The Revelation of Jesus Christ – Revelation Chapter 5

Bible Study Notes

Outline of the Chapter – The Lamb and the Seven Sealed Scroll

Verses 1-4	The Seven Sealed Scroll
Verses 5-7	The Lamb
Verses 8-10	The Song of the Elders
Verses 11-12	The Proclamation of the Angels & All in Heaven
Verses 13-14	The Proclamation of Every Creature

Revelation Chapter 5 verses 1-4: The Seven Sealed Scroll

V 1 A Scroll

What is in the Hand of the one on the Throne?

A Scroll (Greek: *biblion*)

Some translations say 'book' but it is a scroll Books only came in after 2nd century AD

The scroll is in the right hand of 'Him who sat on the throne' - God the Father

• God the Father holds this book in his right hand, to declare the authority of the book, and His readiness and resolution to execute all the contents thereof, all the counsels and purposes therein recorded

The scroll is written on both the inside and the back

The scroll is sealed with seven seals (Greek: *sphragis*)

- Sealed: It is known to none but God Himself, until He allows it to be opened
 Known unto God, and to Him alone, are all his works from the beginning of the world; but it is His glory to conceal the matter as He pleases
 - Times and seasons, and their great events, He has kept in his own hand and power
- Sealed with Seven Seals: This tells us with what inscrutable secrecy the counsels of God are laid, how impenetrable by the eye and intellect of the creature
 - Seal a *signet* (as fencing in or protecting from misappropriation); by implication the *stamp* impressed (as a mark of privacy, or genuineness)
 - $\circ~$ Romans sealed their wills seven times on the edge at each roll to prevent unauthorized entry
 - Hebrew title deeds required a minimum of three witnesses and three separate seals, with more important transactions requiring more witnesses and seals

What do we know about scrolls?

Scrolls were typically made of Papyrus:

- Papyrus, or bulrushes, were 15ft high, 6 ft under water and thick as a man's wrist
- Pith was extracted and cut into thin strips with a sharp knife

- Rows were laid out vertically and then horizontally, moistened with water and glue they were then pressed together, beaten with a mallet and smoothed with pumice stone
- This made a type of paper, with two distinct sides
 - Recto the front side: with horizontal grain (where writing was normally done)
 Verso the back side: with vertical grain it was very rough.
- A sheet that was written on the back was called an '*opisthograph*' a sheet 'written behind' it was very unusual since it was rough and uneven
- This paper was cut and put into rolls (scrolls) so that the rough side (on which normally nothing was written) was on the outside
- Commonly, scrolls were 8 x 10 sheets, joined horizontally; written in narrow (3 inch) columns; 2.5 inches in top and bottom margins; 0.75 inches between the columns; rolled on a wooden roller
- Scrolls of Books of the Bible would vary in length:

0	Jude, John 2 & 3, Philemon	1 sheet each
0	Romans	11.5 ft long
0	Mark	19 ft long
0	John	23.5 ft long
0	Matthew	30 ft long
0	Luke & Acts	32 ft long each
0	Revelation	15ft long

What is the significance of the scroll having writing on the back and seven seals?

Writing on the back (the outside) were normally instructions about its opening

- Such a scroll was a legal document, typical of various kinds of contracts in the ancient world, including deeds, marriage contracts, rental and lease agreements, and wills
- The inside of the scroll contained all the details of the contract

The Writing on the Back would indicate who could open it and who could read it

Jeremiah's Scroll of Purchase (Title Deed) of Land - Jeremiah 32: 6-15

- Jeremiah knows that Israel is about to go into 70 years of captivity, yet he is instructed by the Lord to buy a plot of land
- Buying the field was a sign that a remnant would return to the land
- There was evidence of purchase sealed and open buried in an earthen vessel
- At the return of the remnant on finding the scroll in the earthen vessel if one could comply with the requirements written on the outside then one could open the scroll and claim the property

Seals could only be broken (opened) by one qualified to do so - as dictated by what was written on the back (outside) of the scroll

Seals are a stamp of authority and authenticity

- Abraham's justification was through faith, yet he was circumcised as a seal of that justification (*Romans 4: 11*)
- Believers are sealed the Lord knows those who belong to Him (2 *Timothy 2: 19*) and are sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise (*Ephesians 1: 14*), the promise of eternal life

• Sealed Scrolls in Scripture - see Daniel 12: 4-9; Revelation 10: 4; Ezekiel 2: 9-10; Zechariah 5: 1-4; Isaiah 29: 11-24

So what is this seven sealed scroll?

