

## Revelation 5

The setting here  
Chapters 4-5 The "Coronation" of the King

vv. 1-6

### Seven Seals

Seals provided secrecy, and certification of who it came from, and who could open it up; these are not the wax seals of the renaissance

Bitumen: an oily, tar like soft rock or glob

Bulla: made of clay and later metal; note Sumerian origin and use

Sealing makes a thing final

\*no one in heaven or earth can open them: lacks authority

Why: He is not of heaven or earth but far before

\*lion of Judah: ref. Genesis 29:35: 4<sup>th</sup> son of Jacob from verb for "to praise"  
(From Leah) Death bed blessings: Genesis 49:8 ff.

King David was of the House of Judah (born in Bethlehem)

"House of Bread" place where sacrificial lambs were bred

v. 6 *the Spirits of the Lord, and the Spirits of wisdom, of understanding, of counsel, of might, of knowledge and of/ear of the LORD (the Mind of God)*

*"You, Judah, shall your brothers praise  
-your hand on the neck of your enemies;  
the sons of your father shall bow down to you.  
Judah is a lion's cub,  
you have grown up on prey, my son.  
He crouches, lies down like a lion,  
like a lioness-who would dare rouse his  
The scepter shall never depart from Judah,  
or the mace from between his feet,  
Until tribute comes to him,!  
and he receives the people's obedience.  
He tethers his donkey to the vine,  
his donkey's foal to the choicest stem.  
In wine he washes his garments,  
his robe in the blood of grapes ("he has trampled out the vintage where the. ")  
His eyes are darker than wine,  
and his teeth are whiter than milk.*

*"Zebulun shall dwell by the seashore;  
he will be a haven for ships,  
and his flank shall rest on Sidon.*

vv. 7-14 The arrival of the Lamb

Why is Jesus name not used? Apocalyptic is a coded system of communication - the inner circle know but heathen do not the entry of the Lamb, with symbols of worship offered by the elders

incense ref Temple and Emperor

harps: rejoicing

hymns: addressed to God (note metrical setting)

v. 9: from every tribe and nation, ie beyond Biblical Israel

v. 11: countless in number (lit: 10,000 myriads of myriads, (100 million) plus thousands often thousands (tech myriad+ 10,000")

vi. "ransomed: a NT reference several times ref. 1 Peter 18-19

*"You were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ like that of a lamb without blemish or spot" 1 Peter 18-19.*

vi. blessing: in Judaism, one blesses God not mere objects (ref. in the Mass

v. 13: every creature- even the fish! Christ is the universal Lord

v. 14 The four living creatures

\*the lamb as horns (power) and eyes (knowledge)

It is the instrument of God's wrath on the ungodly

\*harps: celebration

Gold bowls of incense: prayers of the saint (note funeral ritual)