



T H R E A D I N G T H E P E A R L S . o r g

Threading the Pearls of the Book of Revelation

An Expositional Study

Session 11: The Throne Room in Heaven, part 2
The Lion & The Lamb

REVELATION 5:1 — 5:7

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ThreadingthePearls.org

E-mail:
admin@threadingthepearls.org

One of the elders said to me, "Do not weep. Behold, *the Lion of the tribe of Judah*, the Root of David, has prevailed to open the scroll and to loose its seven seals." ⁶And I looked, and behold, in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures, and in the midst of the elders, stood *a Lamb as though it had been slain...* [REV 5:5-6]



REVELATION 5

1 And I saw in the right hand of him that sat on the throne, a book written within and without, sealed with seven seals.

In the right hand of him

EXO 15:4-7, Pharaoh's chariots and his army He has cast into the sea; His chosen captains also are drowned in the Red Sea. ⁵The depths have covered them; They sank to the bottom like a stone. ⁶*Your right hand, O Lord, has become glorious in power; Your right hand, O Lord, has dashed the enemy in pieces.* ⁷And in the greatness of Your excellence You have overthrown those who rose against You; You sent forth Your wrath; It consumed them like stubble;

PSM 21:7-8, For the king trusts in the Lord, And through the mercy of the Most High he shall not be moved. ⁸Your hand will find all Your enemies; *Your right hand will find those who hate You.*

Him who sat on the throne

1KING 22:19, Micaiah said, "Therefore hear the word of the Lord: *I saw the Lord sitting on His throne, and all the host of heaven standing by, on His right hand and on His left.*

Scroll with writing on both sides

EZE 2:9-10, when I looked, there was a hand stretched out to me; and behold, a scroll of a book was in it. ¹⁰Then He spread it before me; and *there was writing on the inside and on the outside, and written on it were lamentations and mourning and woe.*

Sealed with seven seals

JER 32:7-15, 'Behold, Hanamel the son of Shallum your uncle will come to you, saying, "Buy my field which is in Anathoth, for the right of redemption is yours to buy it..." ⁹"So I bought the field from Hanamel, the son of my uncle who was in Anathoth, and weighed out to him the money-seventeen shekels of silver. ¹⁰"And I signed the deed and sealed it, took witnesses, and weighed the money on the scales. ¹¹"So I took *the purchase deed, both that which was sealed* according to the law and custom, and that which was open...;

DAN 8:26, the vision of the evenings and mornings Which was told is true; Therefore *seal up the vision*, For it refers to many days in the future;

DAN 12:4, Daniel, *shut up the words, and seal the book* until the time of the end; many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall increase;

DAN 12:9, Go your way, Daniel, for the words are closed up and *sealed till the time of the end.*

CONSIDER THIS —

The Lord's right hand: an idiom used very often in the Old Testament.

Who sits at the right hand of the Father? – (see PSM 110:1, The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at My right hand, Till I make Your enemies Your footstool.")

Who is a good candidate to fulfill the role of the Lord's right hand? – (see ACTS 2:32-35)



REVELATION 5

2 And I saw a strong angel, proclaiming with a loud voice: Who is worthy to open the book, and to loose the seals thereof?

3 And no man was able, neither in heaven, nor on earth, nor under the earth, to open the book, nor to look on it.

Mighty Angel

PSM 103:20, Bless the Lord, you *His angels, Who excel in strength*, who do His word, Heeding the voice of His word.

Proclaiming in a loud voice

PSM 40:9, I have *proclaimed the good news of righteousness In the great assembly*; Indeed, I do not restrain my lips, O Lord, You Yourself know.

Worthy... to open the scroll

JOHN 17:4-5, I [Jesus] have glorified You [Father] on the earth. *I have finished the work* which You have given Me to do. ⁵"And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was; 2SAM 22:2-7, The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer; ³The God of my strength, in whom I will trust; My shield and the horn of my salvation, My stronghold and my refuge; My Savior, You save me from violence. ⁴I will call upon *the Lord, who is worthy* to be praised; So shall I be saved from my enemies...

Worthy to break the seals

Ushering in the day of vengeance of our God as described in— DEUT 32:34-36, 'Is this not laid up in store with Me, Sealed up among My treasures? ³⁵*Vengeance is Mine, and recompense*; Their foot shall slip in due time; For the day of their calamity is at hand, And the things to come hasten upon them.' ³⁶"For the Lord will judge His people And have compassion on His servants, When He sees that their power is gone, And there is no one remaining, bond or free.

No one in heaven... could open the scroll

PSM 139:8-10, *If I ascend into heaven, You are there*; If I make my bed in hell, behold, You are there...; HEB 2:16-17, For indeed *He does not give aid to angels*, but He does give aid to the seed of Abraham. ¹⁷Therefore, in all things He had to be made like His brethren...

No one... on earth... could open the scroll

ISA 59:16, *He saw that there was no one*, he was appalled that there was no one to intervene; so his own arm worked salvation for him, and his own righteousness sustained him.

No one... under the earth could open the scroll

EXO 16:28-30, ...³⁰if the Lord creates a new thing, and the earth opens its mouth and swallows them up with all that belongs to them, and *they go down alive into the pit*, then you will understand that these men have rejected the Lord; PHIL 2:10-11, the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and *of those under the earth*, ¹¹and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

No one... could... even look inside [the scroll]

HEB 12:14-15, Pursue peace with all people, and *holiness, without which no one will see the Lord*: ¹⁵looking carefully lest anyone fall short of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up cause trouble, and by this many become defiled.

CONSIDER THIS —

Why is the scroll sealed?

JER 32:11-14, I took the purchase deed, both that which was sealed according to the law and custom, and that which was open; ¹²"and I gave the purchase deed to Baruch... ¹⁴"Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: "Take these deeds, both *this purchase deed which is sealed* and this deed which is open, and put them in an earthen vessel, that they may last many days."



REVELATION 5

4 And I wept much, because no man was found worthy to open the book, nor to see it.

I wept and wept

HEB 12:16-17, Esau, who for one morsel of food sold his birthright. ¹⁷For you know that afterward, when he wanted to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no place for repentance, though *he sought it diligently with tears*;

PSM 126:5-6, Those who sow in tears Shall reap in joy. ⁶*He who continually goes forth weeping*, Bearing seed for sowing, Shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, Bringing his sheaves with him;

PSM 30:5, His anger is but for a moment, His favor is for life; *Weeping may endure for a night*, But joy comes in the morning;

JOHN 20:13-16, ...¹⁵Jesus said to her, "*Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?*" She, supposing Him to be the gardener, said to Him, "Sir, if You have carried Him away, tell me where You have laid Him, and I will take Him away."

¹⁶Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to Him, "Rabboni!" (which is to say, Teacher).

No one was found

JER 23:24, *Can anyone hide himself in secret places*, So I shall not see him?" says the Lord; "Do I not fill heaven and earth?" says the Lord;

PSM 14:2-3, The Lord looks down from heaven upon the children of men, To see if there are any who understand, who seek God. ³They have all turned aside, They have together become corrupt; *There is none who does good, No, not one.*

No one... who was worthy

ISA 64:6, we are all like an unclean thing, And *all our righteousnesses are like filthy rags*; We all fade as a leaf, And our iniquities, like the wind, Have taken us away.

No one... worthy to open the scroll

PRO 30:11-13, There is a generation that curses its father, And does not bless its mother. ¹²There is a generation that is pure in its own eyes, Yet *is not washed from its filthiness*. ¹³There is a generation-oh, how lofty are their eyes! And their eyelids are lifted up.

No one... worthy to... look inside

ROM 3:23, for *all have sinned and fall short* of the glory of God.

CONSIDER THIS —

Who alone can boast of saving us?

ISA 59:15-17, [The Lord] saw that there was no man, And wondered that there was no intercessor; Therefore *His own arm brought salvation* for Him; And His own righteousness, it sustained Him. ¹⁷For He put on righteousness as a breastplate, And a helmet of salvation on His head; He put on the garments of vengeance for clothing, And was clad with zeal as a cloak.



REVELATION 5

5 And one of the ancients said to me: Weep not; behold the lion of the tribe of Juda, the root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof.

One of the elders

EXO 3:16-17, Go and gather *the elders of Israel* together, and say to them, "The Lord God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Jacob, appeared to me, saying, "I have surely visited you and seen what is done to you in Egypt; ¹⁷and I have said I will bring you up out of the affliction of Egypt to the land of the Canaanites and the Hittites and the Amorites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites, to a land flowing with milk and honey";

1PET 5:1, The elders who are among you I exhort, *I who am a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ*, and also a partaker of the glory that will be revealed.

Do not weep!

LUKE 23:27-28, a great multitude of the people followed Him, and women who also mourned and lamented Him. ²⁸But Jesus, turning to them, said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, *do not weep for Me*, but weep for yourselves and for your children;

LUKE 7:12-15, when He came near the gate of the city, behold, a dead man was being carried out, the only son of his mother; and she was a widow. And a large crowd from the city was with her. ¹³When the Lord saw her, He had compassion on her and said to her, "Do not weep." ¹⁴Then He came and touched the open coffin, and those who carried him stood still. And He said, "Young man, I say to you, arise." ¹⁵So *he who was dead sat up and began to speak. And He presented him to his mother.*

Lion of the tribe of Judah

GEN 49:8-10, Judah, you are he whom your brothers shall praise; Your hand shall be on the neck of your enemies; Your father's children shall bow down before you. ⁹Judah is a lion's whelp; From the prey, my son, you have gone up. He bows down, he lies down as a lion; And *as a lion, who shall rouse him?* ¹⁰The scepter shall not depart from Judah, Nor a lawgiver from between his feet, Until Shiloh comes; And to Him shall be the obedience of the people.