In this case, it almost certainly is a deed – the title deed to the earth

• This title deed is that forfeited, through sin, by the first Adam (Genesis 3: 22-24)

It is (as Revelation chapters 6 to 19 reveal) a scroll of judgements on the earth – that must take place before the Lord Jesus takes His throne and sets up His kingdom – thus restoring divine order and rule to the earth and mankind

V 2 Who is Worthy?

A strong angel (possibly an archangel) asks "Who is worthy to open the scroll and to loose the seals?"

- The identity of this angel is not stated it is probably an archangel
- It is not that there are any weak ones among the angels in heaven
- It may refer to the angel Gabriel, whose name means "strength of God" (Daniel 8: 16)

The question is asked with 'a loud voice' – Greek: $megas ph\bar{o}n\bar{e}$ – a proclamation to all of heaven and earth

The question is like a challenge issued to all creation – who is worthy?

Who meets the requirements for opening this title deed to the earth which are written on the back of the scroll?

V 3 No One is found who is Worthy

'No one' (Greek: *oudeis*) a literal rendering of 'no man' – is found to be worthy (KJV translates this as 'no man')

- In all of heaven (angels, redeemed saints), or on the earth (mankind), or under the earth (mankind that had died) denoting the entire universe no one is found who is worthy
- 'Under the earth' may also refer to Satan & fallen angels

What would be the requirements of the man who is worthy?

- <u>Heritage</u>: A Man it had to be a man to open the scroll– a kinsman of Adam
 Yeshua, the Son of God, was incarnate by the Holy Spirit (*Matthew 1: 20-21*; *Luke 1: 31-35*)
- <u>Ability</u>: The Price to Acquire this Title Deed had to be Paid a man untainted by sin for this scroll is a title deed to the earth (which the first Adam forfeited) a second, sinless, Adam is needed
 - Yeshua purchased this title deed with His blood (Colossians 1: 19-22)
- <u>Willingness</u>: The man had to be Willing to Pay the Price to acquire this Title Deed
 - God sent His Son out of love for mankind (John 3: 16)
 - Yeshua gave His life out of love (*John 15: 13; 1 John 3: 16*) *agapé* love, sacrificial love

<u>Obligations Fulfilled</u>: The man has to assume all the obligations of the beneficiaries
 Yeshua became sin for us (2 *Corinthians 5: 18-19, 21*) – through which we are declared righteous and reconciled to God

V 4 John Weeps

John 'wept much' – because no one was found worth; no one was worthy – to open, read, or (even) look upon it (inspect it)

• Wept – Greek *klaiō* – literally means sobbed convulsively

Why did John weep as he did?

John understood the tragedy of no one being found worthy – the earth, and mankind, would remain unredeemed – the wrongs of earth would go unrighted; that the righteous would never be vindicated, the wicked would go unpunished

- John understands that it must be 'a man' who opens the book
- The Kingdom of God could not come on the earth without the necessary purging of the earth from sin and rebellion and disorder

The Kinsman Redeemer

To understand this chapter we need to understand the biblical principle of 'the Kinsman Redeemer

This principle is best seen in the Book of Ruth

How is 'the Kinsman Redeemer' principle seen in the Book of Ruth?

The Kinsman Redeemer in the Book of Ruth

- Boaz is the 'Goel', the Kinsman-Redeemer
- By the Law of Redemption land for Naomi is redeemed

(Leviticus 25: 23-25, 47-55)

• By the Law of Levirate Marriage – Ruth becomes the bride of Boaz

(Deuteronomy 25: 5-10)

- $\circ~$ Boaz (Christ) takes a Ruth (a gentile) as his bride (the Church)
- $\circ~$ It is through Ruth (a gentile) that Naomi (a Jewess) has her land and her heritage restored
- It is through Ruth (a gentile) that Naomi (a Jewess) is restored to relationship with Boaz (Christ)
- Redemption is Sealed (*Philippians 2: 5-11*)
- Our Kinsman-Redeemer is Jesus Christ
 - He is a kinsman of Adam (Genesis 3: 15; 1 Corinthians 15: 20-26 and 45)
- To be a Kinsman-Redeemer:
 - Have to be a kinsman (Boaz Naomi : Christ Adam)
 - \circ Have to be able (Boaz wealth : Christ sinless)
 - Have to be willing (Boaz love for Ruth : Christ love for us)
 - Have to assume all the obligations of the beneficiary (Boaz redeems Naomi's land/ marries Ruth : Christ became sin for us)
- Yeshua is fully qualified to be our Kinsman-Redeemer See Supplementary Sheet 28: 'The Kinsman Redeemer – The Book of Ruth'

