

Fulfilled Prophecies

[Home](#)

>

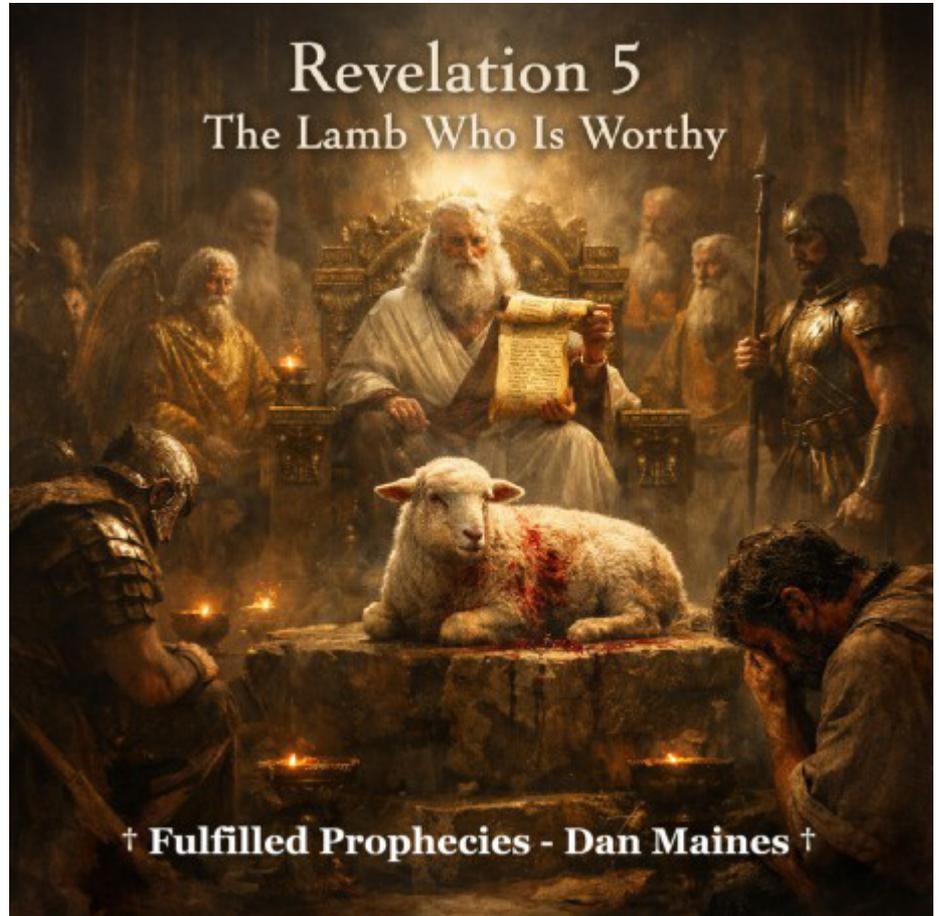
[R](#)

>

[Share on Facebook](#)

[FACEBOOK LINK](#)

Revelation 5 The Lamb Who Is Worthy



By Dan Maines

Revelation 5 The Lamb Who Is Worthy

Introduction

† Revelation 5 continues the throne room scene revealed in the previous chapter. God sits upon His throne, and heaven waits for the moment when His sealed decree will be opened.

† The focus of this chapter is not merely a scroll but the authority required to open it. The question of heaven is simple but profound. Who is worthy?

† From the fulfilled perspective, the scroll contains the covenant judgment that would unfold in that generation, leading to the

destruction of Jerusalem and the passing of the Old Covenant order (Matthew 24:34).

† This chapter reveals that only the Lamb has the authority to reveal God's decrees and bring His covenant purposes to completion.

† The opening of the scroll begins the judgments described in the following chapters, corresponding to the covenant curses that came upon Israel for rejecting the Messiah (Deuteronomy 28; Matthew 23:35-36).

Revelation 5:1

I saw in the right hand of Him who sat on the throne a scroll written inside and on the back, sealed up with seven seals.

† The scroll represents God's covenant purposes and judgment that were about to unfold in history.

† A scroll written on both sides indicates completeness. Nothing more could be added to what God had already decreed (Ezekiel 2:9-10).

† The seven seals represent divine completeness and authority. Only the one with God's authority could open them.

† This reminds us that history unfolds according to God's written decree.

