

## REVELATION 5 “MEANWHILE”

WE ARE INTRODUCED TO MORE IMAGES OF JESUS IN REVELATION’S FIFTH CHAPTER AND MORE WORSHIP. IN THE BIBLE, THE LION OF JUDAH IS A SYMBOL OF STRENGTH, NOBILITY, AND BRAVERY. IT REPRESENTS THE HOUSE OF JUDAH AND ITS DESCENDANTS, INCLUDING KING DAVID, KING SOLOMON, AND JESUS.

THE TRIBE OF JUDAH WAS A PROMINENT TRIBE AMONG THE TWELVE TRIBES OF ISRAEL. IT WAS THE SEAT OF THE ISRAELITE MONARCHY, AND JUDAHITES WERE IMPORTANT RULERS.

THE LION IS A SYMBOL OF POWER, MAJESTY, AND FIERCENESS. IT IS OFTEN USED TO REPRESENT STRENGTH, COURAGE, AND AUTHORITY. JESUS IS REFERRED TO AS THE LION OF JUDAH TO ACKNOWLEDGE HIS AUTHORITY AS THE KING OF KINGS.

READ REVELATION 5:1-5; GENESIS 49:8-10; ISAIAH 11:1-5, 10

1. Who is holding the scroll, and what could be its significance?
2. Compare the Lion of Judah to Jesus, as found in Genesis 49 and Isaiah 11
3. With what does the Lion conquer and rule (Isaiah 11:4)?

READ REVELATION 5:6-8; ISAIAH 53:7-9

4. What does the Lion of Judah look like?
5. If horns represent power and eyes represent the Spirit, what does his image say about himself?
6. What do the 24 elders and four living creatures do when Jesus takes the scroll?
7. Looking at the second half of verse 8 with the first five words of verse 9, what do the bowls of incense tell us about our prayers?

READ REVELATION 5:9-14

8. Why is Jesus worthy, according to the “new” song they sing?
9. Describe the Mannheim Steamroller effect in verses 8, 11, and 13.

Fun Fact: In the 18th century, classical composers developed a technique to gradually increase the volume of a musical piece by adding new layers of voices or instruments. Invented in Mannheim, Germany, it was aptly named the Mannheim Steamroller. Its first use was undoubtedly recorded in the 5th chapter of Revelation, verses 9-14.

“THE DEATH OF CHRIST IS THE WAY THAT THE POWER OF GOD IS UNLEASHED. IT IS THE POWER OF SELF-SACRIFICE THAT BUILDS GOD’S KINGDOM BY REDEEMING PEOPLE OF EVERY TRIBE AND NATION. THE LAMB IS THE PRIMARY WAY IN WHICH CHRIST IS IDENTIFIED IN REVELATION. AGAIN, SONGS BREAK OUT IN WAVES. TO SING “WORTHY IS CHRIST THE LAMB WHO WAS SLAIN” OR OTHER SONGS ABOUT THE LAMB IS TO JOIN WITH THE HEAVENLY CHORUS IN WORSHIP.” [1]

## Revelation 5 O. T. Scriptures

### Genesis 49:8-10

- <sup>8</sup> Judah, your brothers shall praise you;  
your hand shall be on the neck of your enemies;  
your father’s sons shall bow down before you.
- <sup>9</sup> Judah is a lion’s whelp;  
from the prey, my son, you have gone up.  
He crouches down, he stretches out like a lion,  
like a lioness—who dares rouse him up?
- <sup>10</sup> The scepter shall not depart from Judah,  
nor the ruler’s staff from between his feet,  
until tribute comes to him,<sup>[a]</sup>  
and the obedience of the peoples is his.

### Isaiah 11:1-5, 10

- <sup>1</sup> A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots.
- <sup>2</sup> The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.
- <sup>3</sup> His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see  
or decide by what his ears hear,
- <sup>4</sup> but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor and decide with equity for the oppressed of the earth;  
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips, he shall kill the  
wicked.
- <sup>5</sup> Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist and faithfulness in the belt around his loins.
- <sup>10</sup> On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and  
his dwelling shall be glorious.

### Isaiah 53:7-9

- <sup>7</sup> He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth;  
like a lamb that is led to the slaughter and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent,  
so he did not open his mouth.
- <sup>8</sup> By a perversion of justice, he was taken away. Who could have imagined his future?  
For he was cut off from the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people.
- <sup>9</sup> They made his grave with the wicked and his tomb<sup>[c]</sup> with the rich,  
although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth.

[1] The Book of Revelation, Lecture #3, Chapters 4-7, Erling W. Hansen