Revelation Chapter 5 verses 5-7: The Lamb

V 5 The 'Lion of the Tribe of Judah' Has Prevailed

Who tells John 'Do not weep'?

It is one of the Elders who tells John

Why would it be an Elder who tells him that 'The Lion...has prevailed'?

The Elders are redeemed saints – they know that their very presence in the Throne room is because Yeshua has prevailed over sin and death and hell – and that He is worthy

Who tells does the Elder say 'Has prevailed'?

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah, The Root of David - messianic titles

Prevailed (Greek: nikao) - overcome, conquer, triumph

What is the Origin and Meaning of these Titles?

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah

- Judah was the fourth of Jacob's sons, his mother was Leah
- Although only the fourth child of Jacob, Judah became the kingly line
 - The choice of Judah over all the other brothers is a bit of a mystery, and the Bible does not give an explicit reason for it
 - Some have suggested that the first three brothers disqualified themselves by their unrighteous behaviour
 - Reuben, the firstborn, violated his father's concubine, while Simeon and Levi went on to deceive and kill the men of Shechem in revenge for the rape of their sister
 - However, there are a few problems with thinking that righteousness "earns" the choice of God, or that lack of righteousness forfeits it
 - Firstly, their father Jacob was far from pure, yet he was clearly chosen
 - Secondly, Judah was not someone we could easily equate with righteousness either - read what he does in Genesis 38... it's scandalous!
- Judah's kingly line is identified in Jacob's last words to his sons in *Genesis 49: 8-12*
- Judah is a lion (the tribe's symbol) verse 9
- Judah has the sceptre of kingly rule verse 10
- On the march through the wilderness, Judah went first (*Numbers 10: 14*) and had the largest population in Moses' census (Numbers 26), cf. *Numbers 1: 26-27*
- To Judah's line belonged national prominence and kingship, including David, Solomon, and their dynasty (640 years after this), as well as "the one to whom the sceptre belongs"
 - Shiloh is a cryptogram for the Messiah, the one also called the "Lion of the Tribe of Judah"
- Messiah is prophetically pictured as a lion who returns to save His people see *Isaiah 31: 4-5*

Note re 'Jews' - a word whose root is in 'Judah'

- $\circ~$ It is from a root meaning "to praise" or "to give thanks"
- Jacob used this term during his blessing of his son Judah in *Genesis 49: 8* "Judah, your brothers will praise you"

- A Jew may be a person from the tribe of Judah (*Numbers 10: 14*), or an Israelite living in the geographical region known as Judah (see *Jeremiah 7: 30*)
- During the post-exilic period, "Jew" referred to the Israelites as a people group
- The use of the term Jew is also found in the New Testament Yeshua is called "the King of the Jews" (*Matthew 27: 29*)
- Later, Paul clarified that the true Jew is a person marked by "circumcision of the heart" (*Romans 2: 28-29*)

The Root of David

- David was a descendant of Judah (*Matthew 1: 1-6*)
- Messiah is anticipated in scripture as being a descendant of David, who with devastating force will compel the wicked of the earth to succumb to His authority see *Isaiah 11: 1-10*
 - This passage has a second coming and a millennial context
- Messiah's Davidic line and His being David's Root is the subject of an interchange between Yeshua and the Pharisees (*Matthew 22: 41-46*)
 - Yeshua asks the Pharisees "What do you think about the Christ? Whose Son is He?" to which they reply "The Son of David"
 - He then asks them a conundrum "How then does David in the Spirit call Him 'Lord," quoting *Psalm 110: 1*

Whose Titles are these?

