

# VICTORY CELEBRATION Sunday School- March 23, 2014

## Unifying Topic: WORTHY IS THE LAMB

### Lesson Text

I. The Book Of God Revealed (Revelation 5:6-8)

II. The Song Of God Revealed (Revelation 5:9-10)

III. The Lamb Of God Revealed (Revelation 5:11-13)

**The Main Thought:** 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. (Revelation 5:12 KJV)

**Unifying Principle:** When long-hoped-for dreams come about, people express their joy in celebration. In what ways do people celebrate? The result of the fulfillment of the salvific tradition is the extravagant praise and worship of god by the multitude of the redeemed.

**Lesson Aim:** To explore what the celebration of the Lamb in heaven looks like in John's revelation.

**Life aim:** To further the student's understanding of Jesus' final triumph as the Lamb of God and how that affects our worship of Him.

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- 5:6 And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth.
- 5:7 And he came and took the book out of the right hand of him that sat upon the throne.
- 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.
- 5:9 And they 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;
- 5:10 And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.
- 5:11 And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the beasts and the elders: and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands;
- 5:12 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.
- 5:13 And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, be unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever.

### **HISTORY:**

"Revelation" means an unveiling of things previously concealed, therefore, this book is revealing previously concealed information.

**5:1 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.** John continues his description of his heavenly vision. Him that sat on the throne is the Father. The Father's position is Administrator. The term "God's right hand" refers to authority and power.

1. The book He's holding He holds it in His right hand.
  - o It has never been opened.
  - o It is kept with utmost secrecy; not known by man until God Himself is ready to reveal them.
    - What He wills for those who have rejected and cursed Him.
    - What He wills for those who have accepted and worshipped Him.
2. The book He's holding is known as a scroll, having writing on the inside on the back.
3. The book He's holding is sealed with seven seals. It is large, not just one seal could hold it, but sealed with seven seals. These seals each represent a particular judgment...the judgments that begin in chapter 6.

In John's day, books were written on scrolls, long and rolled up having the last sheet exposed. After rolling the scroll, it is sealed with clay or a wax seal. Some scrolls may have more than one seal, like the seven seals which had to be broken in order to unroll the parchment. Each seal opens a section of the scroll. *When the first seal was opened a certain portion of the book was exposed to view and so with each one following. When the seventh seal was broken then the entire book would have been unrolled.*

**5:2 And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, Who is worthy to open the book, and to loose the seals thereof?** A mighty angel begins to shout with a loud voice, asking who is able to break the seals and open the scroll.

There is a search for one who is worthy to open the book. Although the one proclaiming, was a strong angel, he was

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not worthy to open the book nor break the seals. It is saying, who is the rightful heir; who has the title to break the seals; who can take the title-deed and claim the property—the world?

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

The search fails. There just was no angel, no created being, no human being, no creature, no spirit being, and no man perfect to open the scroll any place; no man was worthy to approach God and to execute His Will throughout the universe—no man in heaven—none in earth—none under the earth.

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

John breaks down and cries. Why?

- At this point, John saw the greatness of God, the supreme majesty and glory of God; how far superior God is to all living creatures, that none could touch His book.
- At this point John would not be able to see the future because no one was found worthy; no man was able to approach God and open the book. This is history written before it happens and he would not be able to see it.

**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.** All of a sudden one of the 24 elders, who were representatives of the church, steps forth and tells John to stop weeping, for he proclaims that there is One found to open the book and to oversee the climactic events of the end time. He is known as...

1. **The Lion of the tribe of Judah.** This is the title of the Messiah. The symbol of the lion shows that He is the strongest and most powerful member of the tribe of Israel. Judah was the strongest tribe of Israel. The tribe of Judah was the tribe of David from which the kingly line proceeded.
2. **The Root of David.** The Messiah was to be of the household of David, of the root and seed of Jesse, of his family tree, of his blood, of his stem—the prophesied Son of David—the Messiah. Rev.22:16 testifies of this.
3. **The One who has prevailed.** What has He prevailed over?
  - He has conquered sin.
  - He has conquered death.
  - He has conquered this evil world.
  - He has conquered Satan and all other evil forces
  - He has conquered all rule and authority and power.
  - He has conquered hell.

Therefore, the person who opens this book must be the person who went to Calvary's cross and died. By dying on the cross He purchased the entire world to be His own. It was His when He created it and it is His for He purchased it back with His blood from the enemy, Satan when man had forfeited it. Jesus Christ is the only One who can grasp exactly what the book is saying, and carry out and execute the events. The only one Person who is able to do this is no mere man but, He is the Son of God Himself, the Lord Jesus Christ!

