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## ***Worthy is the Lamb***

*Revelation 5:1-14*

Of all who have sought (or will seek) to conquer and rule the world, only Jesus Christ has the right and power to conquer the world and universe; not only from the powers of men but from the power of sin and Satan. This is described in the vision of Revelation 5 as Christ is pictured as the Worthy Lamb who takes the scroll from the right hand of the Father. This scroll contains God's sovereign will for the ultimate destiny of man and this world. It represents the "title deed" to all that God the Father promised Jesus Christ because of His sacrifice on the cross (Psalm 2:8; Heb. 1:2). It was a scroll that contained God's judgment at the end of the world (Daniel 8:26 and 12:4). The Lamb's action (taking the scroll) teaches us that since Jesus Christ is creation's only redeemer, we must recognize His worthiness and respond with eternal worship.

### ***1. \_\_\_\_\_?***

In verse 2, God's angel asks; "Who is worthy and who is able to receive and open the scroll?" The great silence says that no one is able and no one is worthy of this task (none in heaven, none on earth and none under the earth can produce the person that could possibly establish the kingdom of God). If no one opens the scroll then the kingdom will never come (this sin-cursed world will never change, Paradise will never be restored, sin will never be removed, Satan will continue to rule this world and Christ will not be exalted and man will never have any hope at all). John was utterly frustrated as he began to be filled with sorrow (Rev. 5:4) until in verse 5, John is comforted by one of the elders by announcing that there is Someone Who is worthy and able to take the scroll and open its seals.

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### ***2. \_\_\_\_\_?***

Jesus Christ is worthy because of Who He is. He is the Lion of the tribe of Judah (Gen. 49:8-10; Matt. 2:6; Micah 5:2; 2 Sam. 7:12ff; Psalm 78:68-69; 89:28,35-36). Christ is pictured as a Lion because of His role as judge and ruler. He is also the Root of David (Isaiah 11:1,10). Christ announced and took this title for Himself (Rev. 22:16). Jesus Christ is of the seed of David says Matt.1:1,20; 9:27; 12:23; 15:22; 20:30-31; 21:9,15; 22:42). Christ has overcome the power of death and Satan and the bondage of sin through His death on the cross (John 12:31; Heb. 2:14; 1 John 3:8; Col. 1:13; 2:13-15). He is Lamb of God. A lamb as though it had been slain. If the Lion is the symbol of the exalted Christ, the Lamb is the symbol of the humiliation of Christ (Phil. 2:5-8; John 1:29, 1 Peter 1:9; Isaiah 53:7).

The lamb is described as having seven horns, which represents fullness of power (Deut. 33:17; 1 Sam 2:10; Psalm 18:2; 75:10; 112:9) and seven eyes which symbolizes full and perfect knowledge, God's omniscience (2 Chro. 16:9; Zech. 3:9; 4:10; Col 2:3). The taking of the scroll by the Lamb from the Father symbolizes the fact that Christ is the only qualified and worthy Mediator between God and man. This symbolizes His coronation (Heb. 2:8-9; Phil 2:6-11).

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3. \_\_\_\_\_?

As the Lamb takes the scroll and accepts the office of King of the universe, there was a great burst of triumph and exuberant joy in three doxologies. First, there was the Worship of the Four Living Creatures & Twenty-Four Elders. They fell down before the Lamb which is an act of recognition for one's authority (Gen. 50:18; 1 Kings 1:53; Esther 8:3; Matt. 18:26,29; Mark 3:11 and Luke 5:8) and an act of worship and reverence (Dan 3:7; Matt 2:11; Acts 10:25; Rev. 19:4; 22:8). There was singing in a new song (Psalm 33:3; 40:3; 98:1; 96:1; 144:9; 149:1) which spoke of the new mercies of God.

The worship continues with the myriad of Angels. The entire choir of angels speaks about the Lamb who is worthy to receive seven things: power, riches, wisdom, strength, honor, glory and blessing (Col. 1:16-17; 2:3-4,9; Rev. 7:20). The worship culminates with of the whole creation chiming in (Rom. 8:19-22; Psalm 148).

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The highest occupation of every living creature in the universe is worship to the true God. We worship God because He has created us and because Jesus Christ our Lamb has redeemed us. Indeed, Worthy is the Lamb! (Phil. 1:22-23).