

Revelation 5:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he came and took the book out of the right hand of him that sat upon the throne.

Analysis

The Lamb taking the scroll demonstrates Christ's unique qualification as Mediator to execute God's redemptive plan. His position—from the throne yet moving to take the scroll—pictures His dual nature as God and man. The act of taking ('elaben') signifies authorization to open history's seals, revealing His sovereignty over all events. Reformed theology emphasizes Christ's mediatorial kingship; having accomplished redemption, He now governs all things toward consummation. Only the slain-yet-living Lamb bridges heaven and earth, God and humanity.

Historical Context

Ancient sealed scrolls represented official decrees, wills, or contracts. Seven seals indicated complete security; only the authorized party could open them. In Roman law, wills were sealed by seven witnesses. This imagery would communicate Christ's legal authority to execute God's eternal decree of redemption and judgment.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. How does Christ's position—worthy to take the scroll—assure you that history unfolds according to divine purpose, not chaos?
2. What does the Lamb's movement from throne to taking the scroll reveal about His active role in governing redemption's outworking?

Interlinear Text

καὶ	ἦλθεν	καὶ	εἴληφεν	τὸ	βιβλίον	ἐκ	τῆς	δεξιᾶς
And	he came	And	took	G3588	the book	out of	G3588	the right hand
G2532	G2064	G2532	G2983		G975	G1537		G1188
τοῦ	καθημένου	ἐπὶ	τοῦ	θρόνου				
G3588	of him that sat	upon	G3588	the throne				
	G2521	G1909		G2362				

Additional Cross-References

Revelation 5:1 (Parallel theme): 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.