

Manger Tails

12.17.17 - New Life Church
Pastor Jim Von Wald

Mark 1:13 (MSG) *For forty wilderness days and nights he was tested by Satan. Wild animals were his companions, and angels took care of him.*

I. Animal symbols.

Revelation 5:5 (NIV) *Then one of the elders said to me, "Do not weep! See, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has triumphed. He is able to open the scroll and its seven seals."*

Revelation 5:9-12 (NIV) *And they sang a new song: "You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased men for God from every tribe and language and people and nation."¹¹ Then I looked and heard the voice of many angels, numbering thousands upon thousands, and ten thousand times ten thousand. They encircled the throne and the living creatures and the elders.¹² In a loud voice they sang: "Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power, wealth, wisdom, strength and honor and glory and praise!"*

II. Animal service.

Matthew 21:1-5 (NIV) *As they approached Jerusalem ... Jesus sent two disciples,² saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me."³ If anyone says anything to you, tell him that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away."⁴ This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet:⁵ "Say to the Daughter of Zion, 'See, your king comes to you, gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.'"*

Isaiah 11:1-8 (NLT) *Out of the stump of David's family will grow a shoot— yes, a new Branch bearing fruit from the old root.⁶ In that day the wolf and the lamb will live together; the leopard will lie down with the baby goat. The calf and the yearling will be safe with the lion, and a little child will lead them all.⁷ The cow will graze near the bear. The cub and the calf will lie down together. The lion will eat hay like a cow.⁸ The baby will play safely near the hole of a cobra. Yes, a little child will put its hand in a nest of deadly snakes without harm.*

Romans 8:20-23 (NLT) *Against its will, all creation was subjected to God's curse. But with eager hope,²¹ the creation looks forward to the day when it will join God's children {us} in glorious freedom from death and decay.²² For we know that all creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time.²³ And we believers also groan, even though we have the Holy Spirit within us as a foretaste of future glory, for we long for our bodies to be released from sin and suffering.*

III. Animal sacrifice.

Genesis 2:18-20 (NLT) *Then the LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper who is just right for him."¹⁹ So the LORD God formed from the ground all the wild animals and all the birds of the sky. He brought them to the man to see what he would call them, and the man chose a name for each one.²⁰ He gave names to all the livestock, all the birds of the sky, and all the wild animals. But still there was no helper just right for him.*

Genesis 3:21 (NLT) *And the LORD God made clothing from animal skins for Adam and his wife.*

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