

## **A Study of Heaven – Week 7**

### **Worship in Heaven**

Each week we come to church and worship. According to Dr. Jeremiah our worship can be broken into 3 parts.

- a. Praise (missing during the pandemic)
- b. Prayer
- c. Preaching

In Revelation 4, we read about worship of God in heaven. In Revelation 5, we read about worship of Jesus in heaven.

Will prayer be useful in heaven? Some types of prayer will not be necessary. Any prayer about our needs will be unnecessary. We will be satisfied. Any prayer of forgiveness regarding us will be unnecessary. Prayers of healing, nope. Prayers of regrets, nope. I see only prayers of thanksgiving and prayers for loved ones on earth. We will be in the presence of God.

How about preaching, will we need preaching? We will be living in a state of perfect spirituality.

Psalm 145:1-2 says:

I will exalt you, my God the King;

I will praise your name for ever and ever.

Every day I will praise you

and extol your name for ever and ever.

King David says he will praise God forever and ever. Dr. Jeremiah says that true worship “survives eternity”. The Psalms are full of examples.

Worship and praise should be inseparable. They should be voluntary and “from the heart”. If you come in ready for worship to be over, then you will not experience true worship.

Dr. Jeremiah says there are 5 elements to Heavenly Worship.

**Context** (He likes his points to start with the same letter.) The Cambridge dictionary defines “context” as “the situation within which something exists or happens, and that can help explain it.”

Revelation 4 and 5 tell us about heaven. Revelation 4:1 tells us that the door to heaven was open. For us it too will be open if we put our faith in Jesus.

When John arrives in heaven, he is in the throne room of God and there is a big celebration going on.

### **Center** of Worship

John uses the word ‘throne’ 37 times in Rev. 4 and 5. The scene in the throne room shows:

- i. Rev. 4:2 - God was sitting on the throne
- ii. Rev. 4:3 - A rainbow encircled the throne
- iii. Rev. 4:5 – From the throne proceeded lightings, thundering and voices
- iv. Rev. 4:6 – Before the throne was a sea of glass.
- v. Rev. 4:6 – around the throne were four living creatures.
- vi. Rev. 4:10 – 24 elders fall down before Him who sits on the throne.

- vii. Rev. 5:11 – I heard the voice of many angels before the throne.
- viii. Rev. 5:13 – Blessings and honor and glory and power be to Him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb, forever and ever!

The throne may appear to be the center of worship but it is God the Father and His Son.

### **The Chorus**

In Revelation 4:8-11, the chorus is in praise of God the Father. In Revelation 5:8-10, the chorus is in praise of the Lamb, Jesus.

### **Crescendo**

Dr. Jeremiah says the “You can feel the movement of worship through the book of Revelation building until there is a massive crescendo of worship to the Lord.”

Read the following verses and write down the words of praise.

Revelation 1:6 - glory and dominion (NIV & NLT power)

Revelation 4:11 - glory and honor and power

Revelation 5:13 – blessing (praise) honor glory power

Revelation 7:12 - blessing, glory, wisdom, thanksgiving, honor, power (5 fold)

### **Contrast of Worship in Heaven**

Do you remember seeing the ocean for the first time or mountains or some scenic vista? On a smaller scale, that had to be what John experienced seeing heaven for the first time.

Dr. Jeremiah has 4 principles about worship

## **Worship is Not about us – It's about Him.**

“To worship is to quicken the conscience by the holiness of God, to feed the mind with the truth of God, to purge the imagination by the beauty of God, to open the heart to the love of God, to devote the will to the purpose of God.” William Temple

Think about your worship today. Is this the mindset that you have on Sunday morning? Don't answer this question out loud. In the past I have talked to church members that were leaving our church. Some have said, “I am not being fed in this church.” If you come to church expecting to meet God, He will meet you there.

## **Worship is Not about Here – It's about There**

When we come into church our focus should change from our daily lives to the throne room of God. I have often said that during prayer time, prayer is the only thing that can take us to the “very throne of God”. We are to be in this world but not of this world. 1 John 2:15-17

In church, we should not be here but There (in heaven). - John 17:14-16. Heaven is our home.

## **Worship is Not about Now – It's about Then**

2 Corinthians 4:16-18 (NASB) - *16 Therefore we do not lose heart, but though our outer person is decaying, yet our inner person is being renewed day by day. 17 For our momentary, light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all*

*comparison, 18 while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal.*

The outward man is perishing; the inward man is being renewed daily. The light affliction is today's problems; the eternal glory is tomorrow's promise. The things that we see today are temporary; the things that are not seen are eternal.

### **Worship is Not about One – It's about Many**

During this pandemic, we have gotten use to attending a worship service online. We get to hear the sermon but we miss out on praising God and fellowshiping with our church family.

Matthew 18:20 tell us that where two or more are together then God is with them.

Hebrews 10:25 tells us that we should make sure that we attend church, especially in person.

The following versus tell us how many will be worshipping the Lamb which is true worship. The following verses tell us that in heaven there will be large numbers worshipping. .

Revelation 5:11-12 says that there are "myriads of myriads, and thousands of thousands" worshipping in the throne room of God. Revelation 14:2-3 tells us that there were 144,000 worshipping the Lamb. And finally, Revelation 19:6 says that a great multitude said "Hallelujah! Salvation, glory, and power belong to our God, "

There are times when we should worship alone but there are others when we should worship together.