## LESSON:

### Revelation 5:6-8 The Book Of God Revealed

**5:6 And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth.**

There is a supreme moment for John as he beheld the Lamb of God standing in heaven in the midst of the throne and in the midst of the elders. He was expecting to see a kingly lion but he sees a slain lamb! The Lamb is now become the focus of John's vision. At this time He was not like a lion (symbolizing His authority and power) but like a lamb (symbolizing His humble submission). His appearance has changed! He is a lion to conquer Satan, a lamb to satisfy the justice of God, but they are One! He sees...

- The **"four beasts"** or *"living creatures"* probably not real animals, guarding and leading others in worship and proclaiming God's holiness. These four Beings are (**the ox**—endurance), (**the lion**—majesty and power), (**the man**—intelligence), and (**the eagle**—swiftness).
- The **"elders."** The 24 elders who fall down before the throne.
- The **"slain Lamb"** having seven horns and seven eyes. *"Slain"* means His crucified body. He was not dead for He was standing and alive in the midst of the throne and those surrounding the throne. He had gone through

the suffering, pain, agony, and humiliation for us. He was the Perfect sacrifice for our sins. This is the reason Jesus Christ stands in the center stage of heaven. He stands as One who has loved and given Himself for us. He stands as the slain Lamb of God who has taken away the sins of the world (Jh.1:29).

- The *"seven horns"* symbolize strength and power. He is Omnipotent, all powerful! *"Seven"* means perfection; completeness. *"All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth Matt.28:18.* He is the Lord's servant, the Messiah who was led to the slaughter bearing the iniquity of others.
- The *"seven eyes"* speak of complete wisdom, perfect knowledge. The Lamb is all-knowing — Omniscient! Omnipotent! *"For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show himself strong in behalf of them whose heart is perfect towards him"* 2 Chron.16:9. They represent the *"seven Spirits of God"* sent forth in all the earth.

Rev.4:5 says *"...and there are seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God."*

<sup>1</sup>These are best understood as a representation of the Holy Spirit in a sevenfold way rather than seven individual spirits. There is but One Holy Spirit. The seven lamps of fire therefore are the means by which John is informed of the presence of the Holy Spirit. The number seven is characteristic of the perfection of the Spirit. In the heavenly scene it may be concluded on the basis of both chapters 4 and 5 that all three Persons of the Trinity are in evidence, each in His particular form of revelation.

Seven horns and seven eyes means He has completed His task which means He has complete power and wisdom which causes us to have complete victory!

**5:7 And he came and took the book out of the right hand of him that sat upon the throne.** The Son always acknowledged the Father and the Father always acknowledged the Son. And in last week's lesson Ps.110:1, it said *"The Lord said unto my Lord, Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool."* So therefore, Jesus acknowledges God in Rev.1:1 *"The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave..."* God and Jesus Christ are One. The two aspects are: God is sitting on the throne and the Lamb is seen standing in this chapter. Jesus comes and takes the scroll out of the hand of the Father. His work of redemption is done. He receives all authority. This is how John sees it. He will now execute judgment on the world. He has the authority to do so.

- He has Authority over the end of the world.
- He is ready to carry out and execute the events.

**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.** As soon as Jesus took the book He assumed authority, all of heaven and earth beaks loose in song of praise and adoration: men (v.8), angels (v.11), and of every creature (v.13). There were four waves of praise and worship going on. (1) The first wave **fell down** before the Lamb then praised Him. It was from the four beasts and four and twenty elders. *"For it is written, As I live, saith the Lord, every knee will bow to me, and every tongue confess to God"* Rom.14:11. (1b) The four beasts and elders broke forth with musical instruments of harps and golden vials full of odours, which were filled with the prayers of saints which ascended upwards like a sweet smell.

## Revelation 5:9-10 The Song Of God Revealed

**5:9 And they 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;—**

(2) At this point, the second wave came forth with **a new song sung.** It still came from the four beasts and four and twenty elders. Why? For a new turn of events had occurred! In this new song they are now singing of the worthiness of Jesus— which is reason why the Lamb could take the scroll.

1. *He is the One that was slain for man.*—<sup>2</sup>He died and He overcame death. Now, He's alive and He will always live.

<sup>1</sup> <http://bible.org/seriespage/4-church-heaven>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.easyenglish.info/bible-commentary/revelation-lbw.htm>

<http://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-sundayschool.html>

2. *He is the One that has redeemed us to God by His blood.* We came out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation. <sup>2</sup>When Christ died, he took away the sins of the people. By His death, He purchased His people back for God. That's why the song says that "*He is worthy to take the book*"; "*He is worthy to open the seals*." No one else could have done it— his blood went beyond any barrier! There is no prejudice or discrimination with Christ; no favorites and no partiality. They come from all the countries of the world. No one is beyond His reach.

