

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.

Day 1: The Faithful
Witness

Reading:
Revelation 1:1-8

John describes Jesus as "the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, the ruler of kings on earth." In the midst of revealing Christ's cosmic glory, verse 5 stops us with this truth: "To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood." Before we contemplate end times or future judgments, we must anchor ourselves in this present reality—Jesus loves you personally and sacrificially. His faithfulness isn't just about keeping prophetic promises; it's about His unwavering commitment to you. Today, whatever circumstances you face, remember you are deeply cared for by your Creator and Savior. You are not forgotten. Let this truth transform how you approach God—not with fear, but with the confidence that comes from being loved unconditionally.

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Day 2: Approaching
God Boldly

Reading:
Hebrews 4:14-16;
Revelation 1:5-6

Christ has made us "a kingdom of priests to his God and Father." In the Old Testament, approaching God required strict procedures; one mistake could cost your life. But because of Jesus' shed blood, we can now approach God's throne boldly. How often do we shrink back from God when we've sinned, thinking we need to clean ourselves up first? This is the enemy's lie. Your access to God isn't based on your performance but on Christ's finished work. When you're struggling, when you've failed again, when you feel unworthy—that's precisely when you need to come boldly to the throne of grace. Your eternal state is secure by simply trusting in Him. Nothing you can do or undo can change what Jesus has already accomplished for you.

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Day 3: Fear Not

Reading:
Isaiah 41:10;
Revelation 1:17-18

When John saw the glorified Christ, he fell at His feet as though dead. The response was immediate and tender: "Fear not." Scripture contains this command 365 times—one for every day of the year. Jesus holds the keys of death and Hades; He has conquered your greatest fears. What are you afraid of today? Your health? Your finances? Your children's futures? The same Jesus who calmed John's terror speaks to you: "I am the first and the last, and the living one." He died and is alive forevermore. Whatever you face pales in comparison to what He has already overcome. Respect God's holiness, yes, but don't let fear paralyze you. He's got you. You can trust Him. His hand is upon you, saying, "Do not be afraid."

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Day 4: Faithful in Your Assignment

Reading:
2 Timothy 4:1-8;
Revelation 1:9-11, 19

John received a specific assignment: "Write what you see." Exiled on Patmos, separated from the churches he loved, he could have wallowed in self-pity. Instead, he faithfully documented what God revealed. You and I won't write Scripture, but we each have an assignment. In your time, your place, your sphere of influence, God has called you to share Christ and live for His glory. Are you being faithful? Perhaps your assignment is to love a difficult family member, to serve in obscurity, to witness to a coworker, or to persevere through suffering with hope. John was faithful because he loved Jesus. Your faithfulness flows from the same source. Surrender yourself to Christ today. Ask Him to show you your assignment, then fulfill it with the same dedication John showed, trusting that God is at work even in exile.

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Day 5: Share the
Good News

Reading:
Romans 10:9-15;
1 Corinthians 1:18-25

Billy Graham learned a powerful lesson at Cambridge: our confidence must rest in the blood of Jesus, not human wisdom. The cross seems foolish to the world, but it's the power of God for salvation. You have four responsibilities: First, surrender your heart to Christ. Second, lovingly warn others about God's coming judgment—a day is appointed for everyone to stand before the Judge. Third, tell them Jesus has provided the way to escape that judgment and receive eternal life. Fourth, be confident in Jesus' love and grace so you can share it with others. The greatest gift you can give anyone is the love of Jesus on the cross. Don't try to impress people with clever arguments. Simply keep giving them Jesus. His blood makes us white as snow—no other fount we know. Who needs to hear this message from you today?

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