

## Chapter 5:

This chapter opens with God holding a scroll in His right hand that has writing on both sides and sealed with seven seals. I have more studying to do related to writing on both sides and if that has significant meaning. From what I've studied so far, it could perhaps tie back to the writing and presentation of the ten commandments. Reference Exodus 32:15 related to the writing on both sides of the tablets. Also reference Exodus 31:18 with the tablets being written by the finger of God. "Written on both sides" ... may represent that God Himself wrote and sealed up the writings within the scroll and purposed the scroll to be opened in His timing and by the only person who would be worthy, His Son, the Lamb.

The number seven represents physical and spiritual completion and perfection. Then a mighty angel proclaims in a loud voice "who is worthy to break the seals and open the scroll?" Note this is a "mighty" angel, not just an angel. The question that is asked is a rhetorical question, however, John didn't know that, so he wept. No one in heaven, on earth, or under the earth could be found worthy. Jesus is omnipresent; he is everywhere at any given time. Aside from that, he defeated death and sin. "He triumphed" and is therefore worthy to break the seals and open the scroll, as John is told from one of the twenty-four elders. John describes seeing Jesus and references Him looking like the Lamb that was slain. This is an important reference as Jesus's sacrifice is what made Him worthy.

Jesus is standing at the center of the throne, surrounded by the twenty-four elders and four living creatures. The reference of Jesus having the seven horns and seven eyes represents the Holy Spirit being with Christ in this moment. Jesus takes the scroll from the right hand of God. When He takes it, the four living creatures and twenty-four elders fall on their faces and worship Jesus. They worshipped Jesus and presented the prayers of God's people and sang a new song to Jesus. The song is new because this is singing to Jesus about taking the scroll and opening the seals, which has never previously happened. It is good to note that the song states that "with your blood you purchased for God, persons from every tribe and language and people and nation. You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth." The words "them" and "they", may support a reference I made earlier, in Chapter four, that the twenty-four elders are Old Testament saints instead of the overcomers from the Church Age, or Age of Grace. In the KJV, the words used in this text are "us" and "we". Use of those words could insinuate that the group of twenty-four elders are the same as the bride. If you look at the Greek text, I do not believe this is accurate.

John references hearing and seeing millions of angels encircling the throne and praising Jesus. Then every creature, everywhere gave glory, honor, and praise to God and Jesus. Chapter 5 ends with much praise of our Savior.