

Worthy is the Lamb

Revelation 6

December 18, 2022

Review:

A title deed can only be opened by the appointed heir. Jesus is the heir of all things Hebrews 1:2

He is the one worthy to take and open the scroll and begin the process of God's judgment and rule on the earth. He looked as though He had been slain because He is the one who was pierced and crucified. The seven horns are indicative of His power. He is all powerful. The seven eyes speak of His all-seeing and all-knowing nature. He takes the scroll and the elders and living creatures around the throne begin to worship Him. They praise and worship Him because He is omnipotent—all powerful. They praise and worship Him because He is omniscient—all knowing. They praise Him because He is the lamb who has taken away the sin of the world and now is about to begin the final installment of God's plan of judgment and redemption. It is amazing God has made all these things known to us. All the way back to the opening pages of Genesis, God has been revealing His incredible plan. He has been overseeing it and unfolding it. He is not yet finished but we know He will. This is what Revelation is all about. Give thanks to God for Jesus and His plan of redemption that is still unfolding. We are in His hands!¹

Three unique titles given to our Lord:

1. Lion of the Tribe of Judah (Genesis 49:8-10)

The Lion of the tribe of Judah is a symbol found in Genesis and Revelation. In Genesis, Jacob blesses his son Judah, referring to him and his future tribe as a lion's cub and a lion (Genesis 49:9). In Revelation, this symbol is seen again when the Lion of the tribe of Judah is declared to have triumphed and is worthy to open the scroll and its seven seals (Revelation 5:5). Jesus is the One who is worthy to open the scroll (see John 5:22). Therefore, Jesus is the Lion of the tribe of Judah.

Based on Jacob's blessing, the lion is a symbol of the tribe of Judah, which is known as the kingly tribe (King David was of the tribe of Judah). Lions symbolize power, fierceness, and majesty. Lions are the king of the beasts, and the Lion of the tribe of Judah is the king of everything. In the Old Testament, God is sometimes described as being like a lion. In Isaiah 31:4, just "as a lion growls, a great lion over its prey—and though a whole band of shepherds is called together against it, it is not frightened by their shouts . . . so the LORD Almighty will come down to do battle on Mount Zion and on its heights."

In Revelation 5, Jesus is the long-awaited Lion of the tribe of Judah. John weeps because no one was found worthy to open the scroll of God's judgment or even to look inside it. Then one of the elders says to John, "Do not weep! See, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has triumphed. He is able to open the scroll and its seven seals" (Revelation 5:4–5). Both of the genealogies in Matthew and Luke record that Jesus is a descendant of the tribe of Judah. When Jesus is revealed as the promised Lion of the tribe of Judah, it reveals His deity. He is the true king and the One to whom belongs the long-awaited obedience of nations. Yet it is not His fierceness or the force of His power that makes Him worthy. The Lion has triumphed because He became a Lamb (Revelation 5:6–10; cf. John 1:29). Jesus Christ is worthy because He lived a perfect, sinless life and in shedding His blood defeated sin and death. His death and resurrection have resulted in a protection for His people and an eternal kingdom that will honor and worship God. Ruling this kingdom will be Jesus, the Lion of the tribe of Judah.²

2. Root of David (Isaiah 11:1,10 and Matthew 22:41-16)

Root here means stock, family, descendant, hence, "the Root of David" is that which descended from David, not that from which David descended. Jesus Christ in His human nature and family connections was a descendant of David, a member of his family.³

3. Lamb (John 1:29)

When Jesus is called the Lamb of God in John 1:29 and John 1:36, it is referring to Him as the perfect and ultimate sacrifice for sin. In order to understand who Christ was and what He did, we must begin with the Old Testament, which contains prophecies concerning the coming of Christ as a "guilt offering" (Isaiah 53:10). In fact, the whole sacrificial system established by God in the Old Testament set the stage for the coming of Jesus Christ, who is the perfect sacrifice God would provide as atonement for the sins of His people (Romans 8:3; Hebrews 10).

¹ Warren Wiersbe

² <https://www.gotquestions.org/lion-tribe-Judah.html>

³ <https://www.biblestudytools.com/dictionary/david-root-of/>

It is through His death on the cross as God's perfect sacrifice for sin and His resurrection three days later that we can now have eternal life if we believe in Him. The fact that God Himself has provided the offering that atones for our sin is part of the glorious good news of the gospel that is so clearly declared in 1 Peter 1:18-21: "For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake. Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so your faith and hope are in God."⁴

A study not too long ago asked what does it take for a person to be happy, to have a meaningful life they needed three things; someone to love, something to do and something to hope for. Jesus gives all three!

Jesus is worthy of worship.

The only One who could open the scroll!

Jesus is worthy because of Creation.

"You are worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things, and by Your will they exist and were created." **Revelation 4:11**

No one can create, for they must use that which God has already created and God created from nothing!

One person said, "I can be like God I can create, he looked at God and said I will just take this dirt and..." and God stopped him and said, "Nope, get your own dirt."

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. ² The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. ³ Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. ⁴ And God saw the light, that it was good; and God divided the light from the darkness. ⁵ God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. So the evening and the morning were the first day. **Genesis 1:1-5**

Jesus is worthy because of Calvary.

And I looked, and behold, in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as though it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent out into all the earth. ⁷ Then He came and took the scroll out of the right hand of Him who sat on the throne. **Revelation 5:6-7**

Redeeming lamb – Galatians 3:13

Resurrected lamb – Luke 24:7 and John 11:25-26

Reigning lamb – Psalm 97 and Psalm 46:10

Jesus is worthy because of Conquest.

5:8-14 (prevailed verse 5)

Prevail....nikao...we get our word *Nike* from....speaks of victory...Nike missile

Jesus is truly the only worthy one...period!

On our own:

We are worthy of death ... He is worthy of life.

We are worthy of hell ... He is worthy of heaven.

We are worthy of nothing ... He is worthy of everything.

We are worthy of wrath ... He is worthy of love.

But praise be to Jesus because He is in us. HE has made us worthy!

Prayer Focus:

Have I called on Jesus?

Have I considered His worth?

Do I worship Him?

⁴ <https://www.gotquestions.org/Jesus-Lamb-of-God.html>