

Common Ground Café

Sermon Discussion Guide

Sunday, January 5, 2020



A Claim of Thrones

Revelation 4-5

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Get to Know You

Do you find studying all the symbolism in the book of Revelation intriguing or frustrating? What experience do you have in studying the book of Revelation?

Study the Book

Read Revelation 5:1-4

God has already prepared His plans to bring in His kingdom.

What comes to mind when you hear the word kingdom?

What are some descriptors of the kingdom that God is planning for His creation?

We cannot build a perfect world ourselves.

Why did John weep in verse four?

Only Jesus can make God's kingdom a reality.

Read Revelation 5:5-7

1. Christ is the universe's powerful ruler.

What significance do the phrases "Lion of the tribe of Judah" and "Root of David" in the Old Testament?

2. Christ is the universe's suffering servant.

How is the description of Christ in verse five contrasted with the description of Him at the beginning of verse six as a lamb?

What is the premiere Old Testament passage that speaks of the Messiah as a suffering servant? (Answer is on the back.) Read this passage together.

3. Christ is the universe's only hope.

How are these descriptors of the Messiah perfectly reconciled in the person of Jesus Christ?

When you know that Jesus is accomplishing God's good plans for this world, you'll worship him.

Read Revelation 5:8-14

Summarize what is happening in these verses by using one sentence? (We can miss the overall story/message of what is happening in apocalyptic literature due to the high use of strange symbols. A summary sentence can help keep us focused on the big picture while diving into the detail.)

Group Application Discussion

What are some specific examples of reasons to worship Jesus:

for what He has done?

for what He is doing?

for what He will do in the future?

Spend some time as a group to praise God through prayer for these things.

Personal Reflection and Application

Write down 3-5 reasons to worship God this week. Take some time each day to repeat these praises to God.

The premiere Old Testament passage that speaks of the Messiah as a suffering servant is Isaiah 53.