

Revelation Chapter 5

Bible verses are from the New American Standard Bible and are highlighted in blue and italics.

Romans 8:18-25

Verse 18

18 For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us.

Present time – not just first century A.D.

Expanse of time before the second coming of Christ.

Glory to be revealed

Glory of regenerated cosmos, accomplished at the second coming

Verse 19

19 For the anxious longing of the creation waits eagerly for the revealing of the sons of God.

Creation awaits – as it anxious, eager, longing, for what?

Revealing of sons of God –

We speak of revelation of Jesus Christ

Revelation yet to come of each of us at rapture redeemed bodies, and then at Christ's second coming, his revelation as King of Kings and Lord of Lords, we too are revealed to this works as priest-kings with Christ. (24 elders, Church at Thyatira – talked of)

Verse 20

20 For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it, in hope

Creation subjected to futility – 100's of billions of stars in a single galaxy. 100's of billions (trillions?) of galaxies.

Scientists are finding planets around some stars – Planets detectable only by gravities effect parent.

Stars and galaxies are so far away that the most powerful telescope cannot see them because light has not gotten to earth yet.

What's the purpose of all of this? It has no purpose and no meaning, not yet. It's been subjected to futility. Not because supposed to be that way (not willingly).

God has subjected it to purposelessness for now, awaiting the time in his plan for that to change subjected in hope.

Verse 21

21 that the creation itself also will be set free from its slavery to corruption into the freedom of the glory of the children of God.

The whole universe is corrupt/twisted because of the effects of rebellion against God. If you watch nature shows, the lioness or cheetah chases down an antelope, kills it and eats it. This is nature's way, not the Lord's way. It's a manifestation of a fallen creation; the whole world lies in wicked one. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven – presupposes it is not done.

Creation set free regenerated at the 'revealing of sons of God' at the second coming of Christ as King of Kings.

27 Then Peter said to Him, "Behold, we have left everything and followed You; what then will there be for us?" 28 And Jesus said to them, "Truly I say to you, that you who have followed Me, in the regeneration when the Son of Man will sit on His glorious throne, you also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. (Matthew 19:27-28)

The time is coming when purpose and meaning and glory of the entire universe will be established by our Lord so will our purpose, meaning and glory.

Verses 22-25

22 For we know that the whole creation groans and suffers the pains of childbirth together until now.

23 And not only this, but also we ourselves, having the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our body.

24 For in hope we have been saved, but hope that is seen is not hope; for who hopes for what he already sees?

25 But if we hope for what we do not see, with perseverance we wait eagerly for it.

The four cherubim, each with four faces (fourth number of creation) with all eyes all over within and without. Because they observe/study they have a penetrating insight into creation and authority within it, and never cease to praise God because of that they observe in creation – they haven't seen anything yet.

That's the backdrop to Revelation Chapter 5. Chapter 5 shows God's foundational plan to reverse the twisted state of this creation.

Revelation Chapter 5

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

2 And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, "Who is worthy to open the book and to break its seals?"

3 And no one in heaven or on the earth or under the earth was able to open the book or to look into it.

4 Then I began to weep greatly because no one was found worthy to open the book or to look into it;

Verse 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 book and its seven seals."

Lion- all powerful king

Tribe of Judah...root of David

Both genealogies in Matt and Luke trace Jesus' ancestral lineage through Judah one of 12 sons of Jacob, one of the 12 patriarchs.

A common symbol in scripture was to picture King David as a plant. The Messiah is the offspring of the plan, but also the root that sustains the plant.

Again, in both New Testament genealogies, Jesus the Messiah is traced through King David, i.e., He is David's offspring - the seed of David. As the eternally existent Son of God, Jesus is also the root of David.

Verse 6

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

7 Horns – Powerful strength of an animal is symbolized by its horns. That is a common picture used in Hebrew custom.

7 in scripture is number of perfection

7 horns is perfect power

7 eyes – perfect perception

When Christ rules over earth and cosmos from his glorious throne, he will not judge just by what his eyes see. He'll judge with perfect insight, perfect perception.

7 Spirits of God – That perfect strength and perfect perception derive from the perfect Holy Spirit of God.

Isaiah 11:1-5

- 1 Then a shoot will spring from the stem of Jesse,
And a branch from his roots will bear fruit.*
- 2 The Spirit of the LORD will rest on Him,
The spirit of wisdom and understanding,
The spirit of counsel and strength,
The spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.*
- 3 And He will delight in the fear of the LORD,
And He will not judge by what His eyes see,
Nor make a decision by what His ears hear;*
- 4 But with righteousness He will judge the poor,
And decide with fairness for the afflicted of the earth;
And He will strike the earth with the rod of His mouth,
And with the breath of His lips He will slay the wicked.*
- 5 Also righteousness will be the belt about His loins,
And faithfulness the belt about His waist.*
- 6 And the wolf will dwell with the lamb,
And the leopard will lie down with the young goat,
And the calf and the young lion and the fatling together;
And a little boy will lead them.*
- 7 Also the cow and the bear will graze,
Their young will lie down together,
And the lion will eat straw like the ox.*
- 8 The nursing child will play by the hole of the cobra,
And the weaned child will put his hand on the viper's den.*
- 9 They will not hurt or destroy in all My holy mountain,
For the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD
As the waters cover the sea.*

Isaiah 11:6-9

The world has undergone regeneration. Creation is freed from its bondage. The law of the jungle is no more. Survival of the fittest is no more.

Verse 7

7 And He came and took the book out of the right hand of Him who sat on the throne.

Daniel, about 700 years earlier, saw much the same thing as John does here, but in less detail.

Daniel 7:13-14

- 13 "I kept looking in the night visions,
And behold, with the clouds of heaven
One like a Son of Man was coming,
And He came up to the Ancient of Days
And was presented before Him.*
- 14 "And to Him was given dominion,
Glory and a kingdom,
That all the peoples, nations and men of every language
Might serve Him
His dominion is an everlasting dominion
Which will not pass away;
And His kingdom is one
Which will not be destroyed.*

8 *When He had taken the book, 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.*

9 *And they sang a new song, saying, "Worthy are You to take the book and to break its seals; for You were slain, and purchased for God with Your blood men from every tribe and tongue and people and nation.*

10 *"You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to our God; and they will reign upon the earth."*

11 *Then I looked, and I heard the voice 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,*

Verse 12-14

12 *saying with a loud voice, "Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing."*

13 *And every created thing which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all things in them, I heard saying, "To Him who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb, be blessing and honor and glory and dominion forever and ever."*

14 *And the four living creatures kept saying, "Amen" And the elders fell down and worshiped.*

To memorialize and pray back to the Lord as incense – sweet aroma in the nostrils of the Lord.

Rebel, fallen angels hate. It's their doom and it's the negation of all they've striven for, and all their philosophy, and all their lying 'wisdom from below'.