the book of the READING PLAN PART TWO: The Way of the Lamb

# the REVELATION

#### PART 2: THE WAY OF THE LAMB

The Revelation is an unveiling of the spiritual reality and conflict between the Lamb, Jesus, and the Dragon. Those who follow the lamb and have their hearts set as citizens of the new Jerusalem will be persecuted by the Beasts that emerge when the Dragon establish Babylon on Earth at different times and places through history. Followers of the Lamb must continually be choosing to follow the way of the Lamb and not the way of the Dragon.

#### WEEK FIVE: THE LAMB AND THE SCROLL

## DAILY READINGS

SUN 2/06 Revelation 5:1-14

MON 2/07 Ezekiel 2

TUE 2/08 John 1:29-37

WED 2/09 John 15:1-17

THU 2/10 Isaiah 29:1-24

FRI 2/11 Psalm 48:1-14

**SAT** 2/12 2 Samuel 22:1-24

**TEXT** Revelation 5:1-14

**BOTTOM LINE** Only Jesus is Worthy of our Highest Honor and Loyalty.

**DEVOTIONAL EMPHASIS** Jesus is Lord of History - the world's and our own. Write your story.

- 1. Why do you think **the scroll was so important?** (Do a quick read of chapter 6)
- 2. Why was nobody worthy to open the scroll?
- 3. Why do you think **John was so disappointed** that it brought him to tears?
- 4. Verse 5 suggests that Jesus (The Lion of Judah) overcame and triumphed. What did He overcome and triumph over that made Him worthy to open the scroll?

Why is that so important for what is to come in chapter 6, and ultimately for us as followers of Christ?

- 5. What is so significant about the key terms to describe Jesus in this chapter? (Lion of Judah, Root of David, Lamb that was slain)
- 6. What is so significant about the characteristics of the Lamb? Why is that important to the opening of the scroll?
- 7. In verse 8, the elders and the four creatures fall before the lamb. What is the implication of this act?
- 8. What do you consider "worthy" in your life? What do you honor? What things/people have your loyalty?
- 9. What are ways we can show our loyalty to Christ?
- 10. What has Jesus done in your life personally to show He is worthy of your worship?

#### WEEK SIX: THE WAY OF THE LAMB

**TEXT** Revelation 12:11

**BOTTOM LINE** The Way of the Lamb is Love.

**DEVOTIONAL EMPHASIS** Loving, serving, befriending, and empowering the "Least of These" and those who are our "Enemies".

Pastor Paul defined the Way of the Dragon as hate, fear, lies, accusations, threats, violence, shame, selfishness, power, control, wealth, immortality, and confusion. In contrast, he describes the **Way of the Lamb as love, service and sacrifice.** 

- 1. What are some **examples you see around you today** that represent the Way of the Dragon? The Lamb?
- 2. Why do you think the **Way of the Dragon is so tempting?** It is easy to see the way of the Dragon in the actions and attitudes of others. How are you tempted to follow the way of the Dragon?
- 3. It is easy to see the way of the Dragon in people who have an opposite opinion and perspective than you do. How is your perspective vulnerable to the way of the Dragon? How are people who have an opposite persecutive and opinion being in line with the way of the Lamb. Is there opportunity to have shared values and compromise? Can you learn from and value people with whom you disagree?
- 4. Why do you think Christians struggle with living the Way of the Lamb and are so easily swayed by the Dragon?

# DAILY READINGS

**SUN 2/13** Revelation 12:1-17

MON 2/14 John 10:1-21

TUE 2/15 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

WED 2/16 John 17:20-26

**THU 2/17** Romans 12:9-20

FRI 2/18 Matthew 20:20-28

**SAT 2/19** Romans 12:1-8

- 5. Read Revelation 12:10 and John 10:10-11. Considering these passages, what must we do to overcome the Dragon?
- 6. Take some time at the beginning and end of each day this week to **reflect on the following**... In what areas of my life am I following the Dragon? Spend some time in repentance and turning these areas over to Jesus for Him to redeem in your life.
- 7. In what ways does my life reflect the way of the Lamb today?
- 8. Do I love? If not, where can I begin?
  - Do I serve? If not, where can I begin?

Do I sacrifice? If not, where can I begin?

End your devotional time or small group time reflecting on 1 Corinthians 13:1-13.

### WEEK SEVEN: THE BLOOD OF THE MARTYRS

## DAILY READINGS

SUN 2/20 Revelation 6:1-17

MON 2/21 Revelation 20:1-7

TUE 2/22 Acts 1:1-8

WED 2/23 Matthew 16:21-28

**THU 2/24** Ephesians 4:17-32

FRI 2/25 Philippians 3:1-14

**SAT 2/26** Romans 6:1-14

**TEXT** Revelation 6:9-11, 20:1-7

**BOTTOM LINE** We sacrifice for what we love.

**DEVOTIONAL EMPHASIS** Praying for the Persecuted Church. There is something powerful about sacrifice. Sacrifice for the Lamb is the greatest testimony. The greater the Sacrifice the greater the testimony.

A <u>martyr</u> is one who **bears witness or gives testimony** with words - but more powerfully - by how they live and die.

- 1. As you look at your life, what do you think people would say **you live your life for?** What would they say you would be willing to die for?
- 2. The Christian church has always grown fastest during persecution and

martyrdom. Why do you think that is?

- 3. Everyone gives their life to something; how does your life reflect someone who gives their life for the things of this world?
- 4. The call to follow the Way of the Lamb is a call to **give your life for something bigger than yourself.** Take some time to reflect on how true or how untrue that has been regarding your life.
- 5. Take some time each day this week to **pray for the persecuted church** all over the world.

6. Visit this link from our missions & share partner International Missions Board (IMB) bit.ly/jw-imb-prayer

#### **HOW TO PRAY FOR THE PERSECUTED CHURCH** (from cru.org)

- Pray that persecuted believers would know the hope God gives. (Ephesians 1:18).
- Pray the Holy Spirit would strengthen them. (Ephesians 3:16).
- Pray that persecuted believers would know how much God loves them. (Ephesians 3:17)
- Pray they would know how to share the Gospel. (Ephesians 6:19).
- Pray that persecuted believers would fearlessly tell others about Jesus. (Ephesians 6:20).

Along with the example prayers in the Bible, there are some **practical needs** persecuted believers would love your prayers for:

- Pray for persecuted believers to have access to a Bible.
- Pray they have the courage to remain in their homeland.
- Pray for believers who have been rejected by family and friends. Pray that God would surround them with a new Christian "family" who loves them and supports them emotionally and physically.
- Pray for God to be an advocate for women who are socially vulnerable or have lost the custody of their children because of their faith.
- Pray that God would provide persecuted believers with jobs and safe places to live.

Finish your time of prayer with asking God to give you the **strength to live your life** for the Lamb.

## LISTEN TO THIS READING PLAN

**REVELATION: PART 2** 



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