**5:10 And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.** No one else could have.

3. *He is the One who<sup>2</sup> made God's people a kingdom and priests to reign on earth* serving Him. Our reign will be on earth.

## **Revelation 5:11-13 The Lamb Of God Revealed**

**5:11 And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the beasts and the elders: and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands;**— There were many angels around the throne, along with the beasts and elders. Their number is astounding. We can't imagine the innumerable number of angels 10,000 X 10,000=100million & 1,000s of 1,000s. Angels are spiritual beings: They bring messages (Lk.1:26); protect God's people (Dan.6:22); offer encouragement (Gen.16:7); give guidance (Exo.14:19); bring punishment (2Sam.24:16); patrol the earth (Ez.1:9-14); and fight the forces of evil (2Kgs.6:16-18, Rev.20:1). The angels here are the good angels, a number too large to count.

**5:12 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.** After they fell down (v.8), broke out with musical instruments (v.8), and sung a new song (v.9), the third wave of praise and worship came forth with a loud voice from the angels (v.11-12). They were all on one accord with seven points to their song unto the Lamb.

1. *power*— They praise Him for His power. He is Omnipotent, able to open God's book and carry out and execute God's will.
2. *riches*— They praise Him for His riches. He possesses the wealth to meet any need throughout the universe; any need that we or any other creature may have.
3. *wisdom*— They praise Him for His wisdom. He is Omniscient, seeing all and knowing all. He knows all about God and heaven, and all about us and our world with all its temptations and trials.
4. *strength*— They praise Him for His strength. He has infinite strength and able to meet every need. All He has to do is speak the Word and His will is done.
5. *honour*— They praise Him for His honor. He is the Son of God possessing the very nature of God!
6. *glory*— They praise Him for His glory. He is the Supreme Glory. His glory shines brighter than the sun to give light in the spiritual world or dimension. In Him is no flaw or defect whatsoever.
7. *blessing*— They praise Him for His blessings. All blessings have come from Him. He deserves all the blessings that heaven and earth can give, for He has blessed all.

**5:13 And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, be unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever.** Never has there been a chorus of worship as will be seen in the glorious day of redemption when all creation shall praise Him for He is worthy to step forward and take the book of destiny, and He is worthy to rule and reign over all history, both now and in the last days throughout all of eternity, world without end. (4) The fourth wave comes from every creature in heaven, on the earth, under the earth, and in the sea. They began to say "*Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power to Him (the Lamb) who sits upon the throne.*"

### **NOT APART OF THE LESSON**

**5:14 And the four beasts said Amen. And the four and twenty elders fell down and worshipped him that liveth for ever and ever.** Now, the turnaround **concludes** this song of praise back with the four beasts to end it **with Amen**, and the four and twenty elders begin again to fall down and worshipped the One that lives forever and ever. I believe this is

a continuous wave of praise and worship going on now in heaven. They all occurred in parts or segments and we will be able to see all of this with our eyes and participate in the end! Hallelujah!

## **SUMMARY:**

John looked and saw a Lamb standing before the twenty-four Elders, in front of the throne and the Living Beings, and on the Lamb were wounds that once had caused his death. He had seven horns and seven eyes, which represent the sevenfold Spirit of God, sent out into every part of the world. He stepped forward and took the scroll from the right hand of the one sitting upon the throne. And as he took the scroll, the twenty-four Elders fell down before the Lamb, each with a harp and golden vials filled with incense—the prayers of God’s people!

They were singing Him a new song with these words: “You are worthy to take the scroll and break its seals and open it; for you were slain, and your blood has bought people from every nation as gifts for God. And you have gathered them into a kingdom and made them priests of our God; they shall reign upon the earth.”

Then in John’s vision he heard the singing of millions of angels surrounding the throne and the Living Beings and the Elders: With loud voices they sang “The Lamb is worthy, the Lamb who was slain. He is worthy to receive the power, and the riches, and the wisdom, and the strength, and the honor, and the glory, and the blessing.” And he heard everyone in heaven and earth, and from the dead beneath the earth and in the sea, exclaiming, “The blessing and the honor and the glory and the power belong to the one sitting on the throne, and to the Lamb forever and ever.”

## **APPLICATION:**

The only One who is the way, the truth, and the life, is the One who has the victory. We can celebrate Him at all times!