



**Big Idea: Christ alone is worthy to execute God's will.**

**1.) Be passionate about God's PURPOSES (v. 1-4).**

- The vision of this scroll has roots in Ezekiel 2 (Rev. 10:9-11).
- This scroll contains God's **PLANS** for judgment and salvation in these end times (Acts 2:17, Hebrews 1:2, Daniel 12:4-9).
- John weeps so bitterly because the thought that God's ultimate will might not be known or put into effect is devastating to Him.
- *Do we have that same passion for God's purposes in our lives and in the world?*

**2.) Be CONFIDENT in Christ alone (v. 2-10).**

- Opening the scroll means executing everything written in it.
- **There is only one who is found worthy: "The Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, [who] has conquered" (Genesis 49, Isaiah 11).**
  - God's people were looking for a righteous judge who would come from the tribe of Judah.
  - The elder is announcing to John that the One who is worthy to open the scroll is the long awaited **MESSIAH** of the OT.
- Although John is assured that the Lion has triumphed, when he looks to gaze upon the Lion, what he actually sees is a Lamb.
- **This vision is at the heart of Revelation: The LION is also the LAMB**
  - The Lion of Judah is worthy and able to overcome because He is also the Lamb of God who was slain.
  - This truth about the Gospel is one of the fundamental truths that separates true Christianity from every other kind of belief.

- This vision is a picture of Jesus as the PASSOVER Lamb who saves God's people from judgment and wrath (Isaiah 53)
- John's description of the Lamb (v. 6) simply means to convey that the Lamb of God is immensely powerful and immanently wise.

## **Why Jesus Christ Is the Only One Worthy**

### **1.) Only Christ is BOTH Lion and Lamb.**

- The Lion is an image of righteous justice and the Lamb is an image of sacrificial mercy. Only in Christ are both requirements perfectly fulfilled.

### **2.) Only Christ can RANSOM us from sin (v. 9).**

- Christ is the only One worthy because He was slain and by His blood He ransomed people for God.
- The blood of Christ represents the infinitely perfect life of Christ which alone is able to atone for the infinite death brought about by our sin.

## **Application**

### **1.) Seek to excel in both JUSTICE and MERCY.**

- Make it your goal to be just as adamant about truth as you are about love and to love others just as fervently as you cling to God's truth.
- Because our Lord is both Lion and Lamb, we ought to aim to reflect the same!

### **2.) Seek the APPROVAL of Christ alone.**

- Only the judgments of Christ will stand, and they will stand forever. So live for an audience of One.

### **3.) Seek for HOPE in Christ alone.**

- No one but Christ can bring about what you most need and long for.

- *Is your hope in Christ alone, or are you really trusting in someone or something else?*
- There is only One who can bring to completion all of God's purposes on earth. He is Jesus Christ, our Lord, the Lion and the Lamb, and He is the only one worthy!