

**HWMR: EXPERIENCING, ENJOYING, AND EXPRESSING CHRIST (4) (Week 4)**

**The Lion-Lamb**

Scripture Reading: Rev. 5:5-10

- Rev. 5:5 And one of the elders said to me, Do not weep; behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has overcome so that He may open the scroll and its seven seals.
- Rev. 5:6 And I saw in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures and in the midst of the elders a Lamb standing as having just been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth.
- Rev. 5:7 And He came and took the scroll out of the right hand of Him who sits upon the throne.
- Rev. 5:8 And when He took the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell before the Lamb, each having a harp and golden bowls full of incense, which bowls are the prayers of the saints.
- Rev. 5:9 And they sing a new song, saying: You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, for You were slain and have purchased for God by Your blood men out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation,
- Rev. 5:10 And have made them a kingdom and priests to our God; and they will reign on the earth.

**Day 1**

- Rev. 1:1 - The revelation of Jesus Christ which God gave to Him to show to His slaves the things that must quickly take place; and He made it known by signs, sending it by His angel to His slave John.*
- Rev. 5:5 - And one of the elders said to me, Do not weep; behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has overcome so that He may open the scroll and its seven seals.*

- I. The book of Revelation is a **picture of Jesus Christ**; the twenty-two chapters of this book are a single portrait portraying and depicting Jesus—1:1-2, 5.**
- II. “Behold, the **Lion** of the tribe of Judah, the **Root of David**, has overcome”—5:5a:**
- A. The **lion is a symbol of Christ**, portraying Him as a **strong fighter against the enemy**, as revealed in Genesis 49:8-9.
  - B. **Christ’s overcoming** qualifies Him to **open the scroll and its seven seals**—Rev. 5:5-10.
  - C. The title *Root of David* signifies that Christ is the **source of David**; therefore, David, His forefather, called Him “Lord”—Matt. 22:42-45.
  - D. As the Lion of the tribe of Judah, **Christ overcame and defeated** the rebellious Satan, the enemy of God, and as the redeeming Lamb, He took away the sin of fallen man:
    - 1. By so doing, **He removed the hindrances** to the fulfillment of God’s purpose.
    - 2. The result is that **He is worthy to open the scroll** concerning God’s economy.

We need to see and experience Christ not only as a young lion but also as a **couching lion** who lies down to **rest**. We may be troubled by many kinds of enemies—our **temper**, our **problems**, and our **weaknesses**—but we need to see that our enemies **have already become a prey to our Christ**. **He went to the cross and captured them, and in resurrection He led a train of vanquished foes to the heavens for His enjoyment**. Now in the heavens He is no longer fighting; He is couching. He is lying down to rest, and we are experiencing Him as a resting lion. He is couching, and we also are resting. We need not be troubled by anything; instead, **we simply need to enjoy this victorious, satisfied, and resting Christ**.

According to Revelation 5:5, the Lion of the tribe of Judah “has overcome.” This verse does not say that our Christ will overcome; it says that **He has already overcome**. He has captured the prey and swallowed him. All the enemies have been devoured by Christ. Today Christ is not the fighting One; He is a couching One, the resting One sitting in the heavens. If we see this, we will forget our enemies, our temper, and the troubles caused by others, and we will say, “Lord, I worship You and praise You! Lord, You were the young, fighting lion. But today You are resting in the heavens as the victorious lion. And now I am partaking of all that You have done.”

In a very real sense, the church is lion country, and **everyone in the church is a baby lion**. If we see the situation from God’s viewpoint, we will realize that in the eyes of God the church is a country of lions. Toward men we are lambs following the Lamb, but **toward Satan we are lion cubs**. Although we may not have such a realization, Satan recognizes this fact. He knows that all the believers are lion cubs. Frequently we need to tell Satan, “Satan, don’t touch me. Don’t you know that my family is the lion family?” Christ is the young lion, the couching lion, and the reproducing lioness; we are His lion cubs. This is the full victory of Christ. This is why Genesis 49:8 says that Christ, typified by Judah, is to be praised and worshipped. (*The Conclusion of the New Testament: Experiencing, Enjoying, and Expressing Christ, Volume 3, chapter 415*)

## Day 2

**Rev. 5:6-7** - *And I saw in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures and in the midst of the elders a Lamb standing as having just been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth. And He came and took the scroll out of the right hand of Him who sits upon the throne.*

**III. “I saw in the midst of the throne...a Lamb standing as having just been slain, having **seven horns** and **seven eyes**, which are the **seven Spirits of God** sent forth into all the earth”—Rev. 5:6; 1:4; 3:1:**

A. In chapter 5 is the scene in the heavens after Christ ascended there:

1. He was recommended to the apostle John as the **Lion** of the tribe of Judah, but He appeared to John as the **Lamb**.
2. As the **Lion**, He is the **Fighter** against the enemy; as the **Lamb**, He is the **Redeemer** for us.
3. He **fought to redeem** us, and He won the battle over the enemy and **accomplished redemption** for us.
4. **To the enemy** He is a **Lion**, and **to us** He is a **Lamb**; hence, He is the Lion-Lamb.

