

REVELATION 4:8 - 5:14

John is taken up into the throne room of God where the governmental decisions are made. We have seen the **brilliance** of God's glory and throne; the 24 elders, **unfallen** beings who carry out God's commands. Also present are the seven spirits (angels) who will pass out the judgments; a sea of glass reflecting the **colors** of Heaven's beauty. Then there are the four beasts full of eyes. One was like a **lion**-then a **calf**-then a **man**, and the last like an **eagle**. These four beasts are in charge of **protocol** around the throne. Heaven's throne room is filled with praise and worship of God.

- A. **Revelation 4:8** - And the four beasts had each of them six wings about *him*; and *they were* full of eyes within: and they rest not day and night, saying, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come.

The four beasts (cherubs) have six wings because of their continued activity. Their job is **never**-ending as they chant "Holy, Holy, Holy to the triune God and His eternity (was-is-is to come).

- B. **Revelation 4:9-11** - And when those beasts give glory and honour and thanks to him that sat on the throne, who liveth for ever and ever, **Rev. 4:10** The four and twenty elders fall down before him that sat on the throne, and worship him that liveth for ever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying, **Rev. 4:11** Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.

1. The four beasts and 24 elders owe their **existence** to their Creator-God. They all bow down to their **Sovereign** with the 24 elders casting their crowns before His throne in worship to Him. Everything they are and have is of **God**. He is worthy.

Daniel 4:35 - And all the inhabitants of the earth *are* reputed as nothing: and he doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and *among* the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, What doest thou?

2. It is good to remind ourselves again that God is the creator of all things. Out of **nothing** came something as He **spoke** the universe into existence. We are not here because of **evolution**! Not only did God create us, but created everything-everyone (angelic-man) because He could and did it for His **own** pleasure.

- C. **Revelation 5:1** - And 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.

1. Most ancient books, were not bound but **rolled** up into a scroll. Here, there is writing on **both** sides of the scroll and then sealed with hot wax. The final seal was on the outside. When read, the first seal was broken...read, and then the **next** seal was broken and that portion read...until the whole scroll was read.
2. The contents contain a record of **judgments** that will fall during the Tribulation, **one** at a time.

Note: **Revelation 6:1** - [opened one of the seals]; **Rev. 6:3** [opened the second seal].

*These seal judgments relate to Daniel.

Daniel 12:4, 8-9 - 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. **Dan 12:8** And I heard, but I understood not: then said I, O my Lord, what *shall be* the end of these *things*? **Dan 12:9** And he said, Go thy way, Daniel: for the words *are* closed up and sealed till the time of the end.

- D. 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?
1. Gabriel's name means "strength of God". Could it be this angel?
 2. The question is who has the right and ability to open the sealed book. Not even the strongest angel could. It also goes to who is worthy to open this book.
 3. Also contained in all of this is who has the right-power to overthrow the present world's evil system, take the title deed to earth back, and then set up God's Kingdom on earth?
- E. Revelation 5:3 - And no man in heaven, nor in earth, neither under the earth, was able to open the book, neither to look thereon.
- *The search went through the heavens, the earth, even under the earth, but no one could be found. The worthiness required is so great that no created being is able to open the book. As a matter of record, the message is so serious that no angel or mortal is to even view it.
- F. Revelation 5:4 - And I wept much, because no man was found worthy to open and to read the book, neither to look thereon.
- John sobs in shame for the entire human race's failure. If not opened, the bondage of Satan's grip on this world would continue. Also, that meant all the promises to the patriarchs and prophets would not be fulfilled, removing the hope of Israel being restored.
- G. Revelation 5:5 - And 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.
1. An elder breaks the silence, helping John dry his eyes. This was because there was One who could open the book-the Lion of the tribe of Judah was there (Christ).
Genesis 49:10 - The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him *shall* the gathering of the people *be*.
 2. The other title was the Root of David (Christ).
Isaiah 11:1, 10 - And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots: Isa. 11:10 And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an en sign of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek: and his rest shall be glorious.
*This all has to do with Israel as it shows.
 3. [prevailed] This is referring to Calvary. Since Christ endured the cross, despising the shame, looked for the joy ahead, He is worthy to open the seal of judgments and fulfill its contents.
- H. Revelation 5:6 - And 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.
1. John looks for a Lion, but he sees the Lamb. Seeing Christ as the Lamb shows that Christ paid the redemption price which gave Him the right to be the only one who could open the book. [as it had been slain] Christ still has the scars from His death.

2. Christ [standing] testifies of His resurrection. But also, there is another big reason He is standing. It is a fulfillment of prophecy.

Psalms 7:6 - Arise, O LORD, in thine anger, lift up thyself because of the rage of mine enemies: and awake for me *to* the judgment *that* thou hast commanded.

Psalms 94:1-2 - O LORD God, to whom vengeance belongeth; O God, to whom vengeance be longeth, shew thyself. Psa. 94:2 Lift up thyself, thou judge of the earth: render a reward to the proud.

- a. *Hebrew children understood the significance of the Psalms prophecies.
- b. So did the religious leaders in Israel, who understood that when God-Messiah stood, it was referring to God's vengeance on His enemies on earth.

