#### Lifted

Revelation 5:11-15

##### Sermon Outline

1. **Once Mocked and Slaughtered, now Praised! (vs. 11-12):**
   * + 1. Look – What John saw provided him with a full experiential understanding of all the events (1 John 1:1-2). It was vividly portrayed before Him.
     1. Though believers today do not have the privilege of sharing John’s vision or a similar one granted to Paul (2 Cor. 12:1–3), every believer can take the word pictures of Scripture here and anticipate the glory and the wonder of the heavenly scene that he will someday see with his own eyes.[[1]](#footnote-1)
2. Heard – John was completely focused on what was being said with a heart that was wholly surrendered to doing what he heard.
3. Angels, living creatures and elders around the throne – The angels forming the outer circle; the Church, the object of redemption, the inner circle nearest the throne. The heavenly hosts around gaze with intense adoration at this crowning of God’s love, wisdom, and power. [[2]](#footnote-2)
   1. It is generally recognized that the description “myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands” is taken from Dan. 7:10 (cf. also *1 En.* 40:1; 60:1; 71:8, which also allude to Dan. 7:10; cf. further *1 En.* 14:22; Num. 10:36). That such a clear picture from Dan. 7:10 should arise here is not surprising in the light of our preceding observations of Daniel 7 influence in 5:2–10. The repeated mention of Ezekiel’s cherubim is now in verse 11a combined with the scene in Dan. 7:10.[[3]](#footnote-3)
   2. "Ten thousand" was the largest single number used in Greek, so "ten thousands of ten thousand" (myriads of myriads) is the author's way of calling them innumerable. (from IVP Bible Background Commentary: New Testament by Craig S. Keener Copyright © 1993 by Craig S. Keener. Published by InterVarsity Press. All rights reserved.)
   3. “Around” expresses the relation of the great angelic host to all three of these in the mighty operations of God regarding the earth.[[4]](#footnote-4)
4. Saying – This hymn was being sung repeatedly, same words over and over again.
5. Worthy – Everything that is being said to Christ by all those around Him corresponds with all that God required for Christ to do in paying for the sins of all mankind, especially since it was very brutal.
6. Worthy – We are called by God to walk worthy (Ephesians 4:1-2); to accept the will of God, endure trials with a commitment to mature and to become like Him (Philippians 3:7-16).
7. Lamb that was slain – Christ was a slaughtered sacrifice (lambs were sacrificed, Christ was a slaughtered sacrifice). The evidence of His slaughter remains on His gloried body. This is vividly portrayed, highlighting Christ’s total surrender to all of His Father’s will. This blessed all mankind. The evidence of His brutalized body displayed on Him remains the main point of this entire celebration.
8. Lamb that was slain – His slain body highlights the celebration and the judgement of Satan, demons all those who continually reject Him.
9. Receive **–** Everything that is due Christ is going to be deposited to Him by God as ‘an abiding responsibility of trust.’
10. Power – The direct object of the Lamb being slaughtered was for Him to have God deposit His mighty power so that Christ, in His glorified body, possess the ability to overcome all dangers or obstacles we may experience (Philippians 2:5-11).
    * 1. Power (Greek *dynamis*) is repeated from Revelation 4:11. All the force of the universe flows not only from (and back to) God Almighty, but it also flows from (and back to) the Lamb. [[5]](#footnote-5)
11. Riches; Wealth – The direct object of Christ accepting God’s will to be the slaughtered lamb is for Him to have all the material riches deposited into His possession. Christ the redeemer is now reestablished to the wealth and riches due Him. It is similar to the Queen of Sheba visiting Solomon and bringing treasures.
    * 1. He once had no place to lay His head (Luke 9:58), He now owns it all.
      2. Wealth (Greek *ploutos*) means “riches,” usually of the material kind. In ancient times, monarchs were brought rich gifts, as the Queen of Sheba did for Solomon (1 Kgs. 10:1–10). The Lamb is worthy to receive all the wealth of the universe. [[6]](#footnote-6)
12. Wisdom – Accepting the brutal death on the cross and the resurrection positioned Christ to now be empowered to use all the knowledge He has to expertly execute God’s will for all mankind (Colossians 1:15-21). The seven seals are now broken, and entire universe is set in place forever.
    * 1. Wisdom (Greek *sophia*) appears here for the first time in Revelation. The Lamb, in traditional Christian language, is *omniscient*. Whatever wisdom his creatures have, they are to return to him. **[[7]](#footnote-7)**
13. Strength – Christ’s obedience and acceptance of His brutal sacrifice has put Him as the Lamb that now possesses total power causing Him to be Almighty.
    * 1. Strength (Greek *ischys*) is closely related to “power.” It may also be translated “might” or “capability.” Think of the Old Testament character, Samson, for a human example (Judg. 14–16.) Whatever strength the creatures have flows from the Lamb, even when they do not acknowledge it. **[[8]](#footnote-8)**
14. Honor – For all that Christ has done for mankind all respect must be directed to Him so that He is genuinely worshipped.
    * 1. Honor (Greek *time*) was ascribed to God by the elders in Revelation 4:11. It means to value or esteem highly. (In Eph. 6:2, for instance, Paul admonished children to *honor* their parents.) The Lamb is worthy of supreme value.**[[9]](#footnote-9)**

