

# *The Lion and The Lamb*

## Revelation 1: 1-20

Big Idea: Jesus is coming back—not through the back door of a manger, but as the Lion and the Lamb in full glory. Every eye will see Him. Are you ready? Don't fear—He holds the keys to death and hell. Your confidence is secure in His blood. Cling to the cross.

### Main Points

1. Jesus will be revealed to the world (vv. 1-3)
2. Jesus came through the back door but will return through the front door (vv. 4-8)
3. John is called to document what he has seen and heard (vv. 9-11)
4. Jesus is the Lion revealed in glory (vv. 12-20)

### Scriptures:

- |                                       |                                    |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> Acts 1:11       | <input type="radio"/> John 1       |
| <input type="radio"/> Zechariah 12:10 | <input type="radio"/> Genesis 3:15 |
| <input type="radio"/> Philippians 2   | <input type="radio"/> Romans 16:20 |

Key Verse: "To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood" (Revelation 1:5b)

### Opening Question:

When you think about the end times or Jesus' return, what emotions come to mind? (Fear, hope, confusion, anticipation, etc.)

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### Discussion Questions:

Verse 3 promises a blessing to those who read, hear, and keep what is written in this prophecy. Why do you think many Christians avoid the book of Revelation? What might we be missing out on?

In verses 4-6, Jesus is described as "the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, the ruler of the kings of the earth." Which of these titles means the most to you personally right now, and why?

How does the humble birth of Jesus in Bethlehem contrast with the description of His return in verse 7? What does this tell us about God's plan?

Pastor Tim pointed out that right in the middle of describing Jesus' glory (verse 5), John reminds us that Jesus "loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood." Why is this truth so central to the book of Revelation? How does it change the way we read about future judgment?

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Verse 6 says Jesus "made us a kingdom of priests to his God and Father." In the Old Testament, priests had to follow strict procedures to approach God. How does Jesus' sacrifice change our access to God? How should this affect our daily prayer life?

When John saw the glorified Jesus, he "fell at his feet as though dead" (v. 17). Yet Jesus touched him and said, "Fear not." What does this interaction teach us about approaching God with both reverence and confidence?

The sermon challenged us to let our hearts be surrendered to Christ. On a scale of 1-10, how surrendered to Christ do you feel right now? What areas of your life are you still holding back?

We're called to "lovingly warn others about God's coming judgment." Why is this difficult for many Christians today? How can we share this truth in a way that is both honest and loving?

The sermon ended with four action steps. Which of these resonates most with you right now? (Surrender to Christ, Lovingly warn others about judgment, Tell them Jesus has provided escape and eternal life, Be confident in Jesus' love and grace)

#### Practical Applications:

1. Read Revelation 1 aloud each day this week and journal what God shows you.
2. Memorize Revelation 1:5b-6: "To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood and made us a kingdom of priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen."
3. Share the Gospel with at least one person this week, focusing on the love of Jesus demonstrated at the cross.
4. Surrender Assessment: Set aside 30 minutes for prayer and reflection. Ask God to show you any areas of your life you haven't fully surrendered to Him. Write them down and confess them.
5. Encourage someone who is fearful by sharing one of the "fear not" passages from Scripture.

#### Closing Thought/Prayer:

"Lord Jesus, help us live this week with surrendered hearts, clinging to Your cross and confidently pointing others to You as the Alpha and Omega who is coming again."