

**All verses are copied from <https://biblehub.com/> in King James.**

## **Revelation 5**

### **The Book with Seven Seals**

**1And I saw in the right hand of him that sat on the throne a book written within and on the backside, sealed with seven seals.**

There are two main thoughts on the seals, one is that the document when written was rolled and various seals were placed in critical points denoting some specific condition within the document. Only a person who was authorized could break any of the seals in sequence.

The other idea is based on the specific wording of vs 1:

**1And I saw in the right hand of him that sat on the throne a book written within and on the backside, sealed with seven seals.**

“sealed with seven seals”. This scroll had not yet been opened which begs the question in vs 2; “who is worthy”. If John saw the seven seals and it was still rolled up, then the seven seals must have been visible on the outside.

Robert van Camp owns one of the largest collections of ancient scroll and Biblical manuscripts from the second

century. He authored a book called “The Sign” and states in that book that:

*“Of the many scrolls not even one has a seal on the inside they are all sealed from the outside.”*

The number of seals had significance in various cultures, he says:

*“That when one seal is on the document it was usually placed there by the author of the document. If multiple seals were there it showed the number of specific conditions that were contained in the document.”*

From a pragmatic point that seems to make more sense. But that is not to say that a scroll could not have interior seals it just makes more sense to have them on the outside and lends itself to understand how John would know how many seals were on this document that God was holding. John could see and count them and there were 7.

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

This question is obviously rhetorical from God’s perspective but to John it was perhaps the most frightening question any man has ever heard. It appears it is a picture God needed to

draw for us so we could understand not only the treasure inside the scroll but the great cost to have authority to open it.

There is a book of obvious importance that was sealed and obviously had been sealed from some time in history. It is in the Hands of the Mighty Creator and the Creator God is asking a question.

**“Who is worthy to open the book and to loose the seals thereof?”**

What knowledge did this scroll have?

There have been several biblical references to sealed or sealing up various documents. Most of those occurrences are within the prophetic books, namely Daniel, Isaiah, and Revelation. The seal was used to seal letters, legal documents, and orders from kings or those in authority.

***Daniel 12:14 But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.***

***Isaiah 8:16 Bind up the testimony, seal the law among my disciples.***

***Revelation 10:4 And when the seven thunders had uttered their voices, I was about to write: and I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Seal up those***

***things which the seven thunders uttered, and write them not.***

*"Sealing a scroll was a common and important practice in Biblical times. The wills of both Emperor Vespasian and Caesar Augustus were secured with seven seals."*

[philologos.org](http://philologos.org)

According to Biblical law when dealing with real-property IE Land or houses, only a worthy relative was able to redeem the property once the conditions set forth on the outside of the scroll were met. Only that worthy relative was allowed to break the seals and unroll the scroll.

**3And no man in heaven, nor in earth, neither under the earth, was able to open the book, neither to look thereon. 4And I wept much, because no man was found worthy to open and to read the book, neither to look thereon.**

A key word here is the word "man"? The next key phrase is where did they look for a man that was worthy?

According to this verse a search of all places within God's creation was conducted and no "man" was found. A

definition of "man" from Abraim publication

<https://www.abarim->

[publications.com/Meaning/Adam.html#anc-2](https://www.abarim-publications.com/Meaning/Adam.html#anc-2)

"Man" meaning "Red, One from the soil, Beginning".

The word man in the Bible depending on its context; can either mean male portion of species homo sapiens or it can mean, mankind inclusive of both male and female of the species. Yes, Dorothy there are only two sexes: male and female.

What I take away from this disparity is that a search is conducted for a man “homo sapiens” who is worthy to open the scroll. We’ll get into the search parameters in a second; the point here is that a search was conducted by God for a man throughout all of mankind; who was fit to open the scroll or book. That search revealed no such man existed anywhere in heaven, on the earth, in the area between heaven and earth or under the earth.

The search was futile because of the limits assigned: “man”. The first man God created from the earth “dust” He called; “Adam” This Adam, would procreate, causing more of its kind to populate the earth. Adam’s fall from Grace, the original sin tainted all of mankind making them unworthy to stand sinless before God. The very condition God set upon this scroll and the One capable of redeeming what was in it.

The second interference with God’s created “man” plan after Adam’s fall we are aware of was when the fallen angels

cohabited with women and the offspring were the Nephilim or giants. Satan's plan to pollute the blood line leading to Christ.

So, the search was for anyone worthy that was a sinless man. The reason they did not point to Jesus is that He was not procreated. He always existed with God and was God and to become a human man He was immaculately conceived leaving out the sin nature that came from Adam the seed of man. The Worthy One would be revealed as the "Lamb of God". Fully man yet fully God which clearly differentiated Him from the "man" homo sapiens only search.

### **The Lamb is Worthy**

**5And one of the elders saith unto 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.**

We are not told who the elders are in Heaven but again, quite likely patriarchs from God's Chosen people. This elder knew the facts of who in all of creation was worthy but withheld his knowledge until the time was right. God needed John and us to see that there is no savior other than the One He sent to save mankind, His Only Son.

Jesus' bono fides is described here.

***“.....the Lion of the tribe of Juda, the Root of David”,***

Strong's Concordance

Phonetic Spelling: (hrid'-zah)

Definition: a root

Usage: a root, shoot, source; that which comes from the root, a descendent.

Two specific points to make here. David was the first King of Israel and is regarded as the Greatest King in the History of Israel. Another King will come that takes the role of King David that is even higher ranking than David and that is the Messiah, High Priest and King Jesus.

The lineage of a kingly inheritance had to be confirmed both through natural (blood line) and legal (legitimate) means. So Mary Jesus mother is the natural lineage and Joseph Jesus step-father was the legal means to the throne of David to fulfill prophecy.