1. Glory – Throughout the accusations and brutal sufferings Christ manifested His excellent and divine nature.
   * 1. Glory (Greek *doxa*) was also included in the elders’ earlier song. There, God was given glory for *who He* is—the Creator. In this text the Lamb is given glory for *what He has done* as the Redeemer. [[10]](#footnote-10)
2. Blessing – All that is ascribed to Christ for all He has endured and accomplished should be added bountifully. This is because all that Christ has done and has suffered makes Him worthy (worthy – it fully aligns with every requirement that Christ was required to accept and endure).
   * 1. Praise (Greek *eulogia*) also appears here for the first time in Revelation. The English word *eulogy* often translated “blessing,” is based on it. It means “to speak well of someone.” This word is fitting as the final one in the series, for the entire song of the angels can be summarized as a “Eulogy from the Angels.”[[11]](#footnote-11)
3. Blessing – The One who was mocked and scorned is now praised forever.
4. Blessing – Owned nothing on earth (Luke 9:58), He now has all things restored and His restoration is forever.
5. **Victorious forever (vs. 13-14):**
6. Heard saying – Every created thing was focused on repeatedly saying with all their hearts and completely surrendered to doing what they heard.
7. Sits on His throne – The throne represents the victory in Christ taking on sin and so that He now reigns with all power and authority over the entire universe.
8. Sits on His throne – Christ sitting on the throne would be eternal and is what every creature is completely focused on when they are singing to Him.
9. To the Lamb – Even though Christ is on the throne, Him being the sacrificial Lamb that died a brutal death still remains what every creature reflects on.
10. Blessing – All that is ascribed to Christ for all He has endured and accomplished should be added bountifully. This is because all that Christ has done and has suffered makes Him worthy (fully aligned with every requirement that Christ was required to accept and endure) of praise, glory, honor, all of the mighty attributes of God while functioning in heaven as the Lamb of God. This leads to the opening of the 7 seals.
11. Honor – For all that Christ has done for mankind, all respect must be directed to Him so that He is genuinely worshipped.
12. Glory – The reason for all that is ascribed to the Lamb is for the purpose of displaying His divine nature in all of its excellence. They may have killed a man, but He was truly the King of Kings.
13. Dominion forever and forever – God has established Christ to be the supernatural force who has significant superior power to rule the earth for eternity.
14. Four living creatures kept saying – The four living creatures kept singing this song with no intention of ever stopping.
15. Fall down – The elders prostrated themselves demonstrating complete respect and honor to the Lamb.
16. And worship – worthship - The elders demonstrated complete, reverent devotion to the Lamb expressing how worthy He is to receive all that is and was ascribed to Him. By prostrating themselves before the Lamb they also demonstrated their complete allegiance to Him.
17. And worship – worthship – Once on a rugged cross, now on a throne forever.
18. And worship – worthship – The Lamb now reigns forever, establishing no more defeat for Him and all those who believe.
19. Lifted – Satan has no more power to harm God’s saints (Revelation 12:10).
20. Lifted – ALL AUTHORITY IS IN HIS HANDS FOREVER! HE REIGNS AS KING OF KINGS FOREVER! HALLELUJAH!!

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2. Hughes, R. B., & Laney, J. C. (2001). [*Tyndale concise Bible commentary*](https://ref.ly/logosres/tynbibcomm?ref=Bible.Re5.1-14&off=30&ctx=+SOURCE+OF+JUDGMENT%0a~Revelation+5+is+a+co) (pp. 740–741). Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House Publishers. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Beale, G. K. (1999). [*The book of Revelation: a commentary on the Greek text*](https://ref.ly/logosres/nigtcrev?ref=Bible.Re5.11&off=3&ctx=raise+and+glory.%0a11+~It+is+generally+reco) (p. 364). Grand Rapids, MI; Carlisle, Cumbria: W.B. Eerdmans; Paternoster Press. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Lenski, R. C. H. (1935). [*The interpretation of St. John’s Revelation*](https://ref.ly/logosres/lenski12?ref=Bible.Re5.11&off=333&ctx=glory+and+blessing!%0a~%E2%80%9CI+saw+and+heard+a+v) (p. 209). Columbus, OH: Lutheran Book Concern. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Easley, K. H. (1998). [*Revelation*](https://ref.ly/logosres/hntc87re?ref=Bible.Re5.11-12&off=1203&ctx=mentioned+in+4%3a11.)%0a~Power+(Greek+dynamis) (Vol. 12, p. 96). Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman Publishers. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. Easley, K. H. (1998). [*Revelation*](https://ref.ly/logosres/hntc87re?ref=Bible.Re5.11-12&off=1203&ctx=mentioned+in+4%3a11.)%0a~Power+(Greek+dynamis) (Vol. 12, p. 96). Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman Publishers. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. Easley, K. H. (1998). [*Revelation*](https://ref.ly/logosres/hntc87re?ref=Bible.Re5.11-12&off=1203&ctx=mentioned+in+4%3a11.)%0a~Power+(Greek+dynamis) (Vol. 12, p. 96). Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman Publishers. [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. Easley, K. H. (1998). [*Revelation*](https://ref.ly/logosres/hntc87re?ref=Bible.Re5.11-12&off=1203&ctx=mentioned+in+4%3a11.)%0a~Power+(Greek+dynamis) (Vol. 12, p. 96). Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman Publishers. [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
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