† Daniel was told to seal up his prophecy until the time of the end (Daniel 12:4). The scroll in Revelation shows that what was once sealed in Daniel is now being opened by Christ.

† Daniel 12:9 again speaks of words sealed until the time of the end. Revelation reveals that the time had arrived for those sealed judgments to be fulfilled.

Revelation 5:2-3

And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, Who is worthy to open the scroll and to break its seals? And no one in heaven, or on the earth, or under the earth was able to open the scroll or to look into it.

† The angel's proclamation reveals the inability of all creation.

† No angel, prophet, king, or priest had the authority to reveal God's sealed decree.

† This highlights the uniqueness of Christ as Redeemer and Judge (Hebrews 1:3).

† Redemption and judgment required the victory of the Lamb.

Revelation 5:4

Then I began to weep greatly because no one was found worthy to open the scroll or to look into it.

† John's weeping reveals the seriousness of the moment.

† If no one could open the scroll, God's redemptive plan would remain hidden.

† His sorrow reflects the longing of the early church for the vindication Christ promised in their generation (Matthew 16:27-28).

† The unfolding of redemption and judgment depended on the Lamb.

Revelation 5:5

And one of the elders said to me, Stop weeping; behold, the Lion that is from the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has overcome so as to open the scroll and its seven seals.

† The elder identifies the one who is worthy.

† The Lion of Judah fulfills Genesis 49:9-10, where the Messiah is promised to come from Judah.

† The Root of David fulfills Isaiah 11:1, revealing Christ as the promised king from David's line.

† He overcame through His death and resurrection, securing authority over heaven and earth (Matthew 28:18).

Revelation 5:6

And I saw between the throne with the four living creatures and the elders a Lamb standing, as if slaughtered, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent out into all the earth.

† John hears about a Lion but sees a Lamb.

† Christ conquers through sacrifice rather than earthly force.

† The Lamb standing as if slaughtered shows that the cross was the victory that overcame the world (John 16:33).

† The seven horns symbolize perfect power, and the seven eyes symbolize perfect knowledge through the Spirit (Zechariah 4:10).

Revelation 5:7-8

And He came and took the scroll out of the right hand of Him who sat on the throne. When He had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each one holding a harp and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints.

† The Lamb taking the scroll shows His authority to execute God's decree.

† Heaven responds with worship because the Lamb alone is worthy.

† The bowls of incense represent the prayers of the saints rising before God (Luke 18:7).

† The suffering church's prayers were not forgotten. God was about to answer them.

† These prayers include the cry for justice from persecuted believers, which appears again when the martyrs ask how long before God judges those who dwell on the earth (Revelation 6:9-10).

† Jesus promised that God would bring justice for His elect who cry out to Him day and night (Luke 18:7-8).

Revelation 5:9-10

And they sang a new song, saying, Worthy are You to take the scroll and to break its seals, for You were slaughtered, and You purchased people for God with Your blood from every tribe, language, people, and nation. You have made them into a kingdom and priests to our God, and they will reign upon the earth.

† The new song celebrates redemption through the blood of Christ.

† His sacrifice purchased people from every nation, fulfilling God's promise to Abraham (Genesis 22:18).

† Believers are made a kingdom and priests to God, fulfilling

Exodus 19:6.

† What Israel failed to accomplish under the Old Covenant, Christ accomplished through His redeemed people.

† Peter later confirmed this truth when he described believers as a royal priesthood and a holy nation (1 Peter 2:9).

† The kingdom promised by the prophets is the spiritual reign of Christ through His redeemed people.

Revelation 5:11-12

Then I looked, and I heard the voices of many angels around the throne and the living creatures and the elders, and the number of them was myriads of myriads, and thousands of thousands, saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered to receive power, wealth, wisdom, might, honor, glory, and blessing.

† The worship expands from the elders to countless angels.

† The phrase myriads of myriads shows an immeasurable number of heavenly beings.

† The sevenfold praise reflects the completeness of honor given to Christ.

† His sacrifice secured eternal authority and glory.

Revelation 5:13-14

And I heard every created thing which is in heaven, or on the earth, or under the earth, or on the sea, and all things in them, saying, To Him who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb, be the blessing, the honor, the glory, and the dominion forever and ever. And the four living creatures were saying, Amen. And the elders fell down and worshiped.