Root of David

ISA 11:1-4, there shall come forth a rod out of the root of Jesse, and *a flower shall rise up out of his root.* ²And the spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him: the spirit of wisdom, and of understanding, the spirit of counsel, and of fortitude, the spirit of knowledge, and of godliness... ⁴he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall slay the wicked;

MATH 22:42-45, "What do you think about the Christ? Whose Son is He?" They said to Him, "The Son of David." ⁴³He said to them, "How then does David in the Spirit call Him 'Lord,' saying: ⁴⁴The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at My right hand, Till I make Your enemies Your footstool"? ⁴⁵*If David then calls Him 'Lord,' how is He his Son?*"

CONSIDER THIS —

Do we always know the 'upper story'?

While Jesus was being scourged, did His followers understand why He had to suffer?

LUKE 23:27-28, a great multitude of the people followed Him, and women who also mourned and lamented Him. ²⁸But Jesus, turning to them, said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for Me, but *weep for yourselves and for your children.*

Triumphed

COL 2:13-15, ...He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses, ¹⁴having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. ¹⁵Having disarmed principalities and powers, *He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them* in it.

Able to open the scroll

ROM 8:3-4, what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, *God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh*, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

Seven seals

LEV 26:21-24, if you walk contrary to Me, and are not willing to obey Me, *I will bring on you seven times more plagues*, according to your sins. ²²I will also send wild beasts among you, which shall rob you of your children, destroy your livestock, and make you few in number; and your highways shall be desolate. ²³And if by these things you are not reformed by Me, but walk contrary to Me, ²⁴then I also will walk contrary to you, and I will punish you yet seven times for your sins.





REVELATION 5

6 And I saw: and behold in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures, and in the midst of the ancients, a Lamb standing as it were slain, having seven horns and seven eyes: which are the seven Spirits of God, sent forth into all the earth.

Encircled

LUKE 2:45-47, when they did not find Him, they returned to Jerusalem, seeking Him. ⁴⁶Now so it was that after three days they found Him in the temple, *sitting in the midst of the teachers*, both listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷And all who heard Him were astonished at His understanding and answers;

MATH 18:19-20, I say to you that if two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven. ²⁰"For where two or three are gathered together in My name, *I am there in the midst of them*";

LUKE 24:34-37, "The Lord is risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!" ³⁵And they told about the things that had happened on the road, and how He was known to them in the breaking of bread. ³⁶Now as they said these things, *Jesus Himself stood in the midst of them*, and said to them, "Peace to you."

In the center of the throne

ROM 8:34, It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even *at the right hand of God*, who also makes intercession for us.

Four living* creatures

JOHN 5:21, For as the Father raises the dead and *gives life* [ζωοποιεῖ] to them, even so the Son gives life to whom He will;

* NOTE — ζῶον = Zoon, dzo'on, Strong# 2226: *a living being*; an animal, brute, beast;

* Also: ζωοποιέω = Zoopoieo, dzo•op•oy•eh'o, Strong# 2227: 1. to produce alive, begat or bear living young; 2. to cause to live, make alive, give life; *by spiritual power to arouse* and invigorate...[Strong, 1958].

Elders

CONSIDER THIS —

We read of our Lord's appearance in heaven:

He is introduced as the 'Lion of the tribe of Judah' (see REV 5:5);

Yet, He is described as the 'Lamb as though it had been slain' (see REV 5:6).

ACTS 14:23, when *they had appointed elders in every church*, and prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord in whom they had believed;

ACTS 16:4-5, as they went through the cities, they delivered to them the decrees to keep, which were determined by the apostles and *elders at Jerusalem*. ⁵So the churches were strengthened in the faith, and increased in number daily;

TIT 1:4-6, Titus, a true son in our common faith: Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ our Savior. ⁵For this reason I left you in Crete, that you should set in order the things that are lacking, and *appoint elders in every city* as I commanded you ⁶if a man is blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of dissipation or insubordination.

I saw... a Lamb

JOHN 1:29-30, John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold! *The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!*" ³⁰"This is He of whom I said, 'After me comes a Man who is preferred before me, for He was before me';

1PET 1:18-19, you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, ¹⁹but with the precious blood of *Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot*.

