

Revelation 5:1

I saw in the right hand of Him who sat on the throne a book written inside and on the back, sealed up with seven seals.

- In apocalyptic literature, a story is told with symbols that represent the important facts.
- "Him who sat on the throne" = Yeshua
- "book written inside and on the back" cf. Ezek 2:9–10, Then I looked, and behold, a hand was extended to me; and lo, a scroll was in it. When He spread it out before me, it was written on the front and back, and written on it were lamentations, mourning and woe.

Revelation 5:1

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- The scroll in Ezekiel is a symbol of the divine prophecy given to the prophet, to take place in the future.
- Written on both sides: this was practiced in times when vellum was costly and/or scarce or when the text was long but needed to be written on a single scroll.
- In Revelation, the scroll is sealed with seven seals, that is, <u>completely sealed up</u>, meaning it is impossible for any mortal to bring the prophecy to fulfillment.

Revelation 5:2-5

I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, "Who is worthy to open the book and to break its seals?" And no one in heaven or on the earth or under the earth was able to open the book or to look into it. Then I began to weep greatly because no one was found worthy to open the book or to look into it; and one of the elders said to me, "Stop weeping; behold, the Lion that is from the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has overcome so as to open the book and its seven seals."

Revelation 5:2-5

- Yeshua our Messiah is the Lion from the tribe of Judah, the root of David.
- Who has believed our message? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? For He grew up before Him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of parched ground; (Is 53:1–2a)
- root of David = the Promised One, the seed of the woman (Gen 3:15) Who would crush the head of the serpent.
- He is able to "open the seals" of the book, that is, to bring to completion the will of God regarding the history of the created world.

Revelation 5:6

And I saw between the throne (with the four living creatures) and the elders a Lamb standing, as if slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God, sent out into all the earth.

- seven horns = all powerful. In the semitic world, "horn" was a way of describing "power" or "ability"
- seven eyes = all knowing. Nothing escapes His view.
- seven Spirits of God = the all powerful Ruach HaKodesh Who accomplishes the will of the Father and the Son.
- sent out into all the earth = no one can hide from the Spirit of God nor overcome His purposes.

Revelation 5:7-8

And He (the Spirit) came and took the book out of the right hand of Him who sat on the throne. When He had taken the book, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each one holding a harp and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints.

- The Spirit is sent to accomplish the final ordained events of the world.
- The Lamb, Yeshua, is worshipped because only by His incarnation, and thus His death, resurrection, and ascension to the Father has the will of the Father been accomplished.

Revelation 5:9-10

And they sang a new song, saying, "Worthy are You to take the book and to break its seals; for You were slain, and purchased for God with Your blood men from every tribe and tongue and people and nation. You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to our God; and they will reign upon the earth."

- "slain" = the cross
- "purchased...with Your blood" = the efficacious nature of Yeshua's death. Payment for sin by Yeshua's death is actual, not potential.
- "priests" = believers have access to the "holy of holies" being "in Yeshua" Who is the High Priest.
- "reign" = in the millennium & in eternity

Revelation 5:7-8

And He (the Spirit) came and took the book out of the right hand of Him who sat on the throne. When He had taken the book, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each one holding a harp and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints.

- "harp" = symbol of songs of worship, 1Chron 25:1, 6
- "golden bowls full of incense" = golden bowls symbolize the high value of prayer
- "prayers of the saints" Yeshua is our Intercessor.
- "Therefore He is able also to save forever those who draw near to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them. (Heb 7:25)

Revelation 5:11-14

Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne and the living creatures and the elders; and the number of them was myriads of myriads, and thousands of thousands, saying with a loud voice, "Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing." And every created thing which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all things in them, I heard saying, "To Him who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb, be blessing and honor and glory and dominion forever and ever." And the four living creatures kept saying, "Amen." And the elders fell down and worshiped.

Revelation 5:11-14

- The whole created universe will, in that final day, give full honor, praise, and worship to Yeshua, our risen and reigning Savior!
- There is no need to wait for that time! For all who are His are known by their honoring and glorifying Him now in all aspects of our lives.
- John's Revelation gives us a preview of the majesty of our Savior, Yeshua, Who humbled Himself, became obedient to death on the cross, Who rose again on the third day, ascended to heaven, and Who is coming again that we might reign with Him throughout all eternity.
- All of this is foreshadowed in the Temple service.

