murderer of his brethren). Jesus will put down all authority of the angel who through his deception brought sin and death into the world and He will cast him and his followers into the place of final death (the Lake of Fire).

**The Messiah will reign on David's throne over the earth, this is the picture of the conquering king Messiah, the Lion aspect of king Messiah. (Isaiah 9:7, Psalm 132:11)**

**Midst of the throne** John's attention is now drawn to the center of the throne of God. It is important to understand the location. The center indicates the source of authority and nature of the referent. **A Lamb** John now sees a lamb in the center of the throne. A first year male lamb was what Israel was required to sacrifice for the Passover (**Exodus 12:3-7**) The blood of the lamb was then to be placed over the lintels, when the angel of death passed by, he would "Passover" the homes with the blood of the lamb.

**When John saw Christ, he said, "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" (John 1:29)** The Lamb was a picture of the suffering, sacrificial nature of the Messiah who would die for the sins of the world. The two natures of Messiah are pictured in the Elders description of the Redeemer, the *Lion* and the *Lamb*. Both pictures of the Messiah are presented in **Isaiah 52:12 to 53:13**, the servant who is pictured who is called the *Arm of the Lord* (**Isaiah 52:10,53:1**) will be revealed in two different manners. The Servant who will be exalted and very high (The Lion) will first have his appearance marred or corrupted (Lamb slain). In the end, the kings of the earth will see the servant and as He really is and they will shut their mouths, for what had not been told them they will see (The Lion) ( See also Isaiah **59:16**)

**The Lamb that was slain was Jesus. Jesus is standing in the midst of the throne. There is also a person that is sitting on the throne that Jesus took the book from. Jesus, before now, was sitting with the Father but now John sees him standing to take the book out of the Father's hand. When He takes the book and unrolls the scroll, the events written within will happen. The Lamb contains seven eyes and seven horns. The seven horns speak of complete power and the seven eyes or Spirits sent forth means He will rule over all of the earth in the complete fullness of God.**

**The Lamb takes the book out of the right hand of Him that sat upon the throne. If Jesus is the Father like some teach, Jesus is taking the book out of the right hand of Himself. This of course is not the case because God is triune. Once again we see the trinity on or at the throne as the seven-fold Holy Spirit, the Son and the Father.**

**Beyond all controversy, the Lamb is Jesus Christ the Son of God, and significantly he is in the midst of the throne, sharing eternal and omnipotent authority with the Father himself. This is the grand truth of this chapter and of the whole book. Everything depends upon this. Some young students may be aware that unbelieving critics have tried to eliminate this passage.**

**As though it had been slain ...**

**Scholars point out that this actually means, "as though it had been newly slain." or that the Lamb was standing in heaven "with its throat cut." Thus, the vision proves that the death of Christ was a historical fact, as was also his resurrection from the dead.**

**Having seven horns, and seven eyes ...**

**Horns were familiar symbols of honor, power, authority, and glory in the Biblical and other Hebrew literature. By this symbol, John undoubtedly invests Christ with the attributes of deity. But not merely this symbol does so; they all do. A Lamb standing in heaven with its throat cut undoubtedly does the same thing! In such symbols the character of the vision is evident. Things accounted to be totally impossible in reality are present everywhere in Revelation.**

**The presentation of Jesus Christ as the Lamb, while being stressed particularly in John's writings, is nevertheless a thoroughly Biblical representation. There was the entire institution of the Passover built around the sacrifice of the lamb; there was the identification of Jesus as "the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world" by John the Baptist. Paul's reference to "Christ our Passover," and the great Suffering Passage of **Isa. 53**, wherein Jesus was compared to the "lamb dumb before its shearers," - all of these references show the Biblical foundation of the words here.**

**Slain** The fact the Messiah is killed, is one of the main points in the 70 weeks of Daniel. God in fact gives the exact day the Messiah dies, 539 years before He is born. (**Daniel 9:24-27**) The Messiah dies as our “Passover” sacrifice.

**Seven horns** John sees the lamb with seven horns, horns are used throughout scripture to represent authority and kingship. In **Daniel 8**, for example Greece under Alexander the Great is pictured as one horned goat attacking Media-Persia the two horned goat. (**Daniel 8:5-7,20-21**) Further, the end-times ruler, the little horn, in Daniel 7 is pictured as one of 10 kings all represented by horns. This is again reinforced in the 13<sup>th</sup> chapter of the book of Revelation (**Rev. 13:1**) when beast arising out of the sea is pictured having 10 horns. Seven is the number of completeness in scripture, here the slain lamb, the suffering servant is on the throne in complete authority despite his appearance to those in the world, as the Lamb”.

**Seven eyes** The seven eyes on the Lamb represents, the seven-fold ministry of the Holy Spirit. (**Isaiah 11:2, Revelation 1:4,3;1,4:5 Zechariah 3:9, 4:2,11-14**) The slain lamb also sees all, nothing is hid from his sight.

These are interpreted for us as "the seven Spirits of God, sent forth into all the earth," another symbol of the omniscience and divinity of the Son of God. There is nothing in this whole passage that does not proclaim this same essential fact. For example, who but God could be in "the midst of the throne" and "in the midst of' the elders and the living creatures also? It is childish to draw diagrams and propose to locate any of these symbols as unalterably in one place or another. By Christ's having "the seven spirits of God," the quibbles of some folks to the effect that in part of the New Testament it is God who sends the Holy Spirit and that in others it is Christ who does so, are refuted. What is done in this respect is done by either or by both.

**And he came, and he taketh it out of the right hand of him that sat on the throne.**

**The scene here is in the past tense from the standpoint of the apostle John. The moment is that of his appearance in heaven, fresh from the suffering and triumph of the cross. This was, of course, some decades prior to the writing of Revelation. The tense of the verbs here, as noted by some Bible scholars bears this out: "He came, and he has taken the roll out of the hand of him that sat on the throne. Other interpreters of the same school do not apply this to a past event but "to an event yet to take place at the end of time." This we consider to be incorrect. We believe the correct view of this is:**

**The Lamb has taken the scroll out of the hand of him who was seated on the Throne. This very clearly refers to the fact that Christ, as Mediator, at his ascension received authority to rule the universe.**

**Any doubt that this is the proper view of this passage is forever removed by reading **Matt. 28:18-20**. It is impossible properly to interpret Revelation without a thorough knowledge of what the rest of the New Testament teaches. People who expect Christ to be enthroned at some future time have forgotten that he is already enthroned. "**Psa. 110** indicates the date (when this occurred); it was the moment when Christ sat down on the Throne at God's right hand.**

**[See also Heb. 1:3,6,8,9; 2:9.](#)**

**Only the lamb is able to take the scroll from the hand of God the Father who is seated on the throne. The interaction between God the Son and God the Father was pictured in the book of Daniel over 500 years before the birth of Christ**

**In Daniel 7:13-14**

**13 "I was watching in the night visions, And behold, One like the Son of Man, Coming with the clouds of heaven! He came to the Ancient of Days, And they brought Him near before Him. 14 Then to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, That all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion, Which shall not pass away, And His kingdom the one Which shall not be destroyed Here, the son of man (the lamb) approaches the Ancient of Days (the Father) and is given an eternal kingdom over all humanity (the lion), all people will serve/worship the son of man, who is the Lion of the tribe of Judah.**