

LifeGroup Study

Apocalypse of Hope : Lamb Power

SERMON SUMMARY

The power that rules the universe is not a devouring beast, but a slaughtered Lamb. In a world defined by the "Four Horsemen" of conquest and chaos, the Church is called not to escape, but to join the Lamb's "army" by conquering through the same self-giving love and faithful witness that won the victory at the Cross.

KEY VERSE

Revelation 5:6: "Then i saw a lamb, looking as if it had been slain, standing in the center of the throne."

Revelation 11:15: "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our lord and of his messiah, and he will reign for ever and ever."

SERMON NOTES

<https://bible.com/events/49556509>

DISCUSSION GUIDE

1. What ideas from the sermon caught your attention?
2. In Rev 5:5, John is told to look at a "Lion," but in 5:6, he sees a "slaughtered Lamb." How does seeing Jesus as a slaughtered lamb change your view of how God exercises power in the world?
3. Chapters 4 and 5 are like a worship service. How does corporate worship help us "un-see" the scary headlines of our week and "re-see" the reality of God's throne?
4. The Four Horsemen (6:1-8) represent the "normal" results of human empire (power, war, famine, death). When you see these things in the news, are you more likely to react with fear or with the "patient endurance"?
5. In your life, do you expect God to protect you *from* suffering, or to preserve your faith *through* it?
6. Where is your community being called to "speak truth to power" even if it costs you something?
7. In 9:20, plagues didn't make people repent. But in 11:13, the "faithful witness" of the church finally leads people to give glory to God. Why is a loving life more "evangelistic" than a threat of judgment?
8. What is one area of your life (finances, relationships, work) where you need to stop acting like the "Beast" is in charge and start acting like the Lamb is?
9. Read Revelation 10:8-10. John is told the scroll will taste like honey but turn his stomach sour. When has following the way of Jesus felt "sweet" to you, and when has the reality of "living it out" felt "sour" or difficult? Is it important to have both experiences?

CLOSING PRAYER

In Revelation 8:1, something unexpected happens. After chapters of loud worship and crashing thunder, Heaven goes silent for thirty minutes. John tells us that this silence is for the prayers of the saints.

The Exercise: 3 Minutes of Silence

Be Still: Close your eyes and breathe. You don't need to 'perform' or find the right words.

Offer Up: Simply hold a worry or a person in your mind, picturing it as incense smoke rising before the throne of God.

The Closing: After the silence, the leader ends with: *"The prayers of God's people have gone up before Him. Our voices have been heard; the Lamb is at work. Amen."*