

“Worthy is the Lamb”  
Revelation 5

Question: The person on the throne [the Father] possesses something. What is it?

Answer:

And how is the scroll described?

- 1.
- 2.

Note: Having it written on both sides and sealed with seven seals meant that there was a fullness or \_\_\_\_\_ to the message. The word “sealed” means “\_\_\_\_\_ sealed” or “unable to \_\_\_\_\_ or change.”

Note the 10 Commandments:

“<sup>15</sup> Moses turned and went down the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant law in his hands. They were inscribed on both sides, front and back. <sup>16</sup> The tablets were the work of God; the writing was the writing of God, engraved on the tablets. (Exod. 32:15-16 NIV)

Note: Zechariah 5:1-3:

“I looked again, and there before me was a flying \_\_\_\_\_.

<sup>2</sup> He asked me, ‘What do you see?’ I answered, ‘I see a flying scroll, twenty cubits long and ten cubits wide.’

<sup>3</sup> And he said to me, ‘This is the \_\_\_\_\_ that is going out over the whole land; for according to what it says on \_\_\_\_\_ side, every thief will be banished, and according to what it says on the \_\_\_\_\_, everyone who swears falsely will be banished.’ (Zech. 5:1-3 NIV)

Note: A scroll was an ancient form of writing material usually written on \_\_\_\_\_ (sown animal skin) or \_\_\_\_\_ (fibers from a papyrus plant smashed down and pressed). Vellum was more durable but heavier and more \_\_\_\_\_ to make. Papyrus was lighter, easier to make, more abundant, but susceptible to \_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_ because of the climate.

Note: Most scholars would hold that the \_\_\_\_\_ papyrus would have been what John would have written on, especially since he was on a banished island with limited resources.

Note: Take into consideration that \_\_\_\_\_ seven seals need to be broken before one could get into the scroll. So the seven seals of chapter 6 will be external or \_\_\_\_\_ events or signs that need to happen first before we can enter the document. [Birth pains]

Two primary views on chapters 6-18. [More will be said when we reach chapter 6.]

**First view:** \_\_\_\_\_ (Historicist, Preterist, Idealist)

This view says that the seven seals are the \_\_\_\_\_ of the rest of the book. They are at the center and describe everything that will happen. Chapters seven onward are \_\_\_\_\_ details of the seven seals. Think of a concentric circle where everything moves out from the center. It is not sequential in nature but \_\_\_\_\_ – like a rock thrown into a pond that produces ripples.

Concentric Circle idea =

**Second view:** \_\_\_\_\_ (predominant view of the Futurist)

This view says that the seven seals are the \_\_\_\_\_ of God's end-time judgement. It starts with a low level of intensity but with each \_\_\_\_\_ judgement, e.g. Seals, Trumpet, Bowls, they become more intense. Think of it like descending a flight of steps where each step gets worse until you get to the bottom.

Staircase Intensity view =

Question: What was the main question found in verse 2?

Answer:

“Worthy” speaks to \_\_\_\_\_ of character to fulfill or \_\_\_\_\_ a particular task; one who is

\_\_\_\_\_ to do something through an past act or relational connection.

How does verse 3 answer the question?

This is not describing a \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ reality but a Hebraism for \_\_\_\_\_. Cp. Deut. 3:24; 2 Chron. 6:14; 1 Cor. 8:5. In other words, there is \_\_\_\_\_ in all of creation that is worthy to come and open the scroll.

Question: How did John respond?

Note: This is the only time where we see “\_\_\_\_\_” being recorded in heaven.

Note: Remember that this scroll is the \_\_\_\_\_ revelation of the future. To know that it was available, but no one was worthy to take it and unveil it, must have been \_\_\_\_\_, especially as it dealt with his people who were in bondage to the Romans.

Looking at verse 5 how is this devastating news resolved?

Answer:

Note that these are \_\_\_\_\_ titles connected to the Messiah. Cp. Genesis 49:8-12 with special focus on 10; Isaiah 11:1,10.

Question: His "worthiness" comes through what?

Answer:

Question: What does John see in verse 6.

Let's list these descriptions and make notes:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

Note: There were horns on each corner of the atonement seat on the ark of the covenant. Cf. Exodus 27:2.

- 5.

Note: The text says that this represents "the seven spirits of God." This is a reference to the presence and power of the Holy Spirit. Cf. 1:4; 3:1.

- 6.

Question: If you went out to the barn at night and saw this, what would your reaction be?

What did the Lamb do? Verse 7.

By permitting the Lamb to take the scroll, the Father \_\_\_\_\_  
"Jesus" to execute His end time plan for judgment and redemption.

Question: How do the heavenly host and elders respond? Verse 8a.

Answer: The Lamb is \_\_\_\_\_.

Question: Why is this so significant?

Answer:

How are the beasts and elders described? Verse 8b.

Question: What does this mean?

Answer:

The "bowls" are pans or \_\_\_\_\_ that recall the ones made for the  
tabernacle/Temple. Cf. Exodus 25:29; 37:16.

Note: Prayers are often represented as forms of \_\_\_\_\_, as incense  
that rises to the heavens. Cf. Psalm 141:2. It was a Jewish tradition that the  
prayers of the saints were held in heaven and dispensed at their proper time  
[Beckwith, *Apocalypse*, 512]. With this in mind, and in connection with the  
martyred saints in chapter 8, most scholars see these prayers being specific to  
the coming \_\_\_\_\_ of God upon all evil. Either way, it is a time of  
great celebration and worship.

Verse 9 tells us they sang a song (vv. 9-10). How does it help answer the question back in verse 2?

Answer: Jesus is worthy, \_\_\_\_\_, to open the scroll and execute judgement upon the world because he \_\_\_\_\_ himself with the result that a \_\_\_\_\_ of people from every sector of the world was redeemed for the Father – a remnant that will be governed by his \_\_\_\_\_ in their hearts and for their \_\_\_\_\_ to Him. They are a created group of people who will \_\_\_\_\_ with Jesus on the earth (future tense).

Question: How did the angels respond? Verses 11-12.

Answer: They joined the elders in \_\_\_\_\_ the reason Jesus was worthy, entitled, to receive the scroll - which describes all that will manifest itself in regarding his sovereign control over the world and his enemies.

Note Daniel 7:9-10 for O.T. comparison.

Question: What is the grand climax to this heavenly event? Vv. 13-14.

Question: Why do you think Jesus wanted John to see this heavenly throne room scene before anything else?

Answer:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.