Standing

1COR 15:17-20, if Christ is not risen, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins! ¹⁸Then also those who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. ¹⁹If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men the most pitiable. ²⁰But now *Christ is risen from the dead*, and has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

Lamb, looking as if it had been slain

ISA 53:5-7, But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed. ⁶All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; And the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all. ⁷He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet He opened not His mouth; *He was led as a lamb to the slaughter*, And as a sheep before its shearers is silent, So He opened not His mouth; ISA 50:6, *I gave my back to the smiters, and my cheeks to them that plucked off the hair: I hid not my face from shame and spitting.*

Seven horns

LUKE 1:68-75, Blessed is the Lord God of Israel, For He has visited and redeemed His people, ⁶⁹And *has raised up a horn of salvation for us* In the house of His servant David...; 1SAM 2:10, The adversaries of the Lord shall be broken in pieces; From heaven He will thunder against them. The Lord will judge the ends of the earth. "He will give strength to His king, And *exalt the horn of His anointed*"; PSM 75:10, All the horns of the wicked I will also cut off, But *the horns of the righteous shall be exalted.*

Seven eyes

ZECH 3:9, behold, the stone That I have laid before Joshua: *Upon the stone are seven eyes.* Behold, I will engrave its inscription,' Says the Lord of hosts, 'And I will remove the iniquity of that land in one day.

Seven spirits of God

ISA 61:1-2, *The Spirit of the Lord God is upon Me*, Because the Lord has anointed Me To preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives, And the opening of the prison to those who are bound; ²To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord, And the day of vengeance of our God*; * NOTE — see also LUKE 4:5-12.

Sent out into all the earth

ZECH 4:10, those seven; they are the eyes of the LORD, which *run to and fro through the whole earth.*





REVELATION 5

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

He came

MARK 10:44-45, whoever of you desires to be first shall be slave of all. ⁴⁵"For even *the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve*, and to give His life a ransom for many";
LUKE 19:9-10, Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because he also is a son of Abraham; ¹⁰"for *the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost*";
JOHN 1:11, *He came to His own*, and His own did not receive Him.

Took the book

ZECH 2:10, *the Lord will take possession of Judah as His inheritance* in the Holy Land, and will again choose Jerusalem;
HEB 1:2, His Son, whom He [God] has *appointed heir of all things*.

From the right hand

ACTS 7:55-56, he [Stephen], being full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God, ⁵⁶and said, "Look! I see the heavens opened and *the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!*"
PSM 89:13, You have a mighty arm; Strong is Your hand, and *high is Your right hand*.

Him who sat on the throne

PSM 89:6-8, who in the heavens can be compared to the Lord? Who among the sons of the mighty can be likened to the Lord? ⁷*God is greatly to be feared in the assembly of the saints, And to be held in reverence by all those around Him...*;
PSM 29:10, The Lord sat enthroned at the Flood, *And the Lord sits as King forever*.

CONSIDER THIS —

JOHN 1:29, John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold! The Lamb of God who *takes away the sin of the world!*

How did He accomplish this? — By paying for it. What was the cost?
1PET 1:18-19, you were not redeemed [paid for] with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, ¹⁹but [you were redeemed = paid for] with the precious blood of Christ, as of *a lamb without blemish and without spot*.



GROUP DISCUSSION

REV 5:1, I saw in the right hand of Him who sat on the throne *a scroll written inside and on the back*, sealed with seven seals.

EZE 2:9-10, when I looked, there was a hand stretched out to me; and behold, a scroll of a book was in it. ¹⁰Then He spread it before me; and *there was writing on the inside and on the outside*, and written on it were lamentations and mourning and woe.

⊕ **1a. What similarities and differences are there between these two scrolls?**

REV 5:1, I saw in the right hand of Him who sat on the throne a scroll written inside and on the back, *sealed with seven seals*.

JER 32:14, "Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: "Take these deeds, both *this purchase deed which is sealed* and this deed which is open, and put them in an earthen vessel, that they may last many days."

⊕ **1b. What similarities and differences are there between the sealed scroll in Revelation and the sealed purchase deed in Jeremiah?**

REV 5:4, I wept much, because *no one was found worthy* to open and read the scroll, or to look at it.

⊕ **2a. Why was there no one worthy to open, read, or even look at the scroll?**

REV 5:5, But one of the elders said to me, "Do not weep. Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, *has prevailed* to open the scroll and to loose its seven seals."

⊕ **2b. How had 'the Lion' prevailed? What qualifies Him above all others?**

(see also 2COR 5:18-21)

REV 5:6, And I looked, and behold, in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures, and in the midst of the elders, stood *a Lamb as though it had been slain*, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent out into all the earth.

⊕ **3. Why was He introduced as the Lion (REV 5:5), but appears here as the Lamb?**

(see also JOHN 1:29-30 & ISA 53:7-8, He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet He opened not His mouth; *He was led as a lamb to the slaughter*, And as a sheep before its shearers is silent, So He opened not His mouth. ⁸He was taken from prison and from judgment, And who will declare His generation? For He was cut off from the land of the living; *For the transgressions of My people He was stricken.*)

NEXT SESSION —