

# JESUS REVELATION

## The Worthy Lamb (Revelation 5:1-14) Jesus Revelation pt. 2 Pastor Tim Peck

### THE BIG IDEA

Jesus is the powerful Lion who is also the sacrificial Lamb. We worship the Crucified One, the Redeeming One, and the Worthy One.

### OPENING

- What comes to your mind when you hear the word “Lion”?
- What comes to your mind when you hear the word “Lamb”?

### DIGGING DEEPER

- Pastor Tim suggests that the sealed scroll in Revelation 5:1 refers to God’s eternal plan of redemption from beginning to end.<sup>1</sup> Why is it important that someone worthy carries out this plan? How did Jesus carry out this plan?
- Pastor Tim suggests that the twenty-four elders in Revelation represent angels. Bible scholar Grant Osborne says, *“Their primary role is that of worship (5:14; 11:16; 19:4) and praise (4:11; 5:9–10; 11:17–18; 14:3; 19:4). In addition, they serve as intermediaries and interpreters (5:5; 7:13–17). A close examination of these texts shows a distinct differentiation between the elders and the saints. In 5:8 they hold golden bowls that contain the prayers of the saints; in 7:13–14 one of them explains who the victorious saints are; in 11:18 they thank God for rewarding the saints; in 14:3 the 144,000 sing “a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and the elders”; and in 19:4 they join the heavenly chorus. The elders are seated on thrones (4:4; 11:16), while the saints stand before the throne (7:9). From this evidence it is more likely that these are heavenly beings who reign with God and*

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<sup>1</sup>For the reasons to view the scroll as God’s redemptive plan, see Grand Osborne, *Revelation Baker Exegetical Commentary* (Baker Books, 2002), pp. 247-48; Willam Hendrickson, *More Than Conquerors: An Interpretation of the Book of Revelation* (Baker Books, 1967) p. 89; Richard Phillips, *Revelation: Reformed Expository Commentary* (Presbyterian and Reformed, 2017), p. 186.



*are part of the retinue surrounding his throne.*"<sup>2</sup> Read Revelation 4:4, 10, and 5:8. How are these elders described and what do they do in these verses?

- John expects to see Jesus as a Lion in v. 4, but instead he sees Jesus as a Lamb in v. 5. According to Pastor Tim, this is the most important twist in the book. Osborne says, "*Here we see how the victory was actually achieved, not by sword but by sacrifice. Christ is indeed the conqueror, but his victory was won on the cross.*"<sup>3</sup> According to Pastor Tim, many Christians want Jesus the Lion but not Jesus the Lamb. Why is it dangerous for Christians to ignore the Lamb aspect of Jesus?
- Revelation 5:6 is the first of nearly 30 different times Jesus is referred to as the Lamb in Revelation. Read Exodus 12:1-12 and Isaiah 53:3-7. What background do these verses shed on Jesus as the Lamb?

## PUTTING IT TO WORK

- Revelation 5 is a vision of worship. How does this inspire you when you worship with God's people?
- Next time you worship at Glenkirk, imagine this scene. Imagine yourself joining this worship service already in progress. How does it impact your attitude and participation in worship?

## PRAYER REQUESTS

To learn more about Pastor Tim's approach to Revelation, see the article "Approaches to Revelation" on the Glenkirk website: <https://www.glenkirkchurch.org/sermon-series-jesus-revelation/>

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<sup>2</sup>Osborne, *Revelation*, p. 228.

<sup>3</sup>Osborne, *Revelation*, p. 255.