



Worship the Lamb!
Who was slain Who is praised—universally

Sermon Notes Revelation 5:11-14

Recall John's first vision of Jesus in chapter 1:13-18. How does the vision in our reading differ from that one?

What, or who is the focal point of praise in 5:11-15?

What does the word "slain" call to mind?

What are the 4 living creatures? Whom do the 24 elders represent?

How many angels got caught up in singing the song of praise to the Lamb?

What are indications that the slain lamb is no longer dead, but very much alive?

What are the four fields of life that finally join in to sing the song?

Growth Group Study Guide

For the week of May 5, 2019



Opening Prayer Suggestion: Speak the words of Rev. 4:9-11, another song of praise in this section of the book.

My Story:

What's the most memorable or beautiful choral (voice) concert you've ever heard? What made it so memorable?

If you can't remember a concert, what religious song or musical piece, short or long, lifts your soul like none other? Why is that?

In Revelation 5, the Apostle John was soaking in what must have been the most awe-inspiring choir concert he'd ever heard. That's the focus of our study today.

Digging In: Revelation 5:11-14.

In this vision, we are hearing a song what we now call a "canticle." A canticle in the Bible is a song of praise to God which are found outside the Psalms, the hymnbook of the Bible. Can you think of other canticles in Scripture? (cf. Luke 1 & 2 especially)

Context: It helps to scan/read chapter 5, since the song we hear in our verses is really an answer to the mighty angel's question in v. 2.

What is the question?

In what ways does our song answer this question?
(vv. 9-10 further explains why the Lamb is worthy)

In a word, what is this song to the Lamb all about?
R_____ (use vv. 9 & 10 as well)

In v. 12, seven points of praise are ascribed to the Lamb. What does the number seven symbolize?

It appears the first four are related to each other as are the last three. What qualities are ascribed to the Lamb in the first group?

The second?

What does the word “amen” mean and why is fitting for the final verse of our reading?

Bible Connections:

If you have time, compare the 4 living creatures of Revelation 4:6-8 & chapter 5 with the ones found in Ezekiel 1. Note similarities and differences.

Compare the number of angels in Rev. 5:11 with Daniel 7:9,10. What did you discover?

What do these other references reveal about Revelation when compared with other parts of Scripture?

Application:

Jesus, the Lamb, is the focal point of worship in this canticle. Discuss why he still is the focal point of our worship today and how that centrality is reflected in our worship services.

What comfort does this song of the angels give you?

Richard Hillert of Concordia University in Chicago wrote “*This Is the Feast*” (CW #265) in 1975. He wrote it primarily as a song to be used in the communion liturgy for a Lutheran hymnal. Since then, like the song in Revelation that expands in a widening circle, his hymn has expanded to other Christian groups that have put it into their hymnals and thus it has become very familiar.

Why do you think it has become so popular?

What do you think of this hymn?

Can you think of other hymns or songs that echo the song in Rev. 5:11-14?

Extra credit!! How many canticles of the Bible do you know off hand that we sing as part of our Lutheran liturgy?

Closing Prayer:

Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, Praise, adoration, now and forevermore be thine!

CW #369:4