They are Titles of Christ

- In chapter 1 there are 24 titles of Christ, some of which are used in the letters to the seven churches in chapters 2 & 3 none of those titles were 'Jewish'
- In chapter 5, and thereafter in Revelation, the titles of Christ are 'Jewish'
 - The Lion of the Tribe of Judah (*Genesis 49: 9; Isaiah 31: 4*)
 - \circ The Root of David
 - David (Isaiah 11: 1-2, 10) (Genesis 22: 8; John 1: 29; 1 Peter 1: 18-19)

V 6 The Lamb as though Slain

• The Lamb

What (who) does John see and what does his description tell us?

Hearing of a lion, John turns to see a lamb (Hebrew *arnion*, literally 'lambkin', a little 'pet lamb'), looking as though it had been slain

This is the Lamb which the Lord God provided (for all mankind) – Genesis 22: 8, 13-14

- God required the Jews to bring the Passover lamb into their houses four days, essentially making it a pet, before it was to be violently slain (*Exodus 12: 3, 6*)
- This is the true Passover Lamb, it is God's Son holy and without blemish (*Isaiah 53: 7; Jeremiah 11: 19; John 1: 29*)
- Yeshua is prophetically called by John 'The Lamb of God' and as one who was both his predecessor and greater than he (*John 1: 29-30*)

The Lamb is in the midst – of the throne, the four living creatures, and the elders

• A Lamb, Standing, as though it had been Slain (*Isaiah 53: 7*)

• Having Seven Horns – Symbol of:

• Power * (Deuteronomy 33: 17; 1 Kings 22: 11; Zechariah 1: 18-19; Psalm 75: 4)

* Note: He is to reign from Mt. Zion (Jerusalem) *Psalm 2: 6*

- Honour (1 Samuel 2: 1-10; Psalm 89: 17, 24-29; 112: 9-10; 148: 14)
- Having Seven Eyes perfect vision (*Zechariah 3: 8-9; 4: 10*)
- Seven Spirits of God perfect understanding (*Isaiah 11: 1-2*)

The Lamb looks as though it had been slain – the scars from its slaughter are still clearly visible; but it is standing – it is alive

The Lamb speaks of Christ's first coming; the Lion speaks of His second coming

Yeshua Ha Mashiach

• Lion – Jacob's final blessing on his sons – Genesis 49: 8-10

(compare Hosea 5: 14; Hebrews 7: 14)

- Root & Offspring of David see Isaiah 11: 1; Jeremiah 23: 5-6; Matthew 1: 1; Romans 1: 3; Revelation 22: 16
- Yeshua used the conundrum of Him being both the root and offspring of David to confound the Pharisees (*Matthew 22: 41-45*)
 - These titles Yeshua uses of Himself at His second coming (Revelation 22: 16)
 - He was the result of David's line, yet He was the one who brought David (and his line of descendants) into existence!
 - $\circ~$ In God's covenant with David, his line was to rule over the whole earth

Y

- His throne and rule was confirmed to Mary see *Luke 1: 32-33*
- Pilate's Epitaph of Christ "Jesus of Nazareth, The King of the Jews" to which the Pharisees objected *John 19: 19-22*
 - It was written in 3 languages Hebrew, Greek and Latin
 - In Hebrew (written right to left) the first letters of the words form an acrostic (probably the reason the Pharisees objected)

Of The Jews	The King	Of Nazareth	Jesus
HaYehudin	v Melech	HaNazarei	Yeshua

So, the first letters, in Hebrew, are H = W = H

Yahweh (YHWH); for the Jews - the unpronounceable Name of God

V 7 The Lamb takes the Scroll

What does the Lamb taking the scroll tell us?

The Lamb takes the scroll neither by violence, nor by fraud – but He prevailed to do it

Prevailed by His merit and worthiness – He did it by authority and by the Father's appointment

- <u>The Father</u>, very willingly and justly, put the book of his eternal counsels into the hand of Yeshua
- <u>Yeshua</u>, just as readily and gladly, took it into His hand for He delights to reveal and to do the will of his Father

² Samuel 7: 12-13; Psalm 2: 7-8

Can you see a Fulfilment of Psalm 2 in this verse?

