

Revelation Unwrapped

Small Group Notes - Revelation 5

This week's notes have been contributed to by both Malcolm Henderson and Graham Loveland. You may find the suggested questions a helpful starting point. As always, don't feel bound by them, rather work at understanding God's word for yourselves, praying that God will help you live in the light of it.

This week, John's vision of ultimate reality continues and we see reality is centred around Jesus.

Read Revelation 5

Question: List the different aspects of Jesus' character and Jesus' work which the chapter draws out.

Application: Does the worship of Jesus we see in chapter 5 differ from much modern worship? If so, how and why?

Application: How might allowing our hearts and minds to 'dwell' on these truths about Jesus move us to worship more in the whole of life?

Question: Before John is given a vision of "things that must soon take place" (1:1, 4:1, 22:6) he is given a vision of God (chapter 4) and the Lamb (chapter 5) in their glory. Why do you think this is?

Application: How might this vision of God have helped the early Christians to "patiently endure tribulation"? How might it help us to do the same today?

Exploring Things Further

The following two sections might help you explore the themes of this passage further.

Option One - The Victory of the Lion and the Sacrifice of the Lamb

1. The Lion has conquered/triumphed/is victorious (over sin, death, hell, Satan). How has he achieved this?

2. 1 Cor.5:7 suggests that the Passover in Exodus foreshadows the events of the cross. What parallels can you see between the Passover and what the Lamb achieves, thus qualifying Him to open the scrolls? What is the significance of the requirement that the lamb in Exodus 12:5 be unblemished?

Option Two - Exploring Worship

1. Share with the group a Bible passage that helps / makes you want to worship.

2. Take a look at Colossians 1:15 - 23 or Philippians 2:5 - 13. Go through these verses and talk about the words and thoughts used by Paul in this New Testament hymn. Think about how God the Father and God the Son combine in the work of reconciliation. How might these verses move us to worship?

Now spend time in prayer.

Spend some time in prayer asking specifically for one another, that a fresh vision of ultimate reality might move you to worship. Pray specifically that we will worship Him as we gather together and also in the everyday of life.