- B. As far as redemption is concerned, Christ sat down at the right hand of God in the heavens after His ascension (Heb. 1:3; 10:12), whereas regarding the carrying out of God's administration, He is still standing in His ascension.
- C. *Having just been slain* indicates that the Lamb had just been slain and also that the scene in the heavens that is depicted in Revelation 5 took place immediately after Christ's ascension into the heavens.

### Day 3

*Deut. 33:17* - ...And his horns are the horns of the wild ox; with them he shall drive peoples to the ends of the earth together...

*Rev. 3:1* - ...These things says He who has the seven Spirits of God...

### Day 4

*Zech. 3:9* - ...Here is the stone that I have set before Joshua—upon one stone are seven eyes. I will engrave its engraving, declares Jehovah of hosts, and I will remove the iniquity of that land in one day.

*Zech 4:10* - ...These seven rejoice when they see the plummet in the hand of Zerubbabel; they are the eyes of Jehovah running to and fro on the whole earth.

- D. The Lord has **seven horns**—v. 6b:
  - 1. Horns signify **strength in fighting**—Deut. 33:17.
  - 2. Christ is the redeeming Lamb, yet He has horns for fighting.
  - 3. He is the **fighting Redeemer**; His fighting is complete in God's move, as signified by the number seven.
- E. **Eyes** are for **observing** and **searching**:
  - 1. Christ as the redeeming Lamb has **seven observing and searching eyes** for **executing God's judgment** upon the universe to fulfill God's eternal purpose, which will consummate in the building up of the New Jerusalem.
  - 2. In Zechariah 3:9 Christ is prophesied as the stone, the **topstone** (4:7) **with seven eyes** for God's building.
  - 3. These seven eyes are the **seven Spirits of God** sent forth into all the earth, and they run to and fro through the whole earth—v. 10.
  - 4. According to Greek grammar, the antecedent of *which* is *seven eyes*—Rev. 5:6.
  - 5. The seven Spirits of God **refer only to the seven eyes of the Lamb**, and not to His seven horns.

When the Spirit observes us, we sense that He is like light that shines upon us. This **shining** gives us the feeling that we are being **burned**—everything that should not be in us is **burned away and consumed**. On the other hand, this fire within us also acts as a motivating power that drives us from within. This experience fills us with the **presence of the Spirit**. The Spirit is Christ, and Christ is God. Thus, when we are filled with the Spirit, we are filled with the element of God, and this element, which is God Himself, is a consuming fire. The result of such burning is that we have the splendor of God, the appearance of God, and the radiance of God so that we become exactly the same as God.

The seven Spirits of God as the seven eyes of the Lamb are also for **observing**. If we were to keep our eyes upon a certain person, it would indicate that we mean business with him. This is an intimate, dear visitation. The **Lord Jesus today has seven eyes**. While He was on earth, He had only two eyes when He looked at Peter. But today when Christ comes to see us, He has seven eyes. This means that today the Lord's visitation is **more serious and intensified**. Yes, our Lord is the redeeming Lamb. But this Lamb has seven eyes, and His seven eyes are seven burning lamps. In one sense He is visiting us, and in another sense He is observing us and burning us. This is the reality of the sevenfold intensified Spirit today.

Moreover, the seven eyes of the Lamb are for **transfusing and infusing**. After the seven Spirits of God as the seven lamps of fire burn within us, in our experience they become seven eyes. Eyes are the loveliest part of a person. If a person closes his eyes, we cannot see what is lovely in him. A person's loveliness is in his eyes. After we experience the burning, judging, and purifying, the burning lamps of fire become the **lovely eyes**. We may wonder whether these seven eyes are fearful or lovely. One may say that they are sometimes fearful and sometimes lovely. Yet whether the Lord's eyes are fearful or lovely depends not on Him but on us. If we **live properly as children of God**, His eyes will be **lovely**, but if we are **disobedient**, His eyes will be **fearful**. Regardless of whether His transfusion is that of love or of fear, as He looks at us with His eyes, God is transfused into us. (*The Conclusion of the New Testament: Experiencing, Enjoying, and Expressing Christ, Volume 3, chapter 415*)

## Day 5

**Rev. 1:4** - John to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from Him who is and who was and who is coming, and from the seven Spirits who are before His throne.