Psalm 2 is a psalm of the Messiah's Triumph and Kingdom

Psalm 2, verse 8 is clearly fulfilled here

John Wesley, in his commentary, says of this verse: 'And he came - Here was "Ask of me," Psalm 2: 8, fulfilled in the most glorious manner. And took - it is one state of exaltation that reaches from our Lord's ascension to his coming in glory. Yet this state admits of various degrees. At his ascension, "angels, and principalities, and powers were subjected to him." Ten days after, he received from the Father and sent the Holy Ghost. And now he took the book out of the right hand of him that sat upon the throne - who gave it him as a signal of his delivering to him all power in heaven and earth. He received it, in token of his being both able and willing to fulfil all that was written therein.'

Revelation Chapter 5 verses 8-10: The Song of the Elders

When the Lamb takes the scroll – immediately, worship commences in the throne room

There now begins and ever widening song of praise – firstly the elders, then the angels and all in heaven, and then every creature (in heaven, on earth and under the earth)

V 8 The Four Living Creatures & the Elders Prostrate Themselves

What is the first thing that happens when the Lamb takes the scroll?

The Four Living Creatures and the Elders fall down (prostrate) - before the Lamb – the most profound adoration

The object of their worship - the Lamb, the Lord Jesus Christ; it is the declared will of God that all men should honour the Son as they honour the Father; for he has the same nature (*Philippians 2: 9-11*)

Each (most probably referring to the 24 elders)...each have:

- A harp (possible a lyre)
- Golden bowls full of incense
- The incense is the prayers of the saints possibly those in *Revelation 6: 9-10*

VS 9-10 The Song of the Elders

What do the Elders do?

They – it can only be referring to the 24 elders

They sing a <u>new song</u> – the implication is this is a new song in heaven

New - because until now what they sing of was not yet fully accomplished, until now

What do the Elders sing of the Lamb (v.9)?

• The Lamb is worthy – to take the scroll and open its seals – to execute judgement

• For you were slain

Isaiah 53: 7-8

- You have redeemed us by His sacrifice *Ephesians 1: 7; Colossians 1: 14*
- Yeshua's sacrificial death on behalf of sinners made Him worthy to take the scroll
- Out of every tribe, tongue, people and nation clearly implying it is the church of redeemed saints (these are not cherubim, seraphim, nor angels)

What do the Elders sing of Themselves (v10)?

- Have made us Kings & Priests can only be redeemed believers (the church) *1 Peter 2: 9; Revelation 1: 6*
- And we shall reign on the earth the elders (church) will reign with Christ in His millennial kingdom
 - In Daniel's prophetic dream when the 'fourth beast' (the last kingdom of the Antichrist) is defeated dominion is given to 'the saints of the Most High' see *Daniel 7: 26-27*
 - Faithful servants will be given responsibilities to rule by the Lord see Matthew 25: 20-23; Luke 19: 15-19
 - Saints will be given responsibility to judge see 1 Corinthians 6: 1-3
 - Saints who endure will reign with the Lord see 2 *Timothy 2: 12*
- Saints (sat on thrones) will be given judgement responsibilities and tribulation saints too will 'reign with Christ for a thousand years' *Revelation 20: 4*

What is the timing of this event?

Timing - The Twenty-Four Elders (redeemed saints) are in Heaven

- Before the Lamb takes the scroll
- Before the seals are opened
- Before the time of the wrath of God upon the earth (the Great Tribulation)
- The implication is clear the timing of the rapture of the church is pre-tribulation

Revelation Chapter 5 verses 11-12: The Proclamation of the Angels & All in Heaven

V 11 The Assembly in Heaven

What happens after the Elders song?

A proclamation by voices in heaven – loud voices (Greek: *megas phonē*)

Who is there?

The angels are around the throne, with the four living creatures and the elders

There are many – the description means literally myriads of myriad...a number beyond calculation

- 10,000 x 10,000 = 100,000,000 (one hundred million)
- And (also)...Thousands of thousands

There are an innumerable number of angels – see *Hebrews 12: 22* There are 4 Living Creatures

There are 24 Elders – representative of an innumerable number of saints in Heaven

- see Revelation 7: 9-10

V 12 The Proclamation of All in Heaven

What do All in Heaven Proclaim?

