Sermon Notes for March 27, 2016

Worthy Is the Lamb

Revelation 5:1-14

Introduction

I love Easter because of all that it stands for.

- On this day in history, Jesus was “declared with power to be the Son of God by his resurrection from the dead.” Romans 1:4
- This is a day of victory when Jesus “triumphed over all his enemies by the cross.” Colossians 2:15
- This is a day of hope and confidence that because he lives, all who believe in him will also live. John 11:25-26

Today, I am here to tell you that what we celebrate on earth is also celebrated in heaven!

I. Jesus stands at the crossroads of history. Revelation 5:1-5

In chapters 4-5. John is given this remarkable vision of heaven.

- His focus is on the throne of God where God the Father is seated.
- Surrounding the throne are 24 elders seated on their thrones.
- In the center are 4 living creatures, representing all of creation.

They never stop saying, “Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come.”

In chapter 5, John looks and sees in the right hand of the Father a scroll.

This scroll contains God’s plan for the consummation of all history.

- It is complete.
- It is sealed.
- It is like a will or testament.
- It requires an executor to carry out the will of the one who wrote it.

“What is worthy to break the seals and open the scroll?”

There is silence.

John wept and wept.

Then one of the elders stepped forward and said to John, “Do not weep.” There is one who is worthy.
II. Jesus is worthy because of his death on the cross for our sins. Revelation 5:6-10

Jesus is the lion of Judah.

“The scepter will not depart from Judah, nor the ruler’s staff from between his feet, until he comes to whom it belongs and the obedience of the nations is his.” Genesis 49:10

That prophecy was remarkably fulfilled in history.

“Woe to us for the scepter has departed from Judah and the Messiah has not come.” The Talmud.

Jesus is the root of David.

“A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit. The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him—
the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding,
the Spirit of counsel and of might,
the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord—and he will delight in the fear of the Lord.” Isaiah 11:1-3

Jesus is the Lamb of God

- Lamb is John’s favorite term for Jesus. 28x
- He still bears the scars.
- He comes from the center of the throne.
- He is all powerful – 7 horns.
- He is all knowing and all seeing – 7 eyes.
- He is filled with the Spirit of God without measure.

They worshipped him and they sang a new song. Verses 9-10

That great company of believers is growing every day.

III. Jesus will be worshipped through all of eternity. Revelation 5:11-14

In Revelation 4-5 there are 5 hymns.

- The first two are sung to God the Father.
- The second two are sung to God the Son.
- The last hymn is sung to both.

The number of worshippers increases as the songs are sung.

- From the elders and four living creatures. Verse 9
- To the multitudes of angels. Verse 11
- To all creation. Verse 13
Conclusion

Will you join in that great chorus?

Do you know him as your Savior and Lord?

There is no one like him.