

OUR WORSHIP IN HEAVEN!

Revelation 1:8-18

INTRODUCTION: We have just read the opening vision in the book of Revelation in which John saw the glorified Christ among the golden lamp stands. Revelation 1:12-18. In Revelation 4-5 we see a glimpse into heaven at the great worship service that will occur around the throne of God just before He unleashes the final events in world history. In most worship services today we see three primary parts to our worship: 1. We praise our God. 2. We pray to our God. 3. We preach His Word. This pattern started in the Jewish synagogue. Yet in Revelation 4-5 we see a different pattern of worship as only one of those three elements will remain. There will be no prayers of supplication, no need to pray for others, no need to confess our sins in prayer or to ask for healing. Every need in heaven will be instantly fulfilled. Matthew 6:5-6. There will be no need for preaching in heaven. 1 Corinthians 13:12. We will still enjoy poring over God's Word: Psalm 119:89 but we will not have to exhort one another to trust it or to obey it, for we will be living in a state of perfect holiness. The only element of worship in heaven will be praise! Psalm 30:12; Psalm 44:8; Psalm 45:17; Psalm 52:9; Psalm 145:21.

I. OUR WORSHIP IN HEAVEN!

Our worship in heaven will be quite different from what it is today: Revelation 4:1: John saw a heavenly worship service going on. John saw right into heaven and it reminded him of his first meeting years before with his Lord: Matthew 4:21-22. John had been with Jesus in the village of Cana for the first miracle at the wedding of turning water into wine. He had seen Jesus transfigured on the Mount of Glory. John was present the night before Jesus' death: John 14:1-3. Fifty or sixty years passed and now John is the only apostle left of the original twelve and he is on the Isle of Patmos and suddenly He hears a voice: Revelation 4:1.

II. THE CENTER OF WORSHIP IN HEAVEN!

Revelation 4:2-3: the key word here is "throne" and it appears 37 times in Revelation. Revelation 4:2-6; Revelation 4:10; Revelation 5:11; Revelation 5:13. These verses speaking of the heavenly throne speak to our Lord Jesus' sovereignty, authority, reign, and absolute power. As the craziness of the events on this earth unfold there is still One on the throne Who rules! Psalm 39:10-11.

III. THE CHORUS OF WORSHIP IN HEAVEN!

The apostle John was allowed to listen in on a worship service in heaven that just preceded the return of the King of glory to earth to redeem His people. Revelation 4:4; Revelation 4:9-11. Those twenty four elders represent the Church of the living God. They represent the redeemed of all the ages singing praises to God while beholding the Lord Jesus stand up from His seat of power to come back to this earth for His Church! Revelation 5:8-10. The worship in heaven is a crescendo of worship: Revelation 1:6; Revelation 4:11; Revelation 5:13; Revelation 7:12. We can feel the crescendo of worship to our Lord! The grand finale is found in Revelation 19:1-9. It is in worship of our Lord Jesus Christ that our lives start to have a true perspective about this life and the one to come. Colossians 3:1-4.