† The worship now includes all creation.

† This shows the equality of honor given to the Father and the Son (John 5:23).

† The elders falling down again represents submission to Christ's authority.

† Heaven and earth recognize the Lamb as sovereign Lord.

† Paul described this same universal recognition when he wrote that every knee will bow and every tongue will confess that

Jesus Christ is Lord (Philippians 2:10-11).

Historical References

† Justin Martyr affirmed that Christ receives the same honor and worship as the Father, demonstrating the divine authority of the Lamb revealed in Revelation.

† Irenaeus treated the book of Revelation as authoritative Scripture and referenced the vision of the Lamb and the throne as part of God's revealed plan of redemption.

† Early Christian writers consistently recognized the Lamb imagery in Revelation as referring to Christ's sacrificial death and victorious authority.

How It Applies To Us Today

† Christ alone is worthy to open God's purposes and direct the course of history.

† Our redemption rests entirely on the blood of the Lamb.

† Our prayers rise before God just like the incense seen in heaven.

† Christ reigns now, and His kingdom continues to grow as the gospel spreads.

Q And A Appendix

Q: Why could no one open the scroll?

A: Because only Christ conquered sin and death and therefore possesses the authority to reveal God's covenant plan (Hebrews 1:3; Revelation 5:5).

Q: Why is Jesus called both the Lion and the Lamb?

A: He is the Lion who conquers and the Lamb who was sacrificed. His victory came through His death and resurrection (Genesis 49:9-10; John 1:29).

Q: What are the prayers of the saints in the bowls?

A: They represent the cries of believers asking God for justice and deliverance, which God answers according to His timing (Luke 18:7-8; Revelation 6:9-10).

Q: Why does all creation worship the Lamb?

A: Because Christ shares the authority and glory of God and is

worthy of the same honor (John 5:23; Philippians 2:10-11; Revelation 5:13).

Q: What is the scroll that the Lamb opens?

A: It represents the unfolding of God's covenant judgment and redemption that would take place in that generation (Daniel 12:4; Daniel 12:9; Matthew 23:35-36).

Q: How does Revelation connect to Daniel's sealed prophecy?

A: Daniel was told to seal the prophecy until the time of the end, but Revelation shows the Lamb opening what was sealed because the appointed time had arrived (Daniel 12:4; Daniel 12:9).

Q: Why was John told to stop weeping?

A: Because Christ had already overcome through His death and resurrection, giving Him the authority to open the scroll and reveal God's plan (Revelation 5:5; John 16:33; Matthew 28:18).

Q: What does the scroll being sealed with seven seals represent?

A: It represents the complete and divinely sealed decree of God that no one could reveal or execute except the Lamb who was worthy (Revelation 5:1; Daniel 12:4; Daniel 12:9).

Q: Why are believers called a kingdom and priests?

A: Because through the blood of Christ they serve God directly and represent His kingdom on the earth, fulfilling God's promise to make His people a royal priesthood (Revelation 5:9-10; Exodus 19:6; 1 Peter 2:9).

Q: Why does heaven worship the Lamb together with the one on the throne?

A: Because the Lamb shares the divine authority and glory of God, and all creation recognizes His rightful dominion (John 5:23; Philippians 2:10-11; Revelation 5:13-14).

† This is the fulfilled perspective we proclaim at Fulfilled Prophecies †

© Fulfilled Prophecies - Dan Maines.

Source Index

† Revelation 5:1-14; Ezekiel 2:9-10; Genesis 49:9-10; Isaiah

11:1; Matthew 24:34; Matthew 16:27-28; Matthew 28:18;
Hebrews 1:3; John 16:33; Zechariah 4:10; Luke 18:7-8;
Genesis 22:18; Exodus 19:6; John 5:23; Daniel 12:4; Daniel
12:9; Revelation 6:9-10; 1 Peter 2:9; Deuteronomy 28; Matthew
23:35-36; Philippians 2:10-11
† Justin Martyr, Dialogue With Trypho; Irenaeus, Against
Heresies

Share on Facebook

Links

Facebook Link

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1349070089314462/posts/1968434534044678/>

Fulfilled Prophecies <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1349070089314462/>

Dan Maines

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1349070089314462/user/100001027365819/>

You may share this article freely without permission as long as you include credit to Dan Maines and/or a link to the Fulfilled Prophecies Group.