

## Elder Vernon Johnson Animals

### Christ compared to a Lion

In the scriptures the lion is frequently used to represent kings and kingdoms. Of course Christ is the king of kings and lord of lords. It is befitting that he should be compared to a lion. The following verses compare Christ as a king to a lion:

1. Gen. 49:9 “Judah is a lion's whelp: from the prey, my son, thou art gone up: he stooped down, he couched as a lion, and as an old lion; who shall rouse him up?” There is another prophecy that states that the scepter shall not depart from Judah until Shiloh come. Christ is Shiloh and he is the great king being prophesied in this passage of scripture.

2. Rev. 4:7 “And the first beast was like a lion, and the second beast like a calf, and the third beast had a face as a man, and the fourth beast was like a flying eagle.”

In this passage, Christ is presented to us in representative fashion as four beasts. The first beast was like a lion. This points us to the description of Christ throughout the book of Matthew. The book of Matthew has as its theme, Christ the king and his kingdom. The second beast presents Christ as a calf. The book of Mark has as its theme, Christ the laboring ox showing us the works of Christ. The third beast presents Christ as a man. The book of Luke gives us much detail of Christ, the man. The fourth beast presents Christ to us as a flying eagle. The book of John gives us much detail of Christ as the Son of God and of the deity of Christ.

3. Rev. 5:5 “And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Juda, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof.” When no one else could loose the seals of the Lamb's book of life, we see that Christ the king (Lion of the tribe of Juda) had prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof. Christ is the greatest king that has ever lived and he was a warrior king who conquered sin, death, hell, Satan, and the grave. Therefore, having conquered these great enemies of the Lord's elect people, he alone prevailed to open the Lamb's book of life and to loose the seven seals thereof.