

## *The Blood of the Lamb is the Lamb Nature which overcomes*

by John Joseph

Revelation 12.11: *And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.*

This Word was unlocked by the Holy Spirit who gave with it a vision.

### **The vision first:**

Before me was the blackness of space stretching on forever. All the millions of worlds were out there. Then coming up from the bottom of the picture rising up and going out into all the universe was a kind of network, a matrix that resembled a large-mesh fishing net. But then I saw it wasn't a fishing net. It was a living thing. It was dark in colour but then I saw that inside of it there was a red colour. It was a network of veins. And it spread more and more, and I knew that it would go out to all the universe and to every world. It was the Blood of the Lamb. The diffusiveness of a Nature that would expand and permeate every part of Creation.

### **The Word:**

*And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.*

The orthodox view is something like: They got the victory through the blood shed at Calvary taking away sins, and by preaching the gospel even if they were martyred for doing so. As the Word opened before me it was **all** about the Blood of the Lamb. The Lamb is that **nature** of Jesus.

That nature is in the Christ – head and body. The Life is in the blood. Because that Blood of the Lord – Lamb's Blood – was poured out, it comes back to us and in our veins, so to speak, now flows Lamb's blood. ("Unless you eat my flesh and drink my blood you have no life in you."). They overcame him, the savage hostile one – the fierce dragon – by having in them the Nature of the Lamb. This last statement is to be well noted.

It was one Man who had, or rather was the Nature of the Lamb, and by that He overcame. Now, it is He, the Overcomer, who infuses that Nature into us His children. He is the Overcomer in us. The Head and the Body of Christ is the Lamb.

And that Lamb principle, Lamb nature since Calvary has been extending out more and more, and that Nature overcomes all hatred and violence and evil. But this is just the beginning.

This extraordinary verse continues: "...and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives even unto death." Here is the outworking of the Lamb Nature – in word and in deed. The testimony (witness) of the Lamb does not cry aloud in the street nor argue; it simply tells what it knows and what it has seen (see John 3.11). The Lamb if threatened gives in. It does not resist evil, even unto death. But how does this constitute overcoming? How is it that something as weak as a lamb can overcome something as powerful as a dragon? It makes no sense. To the natural mind it is surely foolishness. But herein **is** power because Lamb passivity initiates God activity. Martyrs aren't just people who die physically.

Some are martyrs almost every day. *“For thy sake we are killed all the day long. We are accounted as lambs to the slaughter.”* (Romans 8.36).

The Lord Jesus said: *“He that hath seen me hath seen the Father.”* The Lamb Nature is the nature of God in Jesus. From the beginning God Himself laid down His life for the Creation. The Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

### **An enlargement on the Word given:**

The issue of the rulership of the universe is all about the nature of things. Whether you see the dragon as Satan or the fallen carnal mind or the Adam man makes little difference here. Wrap them all up and what you get is a particular nature – a fierce, self-centred malignant Nature.

We are saved from what we were by the infusion in us of a Nature that is contrary to what we were, and this new nature gaining the ascendancy.

This world and all worlds will be governed by the Lamb Nature. The Lamb Nature is the Lordship of Jesus. That is God’s will and purpose and He will not fail. He will surely bring it to pass. The Lamb Nature is our calling, our destiny. That Nature typified by the Lamb is the sure way, the only way that allows the free hand, the full hand of God to be laid bare in this world and in a person’s life and on behalf of a person. That man or woman in so being (a Lamb) is at once the Lion, just as the Lord Jesus is both the Lamb and Lion.

But He, as we, is only the Lion because He is the Lamb – and not the other way round.

We see in Rev.5.5,6: *“...behold the Lion of the tribe of Judah, hath prevailed to open the book ...and I beheld and lo in the midst of the throne ...stood a Lamb as it had been slain..”* The Lamb that becomes a Lion is still a Lamb. Yea, more, it is only a Lion because it is yet a Lamb.

This is the secret of God and of His Christ.

The Lamb releasing the power of God and in this is the Lion. *“The Son can do nothing of Himself”*, but equally, the Father does nothing by Himself except through the Son. *“All things were made by Him; and without him was not anything made that was made”* (Jn 1.3).

The Lord Jesus, God’s Lamb from the foundation of the world, while on earth had all of God’s power to raise the dead, heal the sick, cast out devils. He did none of it out from Himself. This is the Lamb nature.

But, **the Lion shall lie down** with the Lamb. The Lion is always WITH the Lamb. But when the lion is with the lamb, the lion is always lying down. The two sides of the one coin: the Lamb and the Lion. God’s Christ.

We see now that had the principalities and powers of this world known this hidden wisdom of God, they never would have crucified the Lord of Glory. They had, for so long ruled man with an evil might-is-right philosophy, and kept him under hard servitude and bondage as prisoner to do their will. This inferior, fallen wisdom of theirs – the wisdom of this world – could see only a man, a lamb, but not the lion that was lying down hidden. So it is that the lamb-principle always overcomes evil in its principle. We need eyes to see this.

Every time evil would slay the Lamb, **the Lion does not lie down**. The lion rises up in God's time and roars. The lion is the Arm of the LORD. The arm of the LORD is the power of God in action. But to whom is the arm of the LORD revealed? To the Lamb. This is the essence of Isaiah 53 where the suffering servant becomes the ruling monarch. A careful reading of this chapter will repay riches. Evil was defeated at Calvary by a Man. And that Man with His many-membered body will judge angels.

So you firstfruit Sons, fear not! Though you be living sacrifices as lambs, you shall reign with Him in power. *"If we suffer with Him, we shall reign with Him"*. (2Tim2.12). The corollary of this is: If we do not suffer with Him, we do not reign. No Lamb, no Lion. It is a high calling and a hard road, but we do well to keep it in perspective. *"For all things are for your sake, that the grace may superabound ..because of this, we do not faint, but if indeed our outward man is being decayed, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day.*

*For the lightness of our present affliction works out for us an eternal weight of glory, surpassing moment by surpassing moment; we not considering the things being seen, but the things not being seen; for the things being seen are not lasting but the things not being seen are everlasting."*(2Cor4.15-18).(Literal Gk.).

Our high calling is part of God's great and majestic plan for the salvation and redemption of the whole lapsed creation and the restitution of all things through the Blood of the Lamb.

Blessed indeed are we to be called into His love and purpose.

*"..All the fullness was pleased to dwell in Him (Jesus), and through Him making peace by the blood of His cross, to reconcile all things to Himself (God); through Him whether the things on the earth or things in the heavens."* (Col. 1.19,20). (Lit Gk.).

This kingdom, about which the Lord spoke so much and whose increase will have no end, does not come with observation. It begins as a mere seed in your heart and grows till it fills your entire being transforming you into the image (nature) of God. From there it moves outward into all the universe bringing the nature of Jesus to every creature and every dimension of being.

With Paul, what can we say to these things? If God be for us who can be against us?

Prayer: *Grow up in me O Lord, that I might grow up in You. And, Father, increase the increase.*

*John Joseph*