**Rev. 4:5** - And out of the throne come forth lightnings and voices and thunders. And there were seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God;

### IV. “The **seven Spirits of God**”—1:4; 3:1; 4:5; 5:6b:

A. **Revelation 1:4** speaks of “the seven Spirits who are before His throne”:

1. The seven Spirits are undoubtedly the Spirit of God because They are ranked among the Triune God in Revelation 1:4-5.
2. As seven is the number for completion in God's operation, so the seven Spirits must be for **God's move on the earth**.
3. In essence and existence God's Spirit is one; in the intensified function and work of God's operation, **God's Spirit is sevenfold**:
  - a. This is similar to the lampstand in Zechariah 4:2.

- b. In its existence it is **one lampstand**, but in **its function it is seven lamps**.
- 4. At the time that the book of Revelation was written, the church had become **degraded**:
  - a. The **age was dark**.
  - b. The sevenfold intensified Spirit of God was **needed for God's move** and work on the earth.
- B. In **Matthew 28:19** the **sequence** of the Triune God is the **Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit**; in Revelation 1:4-5 the sequence is changed:
  - 1. The seven **Spirits of God are listed in the second place** instead of the third.
  - 2. This reveals the **importance of the intensified function** of the sevenfold Spirit of God.
  - 3. This point is confirmed by the repeated emphasis on the Spirit's speaking in 2:7, 11, 17, 29; 3:6, 13, 22; 14:13; and 22:17.
- C. At the opening of the other Epistles, **only the Father and the Son** are mentioned:
  - 1. From the Father and the Son grace and peace are given to the receivers.
  - 2. In **Revelation 1:4-5** the **Spirit is included**; from Him grace and peace are imparted to the churches.
  - 3. This indicates the **crucial need of the Spirit to counteract the degradation** of the church for God's move.
- D. The seven Spirits are **working in the churches**, so the churches will surely go forward.
- E. Today we need to see and experience the sevenfold Spirit, the intensified Spirit, the **Spirit of recovery**—vv. 4-5.

In the book of Revelation are the seven Spirits. There is only one Spirit, but in Revelation the one Spirit of God has become seven Spirits. **Essentially God the Spirit is one, but in function He is seven**. As seven is the number for completion in God's operation, so the seven Spirits must be for God's move on the earth. In substance and existence God's Spirit is one; in the intensified function and work of God's operation **God's Spirit is sevenfold**. It is like the lampstand in Zechariah 4:2. In existence it is one lampstand, but in function it is seven lamps. At the time the book of Revelation was written, the church had become degraded; the age was dark. Therefore, the sevenfold intensified Spirit of God was needed for God's move and work on the earth.

In essence the Spirit is one, but in function especially at the **end times in the dark age**, **God's Spirit is sevenfold**. Just like a three-way light bulb gives a threefold shining, the Spirit of God shines in a sevenfold way. Today in the recovery we need the sevenfold Spirit. **Today's age is full of darkness**. For us to live a victorious life, **we need the sevenfold Spirit**. We should praise the Lord that the all-inclusive Spirit who dwells in us is now sevenfold. None among us in the Lord's recovery should be weak. All of us in the Lord's recovery should be strong because we have the sevenfold Spirit. The all-inclusive, compound, processed, life-giving Spirit today in the Lord's recovery is seven times intensified. It works sevenfold; it functions seven times. Today's age is dark, but we have the sevenfold shining. Today's society is corrupted, but we have the sevenfold Spirit. The sevenfold Spirit is now **strengthening us, saturating us, enlightening us, shining upon us, and shining from within us**. (*The Divine Economy, Chapter 10*)

*Rev. 5:9-10 - And they sing a new song, saying: You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, for You were slain and have purchased for God by Your blood men out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation, and have made them a kingdom and priests to our God; and they will reign on the earth.*

**V. “They sing a new song, saying: You are **worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals**, for You were slain and have purchased for God by Your blood men out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation”—5:9:**

- A. The song here is new because the Lamb whom it praises had just been slain.
- B. In the whole universe no one is worthy to open the mystery of God’s economy **but Christ**, the **overcoming Lion** and the **redeeming Lamb**:
  - 1. As the **overcoming Lion**, He defeated Satan for God.
  - 2. As the **redeeming Lamb**, He put sin away for us.
  - 3. **Christ is the only One qualified** to unveil and carry out the mystery of God’s economy.
  - 4. We need to realize that **Christ is worthy to open the seals** of the secret of the divine economy; this aspect of the Lord’s worthiness is universal and immeasurable.
  - 5. Christ is **worthy of our praises**; He is **worthy even of our lives**.