

# The Revelation of Jesus Christ

*A study through the book of Revelation*

**Session #7**  
**Rev. 5:1-14**

## I. The Scroll (vs. 1 – 5)

### Verse 1

**Then I saw** (horao = look in order to perceive – 70 times in Rev!)  
**in the right** (dexios = place of equal authority) **hand**  
**of Him who sat on the throne**

**a Scroll** (biblion = a booklet, a list, or a written sheet)

Normal scrolls –

- 1) Read right to left and horizontally
- 2) Spools on the left and right
- 3) 3 inch wide columns of text
- 4) Held in the left hand and unrolled with the right hand
- 5) Generally written on animal skins or Papyrus (reed plant)

Example: The Book of Revelation would fit on a roll 15 feet long!

This scroll was unusual for two reasons.

1) **with writing on both sides** (one side is usually to rough to write on – unless it overflows the space; Ezek. 2; 10 commandments were written on both sides; Ex. 32)

2) **and sealed**

**with seven seals** (spharsis = wax emblems)

Seals are used to give the writing authentic authority based on the signet ring of the sender. They would tie up the scroll with string and then use a wax seal on the knot to confirm that it has not been opened. Seven seals on ONE scroll?

### Theories as to what this scroll is:

- Old and New Testament
- Claim of divorce for Israel
- The title deed to the earth – **What do you think?**
- **The will of God for the world? (Roman wills had seven seals!)**

### Verse 2

**And I saw** (horao)  
**a mighty angel** (?)  
**proclaiming** (kerysso) **in a loud** (megas) **voice** (phone)  
**“Who is worthy** (axios)  
**to break** (lyo = melt, dissolve, loose) **the seals**  
**and open the scroll?”**

Who has the authority to open the scroll?

The angel challenged all of creation with this challenge!

### Verse 3

**But no one in heaven**  
**or on earth**  
**or under the earth**  
**could open the scroll**  
**or even look inside it.**

### Verse 4

**I wept and wept** (klaio = to wail, lament, grieve)  
**because no one could be found**  
**who was worthy**  
**to open the scroll**  
**or even look inside**

The seal protected the will until the time and person who was prescribed to open it was there to open it!

### Verse 5

**Then**

**one of the elders said to me,**  
**“Do not weep!** (stop weeping!)  
**See** (behold)

1) **The Lion of the tribe of Judah**

Jesus is descended from the tribe of Judah

2) **The Root of David**

Jesus is descended in the lineage of David (Isaiah 11:1,10)

3) **the Triumphant one** (nikao)

Jesus overcame and was triumphant over death and sin!

**He is able to open the scroll**  
**and its seven seals.”**

## II. The Slain Lamb (vs. 6,7)

### Verse 6

Then

I saw (horao) [the Meekness and Majesty of Christ]

- 1) a Lamb (arnion – 29 times!)
- 2) looking as if it had been slain

Forever marked by the cross

- 3) standing in the center of the throne
  - i. encircled by the four living creatures
  - ii. and the elders
- 4) He had seven horns (keras = omnipotence)
- 5) and seven eyes, (omniscience = all knowing)  
which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth.

### Verse 7

- 6) He came and took the scroll  
from the right hand of him  
who sat on the throne

This amazing scene taking place in heaven between the Father and the Son. The Father holds the scroll and releases the Son to do his purpose – to administer the judgement while always remembering the marks of his death.

## III. The New Song (vs. 8 - 10)

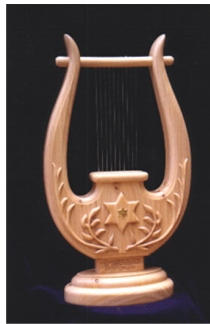
### Verse 8

And when

he had taken it,  
the four living creatures  
and the twenty-four elders  
fell down before the Lamb.

Each one had

- 1) a harp (Kithara = lyre with 10 strings)
- 2) golden bowls (phiale = shallow bowl – 12 x)  
full of incense  
which are the prayers of the saints.



Incense takes us back to the tabernacle/temple (Ex. 30:7,8)

Spoken of as prayers and lives (Ps. 141:2; Eph. 5:2)

### Verse 9

And they sang a NEW (kainos = new in quality) song,

New? – The song changes after the cross!

“You are worthy  
to take the scroll  
and to open its seals,”

} Present Tense

Past Tense { because you were slain, (The price of redemption)  
and with your blood (The payment of redemption)  
you purchased (agorazo) men for God (The purpose)  
from every tribe and language  
and people and nation. (The parameter)

The elders know of redemption, but the angels do not!