The proclamation is of Seven Possessions that belong to (are due to) the Lamb

They are due because He is worthy...because He was slain to redeem sinners (and the earth...to which the scroll is the title deed)

The Lamb's Seven Possessions:

- Power He is not one who can dream and never realise; plan but never achieve He is able see *Matthew 28: 18; 1 Corinthians 1: 24; Colossians 1: 16-17; Hebrews 1: 3; Mark 5: 1-20, 25-29, 35-43*
- Riches there is no claim on Him which He cannot satisfy, no promise He cannot carry out see 2 *Corinthians 8: 9; Ephesians 3: 8*
- Wisdom both secrets and practical knowledge
 - see 1 Corinthians 1: 24; James. 1: 5
- Strength which can even disarm the powers of evil and overthrow Satan see *Psalm 24: 8; Matthew 12: 29; Luke 11: 22*
- Honour before whom every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that He is Lord indeed – see *Philippians 2: 10-11; Psalm 104: 1; Psalm 8: 4-5 (cf. Hebrews 2; 7, 9)*
- Glory which is His alone see John 1: 14, 2: 11, 11: 4, 40, 17: 5, 24
- Blessing the inevitable climax of it all He pours out blessings on us, you and me see *Psalm 103: 1-2*

Revelation Chapter 5 verses 13-14: The Proclamation of Every Creature

V 13 The Proclamation of Every Creature

Who makes this Proclamation?

Every creature - indicating all of God's creation, everything He created

• Scripture tells us that the Lamb Himself was the author of creation - see *Colossians 1: 16*

The group is the same as in verse 3: 'in heaven and on the earth and under the earth'

Every creature in heaven (angels, redeemed saints), and on the earth (mankind), and under the earth (mankind that had died), and sea creatures – denoting the entire universe Verse 13 parallels *Philippians 2: 10* – every knee bowing and every tongue confessing that Jesus is Lord

'Under the earth' may also refer to Satan & fallen angels – but unlikely...since this is a proclamation of worship to the Lamb

What do All in Heaven Proclaim?

A four-fold word of praise to the Father (to Him who sits on the throne) and to the Lamb:

• <u>Blessing</u> (Greek: *eulogia*, meaning 'fine speaking) – praising Him with elegance of language in commendation and reverential adoration – we bless Him because He has blessed us (*Ephesians 1: 3*)

- <u>Honour</u> (Greek: *timē*, meaning value) esteem of the highest degree, of His person and His dignity recognition of His value and worth Yeshua the sacrificial Lamb is now crowned with Honour & Glory (*Hebrews 2: 9*)
- <u>Glory</u> (Greek: *doxa*, meaning great praise and distinction or fame) acknowledging His high reputation – with highest praise, worship with thanksgiving – Yeshua in His incarnation revealed His and the Father's glory (*John 1: 14, 2: 11*)
 - From the Greek word '*doxa*' we get the word 'doxology'...a hymn or form of words containing an ascription of praise to God
- <u>Power</u> (Greek: *kratos*, meaning great vigour) acknowledging His might and strength, and recognising His ruling dominion Yeshua has been given authority above all principality, power, might and dominion (*Ephesians 1: 19-21*)

This praise from all creatures begins before the opening of the first seal – at which point God's judgement will be unleashed – but it continues from that time to eternity

This royal manifesto is, as it were, a proclamation, showing how - by the Fathers divine wisdom and plan - Yeshua fulfils all things, and "every knee bows to him," not only on earth, but also in heaven, and under the earth.

All things are now His – the Lamb who was slain now holds the title deed to the earth, and all creation – given to Him by the Father because of His merit – see *1 Corinthians 15: 27-28*

This Praise is 'forever and ever' – the Father and the Lamb have these four attributes (Blessing, Honour, Glory and Power) for all eternity

V 14 The Finale of Worship

What is the Finale?

The four living creatures say "Amen" – they endorse the praise of all creation

- Acknowledging that what was attributed to Christ was his due
- Amen (Greek: *amēn*, pronounced *am-ane'*) is a word of Hebrew origin (*'âmên*, pronounced *aw-mane'*) meaning 'sure'; adverbially, 'truly'; abstractly, 'faithfulness' often rendered as 'so be it'

The 24 Elders (that is, the redeemed saints) fall down (prostrate...again) and worship Him (Yeshua) that lives forever and ever – see *Revelation 1: 17-18*

- Fell down on their knees, and then prostrated themselves before the throne
- This is the eastern method of adoration: first, the person worshiping fell down on his knees; and then, bowing down touched the earth with his forehead in an act of prostration.

The heavenly anthem, with heaven and earth joining in song, closes all with their *Amen*, and end as they began, in prostration before the eternal and everlasting God and the Lamb