



A VISION OF THE LAMB

Sermon Notes

Text: Revelation 5

Intro:

Things are not as they seem

The book of Revelation works to re-set our imaginations, and provide powerful and prophetic counter-images, which impress upon us a different vision of the world. Images of how the world really is and how it could be under God's gracious rule.

The Scroll (v. 1)

Scrolls contained the will of an authority figure. Only certain people were allowed to open the seals.

All of heaven and earth sought for someone worthy enough to open the scroll of God.

“Look!” (v. 5)

“See!” or “Look!” – It's one of the most important commands of the book of Revelation.

These two phrases: The Lion of the tribe of Judah and the Root of David connected to multiple prophecies in the ancient Jewish scriptures that pointed forward to the coming of a great saviour.

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The Lion who is a lamb (v. 6-7)

John turned, expecting to see a roaring and powerful Lion, coming to crush his enemies with mighty teeth and claws. But instead he saw a little lamb that looked like it had been killed.

The way Jesus got to the throne was not by acting like a lion. It was by becoming a lamb.

“The secret of history, which no one could have discovered on his or her own, is that the Lion gets to the throne by being a lamb. The Lion wins by being slaughtered.” ~Darrell Johnson

Think about the lion, but look at the lamb.

1 Corinthians 1:22-25

The world will not change by Christians who try to act like lions. The world will change when Christians act like lambs.

When you look at the lamb, how does it shape the way you see the world?

1. In the centre of reality is one who suffers

Instead of a ferocious lion that hurts others, Jesus is a sacrificial Lamb that takes into himself the hurts of others.

Isaiah 53:6

2. All of history is going toward the lamb

“With God, even when we lose, we win” ~Wendell Smith

3. We live *from* victory, not *for* victory

The battle is the Lord's and he has already won it!

Conclusion:

Bethel Church Penticton - Sunday October 21, 2018 - Pastor Dave Funk

Life Group Discussion

Warm up:

1. What did you think of the first Sunday with two services? Which service did you attend? How do you think this will impact our church moving forward?
2. What stood out to you about Sunday's sermon? What was interesting? Confusing? Weird? Thought provoking?

Study & Discussion:

1. Discuss the double imagery of the Lion and Lamb. What does it mean for Jesus to be a lion? What does it mean for him to be a lamb? What does it mean to, as Pastor Dave put it, "Think about the Lion, but look at the Lamb?"
2. Read 1 Corinthians 1:18-31. What is this passage talking about? How does it connect to Revelation 5? Why does the cross seem foolish to some? Why is it a "stumbling block" (v. 23)? How does the Christian view of wisdom and power differ from a non-Christian view? How does this apply to your world (work, politics, relationships, family, etc).

Application:

1. We might not always know the plans of God, but Jesus does (because he is worthy to open the scroll!). Is there any area of your life where you need to let go of control and trust in God's plan? How will you do that this week?

Prayer:

- Pray for a clear vision of the lion who became a lamb.

Other Requests

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