Acts 7:55-58 - But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up stedfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God, Acts 7:56 And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God. Acts 7:57 Then they cried out with a loud voice, and stopped their ears, and ran upon him with one accord, Acts 7:58 And cast *him* out of the city, and stoned *him*: and the witnesses laid down their clothes at a young man's feet, whose name was Saul.

3. [seven horns] Speaks of Christ's power. His absolute authority over His entire creation to recover what was lost since the fall. He is omnipotent.
4. [seven eyes] "are the seven spirits...sent forth...earth." These angels are sent out to unleash the judgments from the book.

- I. Revelation 5:7 - And he came and took the book out of the right hand of him that sat upon the throne.

Creation has waited for this moment! As the Father proudly gives His Son the title deed to all creation, the Father acknowledges before all in Heaven, that His Son...the Lamb-living, is the rightful kinsman redeemer of the world. It is a moment of moments!

*This book of judgments would begin the process to:

Daniel 7:13-14 - I saw in the night visions, and, behold, *one* like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him. Dan. 7:14 And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion *is* an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom *that* which shall not be destroyed.

- J. Revelation 5:8 - And 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.

1. All Heaven breaks out in praise and worship because this meant Satan and all God's enemies would soon be stopped, judged, evicted, and Israel restored.
2. [harps] Music is an essential part of worship. It filled the temple on earth as it does in Heaven (earth, a reflexion of Heaven).

*As Revelation is to and about Israel, it is interesting about harps. When in captivity, Israel hung up her harps, signifying she had lost her song. But now, it is going to be regained with her harps of music and joy.

3. [golden vials] (bowls) As incense rises up as a sweet fragrance, these bowls do also. They contain, after thousands of years, the prayers of the saints. Here, God doesn't forget their prayers of peace for Jerusalem, deliverance from oppressors. Thy Kingdom come, and a vengeance for Israel's martyrs.

Luke 18:7-8 - And shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them? Luke 18:8 I tell you that he will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?

*Remember: Revelation 8:3-4 - And 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. Rev. 8:4 And the smoke of the incense, *which came* with the prayers of the saints, ascended up before God out of the angel's hand.

- K. Revelation 5:9 - And 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;

1. These Heavenly beings who do not need salvation, sing about redemption for those who are redeemed! Remember, the four beasts sing (cherubims); perhaps they lead this new song, and sing on behalf of Israel. All the prophetic promises are about to be fulfilled through Christ.
2. Their song is about the worthiness of Christ the Lamb because, by His blood, redemption's price has been paid. But also needed is the Lamb's power-authority to cast out the usurper.

*Since this is dealing with Israel, all these saints are those who have been scattered around the earth...but they are still Jews! (Like Acts 2) The next verse coincides with Israel's program.

- L. Revelation 5:10 - And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.

[kings and priests] is promised to Israel:

Exodus 19:5-6 - Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth *is* mine: Exodus 19:6 And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation. These *are* the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel.

Isaiah 61:6 - But ye shall be named the Priests of the LORD: *men* shall call you the Ministers of our God: ye shall eat the riches of the Gentiles, and in their glory shall ye boast yourselves.

1 Peter 2:9 - But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:

Revelation 1:6, 20:4, 6 - And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him *be* glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen. Rev. 20:4 And 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. Rev. 20:6 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.

- M. Revelation 5:11 - 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;

All Heaven breaks loose in praise and worship of the Lamb. The number conveys the thought of innumerable or the number cannot be estimated.

- N. Revelation 5:12 - 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;

The entire Heaven rocks with praise of the Lamb for His Work (DBR). His attributes here are seven, showing His perfection and completeness. *It is all justly due Him-He's worthy.

- O. Revelation 5:13- And 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.

Universal sounds of adoration come from the angels and redeemed men and women from everywhere to the Father-Son. This praise could even include creation and animals.

Psalms 98:7-9 - Let the sea roar, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.

Psa. 98:8 Let the floods clap their hands: let the hills be joyful together Psa. 98:9 Before the LORD; for he cometh to judge the earth: with righteousness shall he judge the world, and the people with equity.

Psalms 148:7-10 - Praise the LORD from the earth, ye dragons, and all deeps: Psa. 148:8 Fire, and hail; snow, and vapour; stormy wind fulfilling his word: Psa. 148:9 Mountains, and all hills; fruitful trees, and all cedars: Psa. 148:10 Beasts, and all cattle; creeping things, and flying fowl:

Romans 8:21-22 - Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. Rom. 8:22 For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now.

- P. Revelation 5:14 - And the four beasts said, Amen. And the four *and* twenty elders fell down and worshipped him that liveth for ever and ever.

What a scene John is seeing. The cherubims say, "amen," (so be it) and the twenty-four elders fall before the throne of majesty in worship. How could they not?

Note: We have seen the Heavenly side of the picture in Chapters 4-5. Those in Heaven say, "amen! " But now, beginning in Chapter 6, we will see the earthly side. The opening up of the first seal judgment starts the Tribulation.