

From a Messianic Jewish perspective, Revelation 5 is the climax of the heavenly courtroom scene. It utilizes specific legal and sacrificial frameworks found only in the Torah and ancient Jewish tradition.

1.1. The Scroll with Seven Seals: A Torah Perspective

In Revelation 5:1, John sees a scroll in the right hand of God, written on both sides and sealed with seven seals. In Western theology, this is often viewed as a generic "book of destiny." From a Torah perspective, it represents two specific legal documents.

A. The Title Deed of the Earth (The Law of the *Goel* / Kinsman Redeemer)

In the Torah, land belongs to God and cannot be permanently sold out of a family's possession. If a man becomes poor and loses

his land, or is forced into slavery, a legal process allows for redemption (**Leviticus 25**).

- **The Legal Process:** According to **Jeremiah 32:6-15**, when land was redeemed, a real estate deed was drawn up in two parts. One part was open for public viewing, and the other part was rolled up and **sealed** by witnesses.
- **The Messianic Application:** Humanity lost its stewardship of the earth to sin and Satan. The scroll in God's hand is the **sealed title deed to the universe**. Only a *Goel*—a blood relative (a human) who is completely sinless—has the legal right to break the seals, pay the redemption price, and evict the illegal squatter (Satan).

B. The Torah Contract and Its Covenants

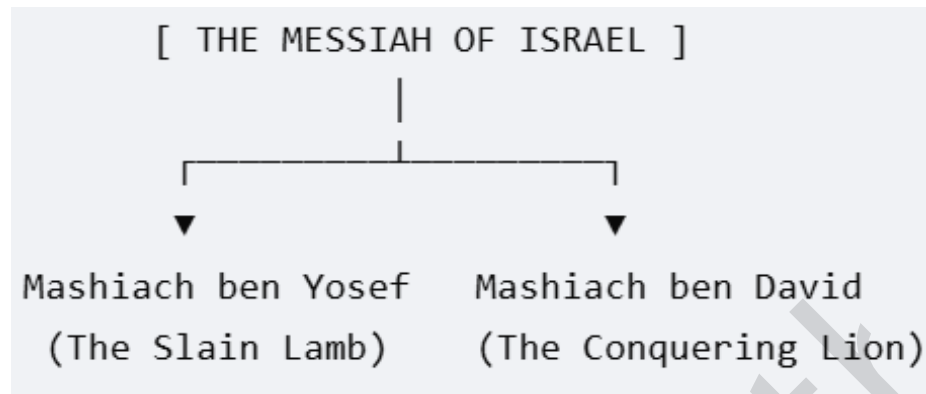
Another major Messianic view is that the scroll is the **Torah itself**, specifically the book

of Deuteronomy, which contains the blessings and the curses of the Covenant (**Leviticus 26; Deuteronomy 28**).

- **The Sealed Book:** In **Isaiah 29:11**, the vision of God's word is compared to a sealed scroll that no one can read.
- **The Messianic Application:** The breaking of the seals represents the execution of the covenant judgments (*the curses of the law*) upon a rebellious world, leading up to the final redemption of Israel. Yeshua is the only one authorized to execute this Torah-based judgment.

1.2. The Lion of Judah and the Slain Lamb

In Revelation 5:5-6, John is told to look at the **Lion**, but when he turns, he sees a **Lamb looking as if it had been slain**. This dual imagery is a profound reflection of Jewish



The Two-Messiah Concept in Jewish Thought

Centuries before Yeshua, Jewish sages recognized two distinct portraits of the Messiah in the Hebrew Scriptures: a suffering servant (Isaiah 53) and a conquering king (Daniel 7). To reconcile this, ancient Rabbinic tradition (found in the Talmud, *Sukkah 52a*) developed the concept of **two Messiahs**:

1. **Mashiach ben Yosef (Messiah, son of Joseph):** The suffering servant who dies a painful death, modeled after Joseph in Egypt who was rejected by his brothers but became a savior to the world.

2. **Mashiach ben David (Messiah, son of David):** The reigning king who conquers Israel's enemies and establishes the earthly kingdom.

Messianic Judaism teaches that these are not two different individuals, but **one Messiah in two comings**.

Why He is the "Lion of the Tribe of Judah"

- **The Origin:** This title comes directly from Jacob's deathbed prophecy in **Genesis 49:9-10**, where Judah is called a lion's whelp, and it is promised that *"the scepter shall not depart from Judah... until Shiloh (the Messiah) comes."*
- **The Meaning:** The lion represents absolute sovereignty, royal lineage, and judicial authority. In Revelation 5, Yeshua steps forward as *Mashiach ben David* to

claim His rightful kingly rule over the earth.

Why He is the "Slain Lamb" with Seven Horns and Seven Eyes

- **The Akedah (Binding of Isaac):** In **Genesis 22**, Abraham tells Isaac, "*God will provide for Himself the lamb.*" In Jewish thought, the merit of Isaac's near-sacrifice is central to God's mercy. Yeshua is the ultimate fulfillment of that provided lamb.
- **The Passover (*Pesach*) Lamb:** The lamb's blood on the doorposts in Egypt delivered Israel from the angel of death. Yeshua's death as the Passover Lamb provides redemption from spiritual death.
- **The Paradox of Power:** John sees a lamb that is *slain*, yet it has **seven horns** (symbolizing perfect prophetic power/omnipotence) and **seven eyes**

(symbolizing perfect divine vision/omniscience).

- **The Ultimate Victory:** In Hebraic thought, Yeshua's greatest victory was not won by physical military might, but through the humility of the cross. He conquered sin and death by allowing Himself to be slain. Because He triumphed as the Lamb (*Mashiach ben Yosef*), He earned the legal right to act as the Lion (*Mashiach ben David*).