Not just the Jews but all nations/peoples

### Verse 10

Past Tense { “You have made them to be  
1) a kingdom (Purchased Property!)  
2) and priests (Priesthood of all believers)  
to serve our God (Plan)  
Future Tense { 3) and they will reign on the earth.” (Position)

Summary: He is able to open the scroll because he has purchased men for God and has established them and will allow them to reign with him on earth.

## IV. The Angels Sing (vs. 11, 12)

### Verse 11

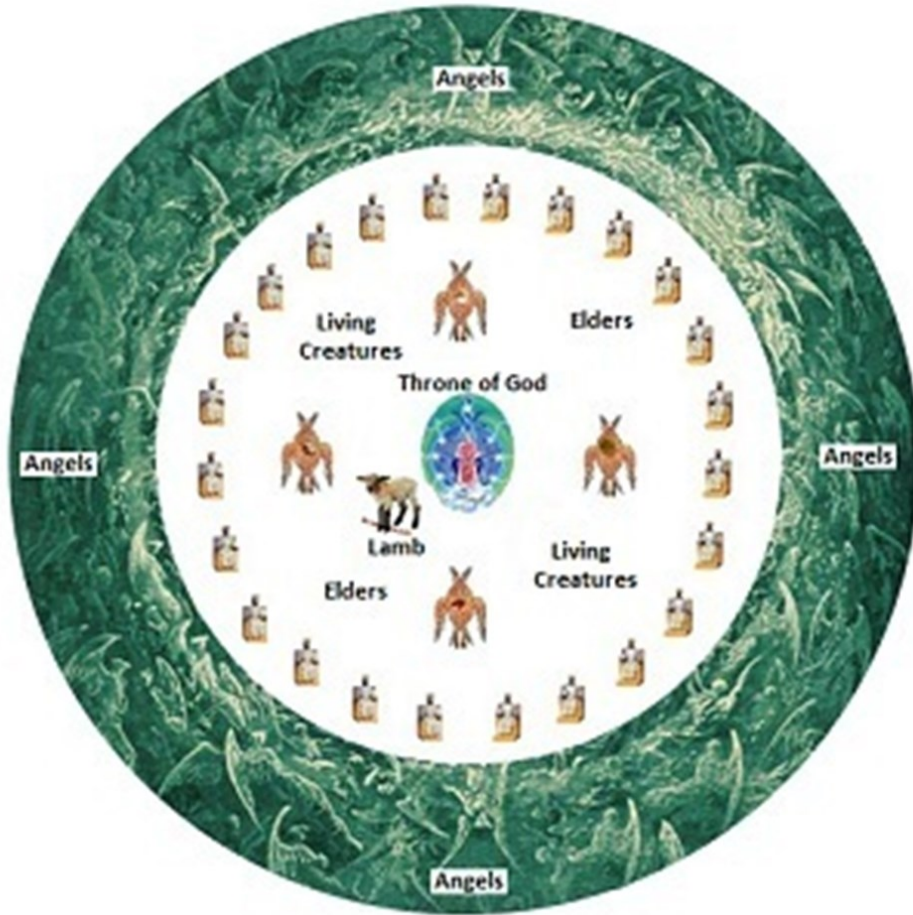
Then I looked (horao) and heard  
the voice of many angles,  
numbering thousands upon thousands  
and ten thousand times ten thousand.

uses the word myrias = innumerable multitude

they encircled the throne  
and the living creatures  
and the elders.



## Throne of God



### Verse 12

In a loud voice they sang,  
“Worthy is the Lamb,  
who was slain,  
to receive

- 1) power (dynamis)
- 2) wealth
- 3) wisdom (sophia)
- 4) strength
- 5) honor (time)
- 6) glory (doxa)
- 7) praise!” (eulogia)

## V. The Creation Sings (vs. 13,14)

### Verse 13

Then I heard

- 1) every creature in heaven
- 2) and on earth
- 3) and under the earth (the dead and evil in Sheol)
- 4) and on the sea
- 5) and all that is in them

Phil. 2 – “every knee shall bow and every tongue confess...”

Psalm 150:6 – “let everything that has breath Praise the Lord!”  
singing:

“To him who sits on the throne  
and to the Lamb

- 1) be praise (eulogia)
- 2) and honor (time)
- 3) and glory (doxa)
- 4) and power, (dynamis)  
forever and ever!”

### Verse 14

The four living creatures said,  
“Amen”

and the elders  
fell down  
and worshipped. (proskyneo = prostrate)

Prayer Concerns: