

The Lamb of God

Text: John 1:29 The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, **Behold the Lamb of God,** which taketh away the sin of the world.

John 1:35-36 Again the next day after John stood, and two of his disciples; 36 And looking upon Jesus as he walked, he saith, **Behold the Lamb of God!**

Revelation 5:1-7 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. 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? 3 And no man in heaven, nor in earth, neither under the earth, was able to open the book, neither to look thereon. 4 And I wept much, because no man was found worthy to open and to read the book, neither to look thereon. 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. 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. 7. And he came and took the book out of the right hand of him that sat upon the throne.

Introduction: Preachers of the gospel are duty bound by the Holy Spirit to preach the Bible in its entirety. Not all sermons are enjoyable and easy, many are not! Some are harder to preach than to be heeded. I, for one, really don't like to preach those hard sermons that thunder with the judgement of God or with the coming doom of the wicked, but I must obey the Holy Spirit as He sees best for the benefit of the congregation! What He instructs me to say, I must say!

Acts 20:20, 26-27 (*Apostle Paul*) ... I kept back nothing that was profitable unto you, but have showed you, and have taught you publicly, and from house to house, Wherefore I take you to record this day, that I am pure from the blood of all men. For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God.

Thankfully, God sometimes gives us sweet, yet, powerful themes to proclaim. **The theme and subject of this sermon is the sweetest and most powerful of them all, Jesus. Any story or theme that points us to Him is the greatest subject in the Bible to preach on. He is my all-time favorite subject to use in a sermon!**

*****Behold, the Lamb of God!**

John 1:29 The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, **Behold the Lamb of God,** which taketh away the sin of the world.

John 1:35 And looking upon Jesus as he walked, he saith, **Behold the Lamb of God!**

Rev 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,

*****BEHOLD** – *this word is used 1298 times in KJV -- word meaning – to OBSERVE* – yet it means more than a half-hearted look at something or to look with a sweeping glance!

The word “behold” also can mean *to be captivated – to fix your eyes upon and inspect it with a long stare – to observe or carefully study – to search and seek to comprehend.*

In our text – since it is speaking about God's Only Begotten Son, we take it to mean even more – it means - to pay careful attention because – “THIS IS A SUPER IMPORTANT SUBJECT” to “STOP-LOOK-AND-LISTEN” or “DON'T MISS THIS”!

*****Our Chosen Text - OFFERS US TWO DISTINCT VIEWS OF CHRIST TO BEHOLD:**

- I. **Earthly View of the Lamb of God** – *John instructed his followers to BEHOLD or “take note” of Christ. Observe Him as he begins his all-important earthly mission as the “Lamb of God”! His mission is the most important assignment ever given to anyone. It is the most important mission in the history of mankind!*

HIS EARTHLY MISSION:

- *BECOME A BEACON OF LIGHT-- A CHAMPION OF HOPE TO A DARK, LOST, & HOPELESS WORLD. He is to become the WAY, the Truth, and the Life! What a precious gift for us! BUT, ALSO, what a hard and heavy assignment for him to fulfill!*
- *TO LIVE A SINLESS LIFE -- TO BECOME AN ACCEPTABLE SACRIFICE UNTO GOD!*
- *TO BRING SALVATION & GRACE -- TO REDEEM LOST HUMANITY FROM ETERNAL DESTRUCTION!*
- *TO DEFEAT SATAN AND DELIVER MANKIND FROM CAPTIVITY & PRISON!*
- *TO ESTABLISH THE CHURCH TO CARRY ON THE MISSION UNTIL HE RETURNS!*

Although, no one can see Him today as he walks the earth fulfilling his mission as John the Baptist did, the Bible gives us a mental visualization of Him as he begins his earthly mission. CAN WE NOT SEE HIM IN OUR MINDS AS WE READ THE TEXT -- "THE LAMB OF GOD" WHO TAKES AWAY THE SINS OF THE WORLD?

HOW GREAT WAS HIS EARTHLY MISSION!!

II. Heavenly View of the Lamb of God – Behold Him – after the completion of his mission – AS HE IS PROCLAIMED BEFORE ALL CREATION AS GOD’S VICTORIOUS LAMB – BEHOLD THE LAMB as HE is and forever will be in heaven!

Let us BEHOLD (or take a closer look) at his completed mission from the view of Revelation 5!

- 1. Observe the Uniqueness of the Lamb of God:** – *only one qualified or found worthy in heaven – in earth – under the earth (under the earth means: let the records of the past be investigated among those who ever lived on the earth and are buried - the entire history of mankind)*

Revelation 5:1-5 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. And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, Who is worthy to open the book, and to loose the seals thereof? And no man in heaven, nor in earth, neither under the earth, was able to open the book, neither to look thereon. And I wept much, because no man was found worthy to open and to read the book, neither to look thereon. 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.

ONLY ONE PERSON IN ALL OF MANKIND’S HISTORY FOUND WORTHY –

NOTICE: *Mohamad, Confucious, Budda, or even Moses, Elijah, and Enoch, were NOT found worthy – there were/are none righteous -- only JESUS CHRIST!*

- 2. Observe How the Lamb of God Obtained Victory:** – **“HE” OVERCAME** – *Personal Accomplishment. HE DID NOT ASSIGN it to GABRIEL, the ANGELS, or to ANYONE ELSE!*

He alone bore the weight and took on the responsibility himself!

Rev 5:5 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.

Hebrews 9:13-14 For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh: How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself **without spot** to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

Colossians 2:15 And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a show of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

I John 3:8 For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.

- 3. Observe the Eternal Scope of the Victory of the Lamb of God:**

Revelation 5:9 thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; **ETERNAL SOULS WERE IN THE BALANCE!**

4. Observe the Impact of the Lamb of God on Christians today:

Revelation 5:9 thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood...

What does his mission as the Lamb of God mean to us today

(a) A NEW COVENANT with Man – SCRIPTURAL Impact of the Lamb of God!

II Corinthians 5:21 For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

Colossians 1:19-20 For it pleased the Father that in him should all fulness dwell; And, **having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him** to, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven. **reconcile all things unto himself;**

Colossians 1:12-14 Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: **In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:**

Hebrews 10:16-20 **This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them; And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more. Now where remission of these is, there is no more offering for sin. Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil...**

(b) The Victorious Sacrifice of the “Lamb of God” provides to the Christian?

1. *Atonement - healing of our relationship with God by providing grace to make us acceptable to God*
WE HAVE BEEN CLEANSED FROM OUR PAST SINS - ATONEMENT OR WASHED AWAY!

2. *Justification – declared to be righteous before God by the righteousness of Christ freely given through grace – declared righteous by God through the gift of GRACE!*
WE DESPERATELY NEED MORE THAN A ONE TIME CLEANSING FOR PAST SINS – WE NEED FORGIVENESS FOR SINS THAT ARE COMMITTED AFTERWARDS TOO! IF GOD IMMEDIATELY TRANSLATED US AFTER CONVERSION, WE WOULDN'T NEED FORGIVENESS AGAIN AND AGAIN! WE NEED JUSTIFICATION SO WE CAN CONTINUALLY BE ACCOUNTED WORTHY AFTER SALVATION!!

3. *Healing – by His stripes we are healed*
I Peter 2:24 Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.

4. *Protection – they overcame his (the devil) by the blood of the Lamb*
As the blood was applied over the doorpost in Egypt to protect, we can now plead the blood of Christ over every area of our homes and family!

5. *Sanctification – set apart – Chosen vessels of honor to be matured into Christ a like character*
Hebrews 10:10 ...we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

II Peter 2:9 But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should show forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light:

6. *Redemption – we have been bought and redeemed from the Satan's Camp – We are free: who the Son sets free is free indeed! Now, we are a part of the family of God!*

Hebrews 12: 22-24 But ye are come unto mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels, To the general assembly and church of the

firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect, And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant

7. *Continual Cleansing for confessed sins – WAY OF RESTORATION IF WE SIN -- A DOOR OF HOPE FOR THOSE WHO FAIL!*

I John 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(c) **Closing --Observe the Glory of the Lamb of God as proclaimed by the heavenly host and the twenty-four Elders: THIS SHOULD BE OUR REACTION TOO!**

Revelation 5:9-14 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. 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; And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth. 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; 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.** 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. And the four beasts said, Amen. And the four and twenty elders fell and worshipped him that liveth for ever and ever.*

LET US JOIN OUR HEAVENLY BROTHERS AND SISTER IN THE SAME PROCLAMATION:

WORTHY IS THE LAMB *that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing. 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.*