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Two Obstacles to Opening the Scroll

Rev. 5:3 And no man in heaven, nor in earth, neither under the earth, was **able** to open the book, neither to look thereon.

Rev. 5:4 And I wept much, because no man was found worthy to open and to read the book, neither to look thereon.

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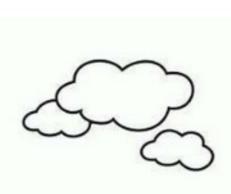
Rev. 5:5 And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Juda, the Root of David, hath **prevailed** to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof.

Rev. 5:9 And [the elders] sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast / slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation;

Rev. 5:11 ... many angels, and the living creatures and the elders ... 12 Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing.

Who is singing?









Rev 5:8 And when he had taken the book, the four beasts and four and twenty elders fell down before the Lamb, having every one of them harps, and golden vials full of odours, which are the prayers of saints.

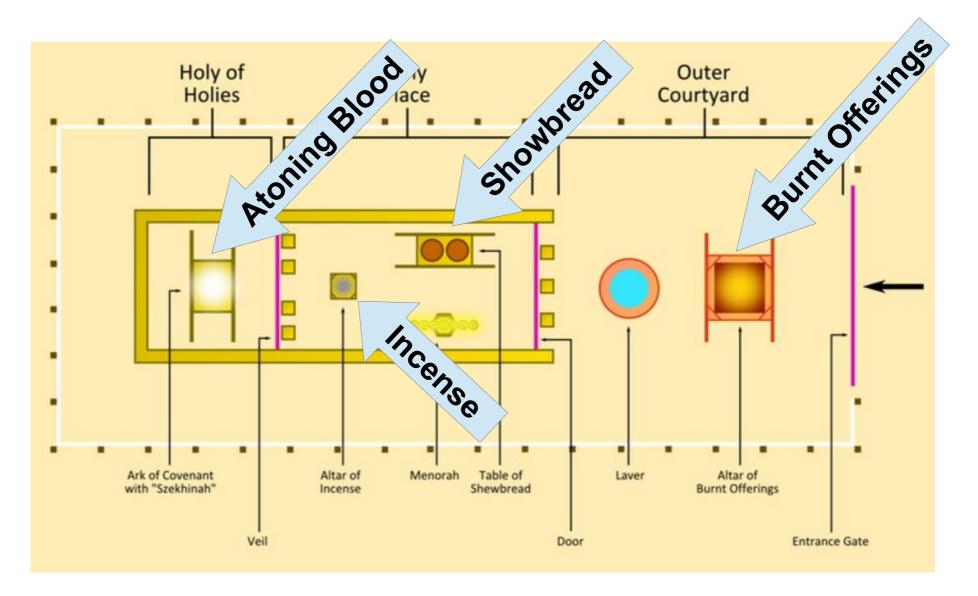
When the Lamb took the scroll, what did the fourand twenty elders do in verse eight of Revelation chapter 5?

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Offerings in the Tabernacle



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Helpful References

5:8 incense ... prayers

Ps 141:2 Let **my prayer** be set forth before thee **as incense**; and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

prayers of saints

Rev 6:9 And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held: 10 And they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth?

Importance of Prayer

Act 2:42 And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in **prayers**.

1Ti 2:1 I exhort therefore, that, **first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks**, be made for all men; 2 For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.

Psa 50:15 ... **call upon me** in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me.

Jas 5:2 Ye have not, because ye ask not.

Mal 1:11 For from the rising of the sun even unto the going down of the same my name shall be great among the Gentiles; and in **every place incense shall be offered unto my name**, and a pure offering: for my name shall be great among the heathen, saith the LORD of hosts.

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5:9 A New Song

Rev. 14:1 And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and with him an hundred forty and four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads. 2 And I heard a voice [sound] from heaven, as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of a great thunder: and I heard the voice of harpers harping with their harps: 3 And they sung as it were a new song before the throne, and before the four beasts, and the elders: and no man could learn that song but the hundred and forty and four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth.

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Psa 144:5 Bow thy heavens, O LORD, and come down: touch the mountains, and they shall smoke.

6 Cast forth lightning, and scatter them:shoot out thine arrows, and destroy them.7 Send thine hand from above; rid me, anddeliver me out of great waters, from thehand of strange children;

8 Whose mouth speaketh vanity, and their right hand is a right hand of falsehood.

9 **I will sing a new song** unto thee, O God: upon a psaltery and an instrument of ten strings will I sing praises unto thee.

Psa 40:1 I waited patiently for the LORD; and he inclined unto me, and heard my cry. 2 He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings. 3 And he hath put **a new song** in my mouth, even praise unto our God: many shall see it, and fear, and shall trust in the LORD.

Pronouns in 5:9-10

KJV	Majority of Mss	Likely Speakers
9 Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof:		Elders ("they sang")
for thou wast slain,		
and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation;		
10 And hast made us unto our God kings and priests:	10 And hast made them unto our God kings and priests:	Living creatures (" saying")
and we shall reign on the earth.	and they shall reign on the earth.	

1Pe 1:10 Of which salvation the prophets have enquired and searched diligently, who prophesied of **the grace that should come unto you**: 11 Searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand **the sufferings of Christ**, and the glory that should follow. 12 Unto whom it was revealed, that not unto themselves, but unto us they did minister the things, which are now reported unto you by them that have preached the gospel unto you with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven; **which things the angels desire to look into.**

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Some Helpful References

The Elders' Song (us, we)

thou was slain ($\sigma \phi \dot{\alpha} \zeta \omega$ G4969)

Leviticus 1-7, sacrificial instructions

Exod 12:21 kill the passover

1John 3:12 Not as Cain, who was of that wicked one, and **slew** his brother. And wherefore **slew** he him? Because his own works were evil, and his brother's righteous.

hast redeemed (ἀγοράζω G59) us

1 Cor. 6:20 For ye are **bought** with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

1Cor. 7:23 Ye are **bought** with a price; be not ye the servants of men.

The Response of the Living Creatures

1Co 6:2 Do ye not know that the **saints shall judge the world**? and if the world shall be judged by you, are ye unworthy to judge the smallest matters? 3 Know ye not that we shall judge angels? how much more things that pertain to this life?

Why does dying make him worthy?

Rom 2:1 Therefore thou art inexcusable, O man, whosoever thou art that judgest: for wherein thou judgest another, thou condemnest thyself; for thou that judgest doest the same things.

Rom 2:21 **Thou therefore which teachest another, teachest thou not thyself**? thou that preachest a man should not steal, dost thou steal? 22 Thou that sayest a man should not commit adultery, dost thou commit adultery? thou that abhorrest idols, dost thou commit sacrilege?

Exo 12:5 Your lamb shall be **without blemish**, a male of the first year: ye shall take it out from the sheep, or from the goats: