

WHO IS WORTHY TO OPEN THE BOOK?
REV. 5:1-7

Introduction:

- A. John saw a door opened in heaven. Chapter 4
 - 1. A voice bade him come up. v1
 - 2. He immediately went up. v2

- B. John saw God on His throne.
 - 1. There were 4 "living ones" = beasts.
 - 2. There were 24 "elders."

- C. They all gave glory to and worshipped God as the creator.
 - 1. v8,9 -"Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God."
 - 2. vii, "Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory, honor and power; for thou hast created..."

I. GOD HAD A BOOK IN HIS RIGHT HAND. v1

- A. "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. book == biblion - a paper, a letter, a roll.
 - 2. sealed = kata sphragizo - to seal down.
 - 3. Seven seals, Seven witnesses, Roman law.

- B. "Ezekiel saw a similiar book of judgment."
 - 1. Ezek. 2:9,10, [747 B.C.]
 - 2. "a roll of a book was written...within and without"

II. WHO IS WORTHY TO OPEN THE BOOK? 2,3

- A. "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. strong = ischuros - physically strong, mighty.

2. proclaiming = kerusso - announce publicly.
3. loud = megas - great in force and intensity.
4. worthy - aksios - of equal value.

B. "And no man in heaven, nor in earth, neither under the earth, was able to open the book, neither to look thereon."

1. no man in heaven.
2. no man in earth.
3. no man under the earth.
 - a. under = hupokato - down under, underneath.
4. able = dunatos - having inherent moral power, capable of doing, strong.
5. No one was able to even look on it!

[WHERE ARE THE POPES, SAINTS, EVANGELISTS, FAKERS, FRAUDS?]

IV. THE BITTER DISAPPOINTMENT OF JOHN. V4

A. "And I wept much, because no man was found worthy to open and to read the book, neither to look thereon."

1. wept much = elaiō - to cry, to weep aloud.
2. found = heurisko - to discover with search.
3. Will this end all. John had suffered many disappointments.

B. Why is this book important?

1. It is the book of redemption, complete.
2. It is the book of judgment, the final righting of all wrongs! in heaven and on the earth.

IV. THE ONE WHO IS WORTHY. V5,6

A. "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 seals thereof."

1. The Lion sprung from Judah.

2. The foundation of Davidic hopes.
 3. "He hath prevailed." = enimesen = nikao. To win a victory, to be a victor, to overcome.
 4. loose = luo - to unbind.
- B. "And I beheld, and lo, in the midst of the throne and of the beasts, and in the midst of the elders."
1. throne, beasts, elders.
 2. midst = mess - middle.
- C. "stood a lamb as it had been slain."
1. stood = istemi - to stand, standfast.
 2. lamb = annios - a pet lamb, gentle.
 3. slain = sphazo - to slaughter, to slay.
- D. "having seven horns, and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent forth into all the earth."
1. horns = keras - a horn of a beast, power.
 2. eyes = ophthalmos - the eye.
 3. The seven spirits.
 4. Isaiah 11:1-3. [640 B.C.]

V. THE BOOK TAKEN FROM THE FATHER. V7

- A. "and he came and took the book out of the right hand of him that sat on the throne."
1. The greatest act of the ages!
 2. took = lambano - to take with the hands.
 3. He is the "Goel", the only mediator.
- B. This is the beginning of the end.
1. The world will be subdued.
 2. The second Adam begins his reign.
 3. Rev. 6:1-2.

page 54

VI. STRIVE TO BE AN OVERCOMER.

- A. Trust in Jesus Christ.
- B. Receive scriptural baptism.
- C. Live a life of service.
 - 1. Attend church.
 - 2. Witness.
 - 3. Give your influence and money.