

The Supremacy of Christ Revelation 5

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The Scroll – Vs 1-5

The Right Hand of God

- ▶ Anthropomorphic description of God
 - ▶ Giving human characteristics to God, who is Spirit
- ▶ Right denotes strength, power, and supremacy

The Scroll

- ▶ Written on both sides
- ▶ Usually written on one side as only one side was smooth for writing
- ▶ Both sides were used for large amounts of writing.

The Scroll

- ▶ Question: What did the scroll contain?
- ▶ Answer 1:
 - ▶ Perhaps the events and judgments of the last years on earth

The Scroll

- ▶ Answer 1:
 - ▶ the account of the judgments and the end of current creation
 - ▶ See Ezek 2:9-3:3

The Scroll

- ▶ Answer 2: perhaps it was a type of Jewish inheritance law.
 - ▶ The sale of land required 2 scrolls
 - ▶ One sealed, the other unsealed
- ▶ The sealed document was kept for the year of jubilee or for the kinsman redeemer

The Scroll

- ▶ Kinsman redeemer: a relative who could buy back the land
- ▶ The scroll would then represent the sale of the earth to satan by humanity through sin.
- ▶ creation awaits a redeemer

The Seven Seals

- ▶ A number of perfection.
- ▶ It is sealed by God and only perfection can open the seals
 - ▶ The person of Jesus

The Seven Seals

- ▶ Roman Law: a will was witnessed by 7 witnesses who used their own seals. It could only be opened when all 7 were present to open their own seal.

The Seven Seals

- ▶ The seven seals represent perfect authority and utmost importance.
- ▶ It could only be opened by the right person

The Seven Seals

- ▶ Angel asks who is worthy to open the seals.
- ▶ No one is found in all creation to open the seals.
- ▶ Nothing of creation is worthy to open them.

The One Worthy to Open the Scroll

VERSES 5-7

The Worthy One

- ▶ John's weeping over the worthlessness of creation ends with the introduction of Jesus.
- ▶ Only Jesus is worthy
- ▶ He is fully God and fully man to satisfy the requirements of a kinsman redeemer

The Worthy One

- ▶ The Lion of the Tribe of Judah
 - ▶ Gen 49:9-10
 - ▶ 1 Kings 10:19-20
 - ▶ Symbols of strength and might and power and authority

The Worthy One

- ▶ The Root of David
 - ▶ Isa 11:1-10
 - ▶ Rev 22:16
 - ▶ Points to the Messiah who would bring salvation.
 - ▶ Jesus is the Messiah

The Worthy One

- ▶ The Lamb who had been slain
- ▶ This is the supremacy of the whole vision!
 - ▶ The suffering of Jesus. Victory came through suffering and humility
 - ▶ See Isa 53; Mt 12:15-21

The Lamb of God

- ▶ The term "lamb" is used 28 times in Revelation
- ▶ This word is not used anywhere else in the N.T.
- ▶ The word indicates a "pet lamb"
 - ▶ The tamest and gentlest of all creatures

The Lamb of God

- ▶ The lamb has 7 horns and 7 eyes
 - ▶ 7 horns – power and authority.
 - ▶ The fullness of power and authority, omnipotence – all powerful
 - ▶ 7 eyes – seeing
 - ▶ The fullness of seeing, Omniscience – all knowing
 - ▶ See Zechariah 3:8-9

The Lamb of God

- ▶ The 7 eyes are the 7 spirits of God.
 - ▶ Or the sevenfold spirit of God, or the fullness of the spirit of God.
 - ▶ This denotes all knowing, all powerful, all God.
 - ▶ See Zechariah 4:1-10

All Creation Worships the Lamb

VERSES 8-14

4 Living Creatures and the 24 Elders

- ▶ Harp – and instrument of worship
 - ▶ 1 Sam 10:5; 1 Chron 25:3; Ps 49:4
- ▶ Golden Bowls of Incense
 - ▶ These are the prayers of the saints
 - ▶ Ps. 141:1-2; Lk 1:9-10; Rev 8:3

4 Living Creatures and the 24 Elders

- ▶ They sang a new song
- ▶ Greek has 2 words for new:
 - ▶ “neos” – new in point of time
 - ▶ “kainos” – new in point of quality
- ▶ Christ’s worth is a result of His death.
 - ▶ See Mt 5:5; Dan 7:27

Myriads of Angels

- ▶ Ten thousand times ten thousand angels join in the new song to the Lamb who was slain.
- ▶ They sing of the worth of Jesus

The Rest of Creation

- ▶ All of creation joins in worship to Jesus.

The great "Amen"

- ▶ The four living creatures conclude the scene with an "amen"
- ▶ The 24 elders fall down and worship
 - ▶ See 4:9-10

Summary/Conclusion

- ▶ Jesus is at the center and the reason for this scene of worship by all creation
- ▶ He alone is worthy
- ▶ He alone suffered and died on the cross

Summary/Conclusion

- ▶ He alone in the kinsman redeemer of humanity and all creation.
- ▶ The Lamb who was slain