***Psalms 132:11 The LORD hath sworn in truth unto David; he will not turn from it; Of the fruit of thy body will I set upon thy throne.***

*“The mothers are almost never mentioned in ancient genealogy.*

*It is believed by many that Heli was Mary's father. Among the Greeks, only a man could be considered a genealogical link, so often a husband's 'father-in-law' was mentioned as his 'father'. The Jews would say: 'Genus matris non vocatur genus ("The descendant of the mother is not called (her) descendant")*

*Because it was a fulfillment of prophecy that Jesus' lineage be 'through the line of David' (Luke 1:32, 35; Romans 1:1-4) with natural and legal right to that throne, the genealogy HAD to be proven clearly. (Luke 1:32-35)*

*Luke traced MARY'S line through David's son Nathan (Luke 3:31) showing Jesus' natural descent from David (John 6:42)*

*Matthew traced JOSEPH'S line through Solomon (Matthew 1:6, 7) showing Jesus' legal right to the throne of David, since Joseph was legally Jesus' adoptive father, giving him legal right." **Unknown attribution***

**6And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth.**

The essential part of this verse is not the Elders or the Beasts it is the "Lamb" standing in midst. The Lamb is capitalized in the KJV indicting it is personal pronoun. In this case it is a title and a name of the Messiah. The innocent Lamb of God His One and only Son, slain on the cross for the Salvation of the world and all of mankind.

The seven horns; seven meaning complete and horns; meaning power, so the seven horns indicate complete power. The seven eyes; seven again meaning complete and eyes in this case represent “seeing or knowledge and understanding, so the seven eyes indicate complete knowledge and understanding. Jesus the Messiah was all of this and more.

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

Right hand is chosen in this verse likely due Biblical perspective of the right hand meaning “power and or authority”.

*Ephesians 1: 19And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power, 20Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own **right hand** in the heavenly places, 21Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come: 22And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, 23Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all. (emphasis mine)*

The first mention in the Bible of the right hand and the power associated with it was in Genesis 48. It was a power granted

the patriarch of a family to bless usually the first born or in this case whomever God told the patriarch to bless.

**Genesis 48: 17And when Joseph saw that his father laid his **right hand** upon the head of Ephraim, it displeased him: and he held up his father's hand, to remove it from Ephraim's head unto Manasseh's head. 18And Joseph said unto his father, Not so, my father: for this is the firstborn; put thy **right hand** upon his head. 19And his father refused, and said, I know it, my son, I know it: he also shall become a people, and he also shall be great: but truly his younger brother shall be greater than he, and his seed shall become a multitude of nations.**

This is called the principal of first mention and can sometimes be used to understand certain aspects of the Bible. Not always but it can reveal somethings to us.

Back to verse 7, the “book” that was sealed was in the right hand of God the Father and He had been looking for someone who would be authorized to open it. Only one in all of creation was found worthy.

**8And when he had taken the book, the four beasts and four *and* twenty elders fell down before the Lamb, having every one of them harps, and golden vials full of odours, which are the prayers of saints.**

The transfer of this book from God the Father to a worthy Son has some momentous meaning. All of those in the throne room fell down at the moment of this event.

We know that “gold” is something very costly. The gold was in the form of a vial which held “odours” which are described as the prayers of the saints.

***Revelation 8: 3And another angel came and stood at the altar, having a golden censer; and there was given unto him much incense, that he should offer it with the prayers of all saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne. 4And the smoke of the incense, which came with the prayers of the saints, ascended up before God out of the angel's hand.***

The prayers of believers including these saints which are in the Tribulation come at a great cost; the sacrifice of innocent blood of Christ and their own blood and are valued by God. God calls it a sweet aroma, a mingling of prayer, His Son and the sacrifices of obedience even unto death.

***2 Corinthians 2:15 For we are unto God a sweet savour of Christ, in them that are saved, and in them that perish:***

From Strong's Concordance the term “savor” is:

*“Transliteration: euódia*

*Phonetic Spelling: (yoo-o-dee'-ah)*

*Definition: fragrance*

*Usage: a sweet smell, fragrance.”*

The presence of the Lamb of God, Christ Himself is a sweet, sweet aroma to God and to those who believe in Him.

**9And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation;**

This new song confirms yet again that Christ died for all of mankind, every kindred, tongue, people, and nation.

We are redeemed by the blood of the Lamb that now stands holding the book with seven seals.

**10And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.**

The path for the believer is to be kings and priests during the millennial time on earth.

*Daniel 7:27 And the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the most High, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him.*

*Revelation 20: 1And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. 2And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, 3And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season.*

*4And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus,*

*and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years. **5**But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection. **6**Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, **but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.** (Emphasis mine)*

## The Lamb Exalted

**11**And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the beasts and the elders: and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands;

A difficult number to decipher but it is at a minimum 100 million, angels added to the 4 beasts and 24 elders.

**12**Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing.

A heavenly declaration by all in attendance that the Lamb of God is Worthy to open the seal on the book. By His obedience to His Father, Jesus was slain for mankind and through that obedience He is to receive Power, Riches,

Wisdom, Strength, Honor, Glory and Blessing from the Most High God and all creation forever.

**13And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, *be* unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever. 14And the four beasts said, Amen. And the four *and* twenty elders fell down and worshipped him that liveth for ever and ever.**

Some may think this description is symbolic, but I believe it to be an event in time, a moment in eternity when all creation recognizes the True Messiah and God of creation.

Will those who are dead in sin and asleep hear this adulation of praise to the One who is Worthy. We are not told, but my sense is that this praise service in the throne room will shake the heavens and all creatures in all of existence will hear this sound and know what it means.

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