

## Revelation 4-5 Heavenly Worship

As John is now snatched up into heaven, writing see the heavenly throne room and a heavenly worship scene. What can we learn about worship from this text?

Topic- Worship

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Have you ever gone on a trip to a new country?

“Prayer sends earthly things to heaven, but worship brings heavenly things to earth.”

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Revelation 1:19 — “Write the things which you have seen, and the things which are, and the things which will take place after this.

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Revelation 3:11 — “Behold, I am coming quickly! Hold fast what you have, that no one may take your crown.

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What are the four living creatures?

### WHAT WE KNOW FOR CERTAIN ABOUT THE FOUR LIVING CREATURES

- Found in FOUR main texts: Isaiah 6, Ezekiel 1&10, & Revelation 4-5
- They are called Cherubim in Ezekiel (Ezek. 10:15), Seraphim in Isaiah (Isa. 6:2), and Living Creatures in Revelation (Rev. 4:6).
- Always found around the throne of God. Ezek. 1:26 [below]; Isa. 6:1–2 [above]; Rev. 4:6 [around]
- They have multiple faces/forms associated with lion, ox/calf, man, and eagle (Ezek. 1:10 & Rev. 4:7).
- Full of eyes (Ezek. 10:12; Rev. 4:6, 8).
- They have wings (Ezekiel: 4 wings; Isaiah & Revelation: 6 wings) (Ezek. 1:6; Isa. 6:2; Rev. 4:8).
- They cry “Holy, Holy, Holy” (Isa. 6:3; Rev. 4:8).
- They are fiery/flaming (Seraphim means “flaming ones”) (Ezek. 1:13–14; Isa. 6:6; Ezek. 10:6–7).

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Hebrew Noun Doubling For Emphasis:

-Genesis 14:10 — Hebrew: בְּאֵרוֹת בַּאֲרֹת הָמָר (be'erot be'erot hēmar, “pits, pits of asphalt”) | NKJV: “asphalt pits”

-Song of Solomon 1:1 — Hebrew: שִׁיר הַשִּׁירִים (shîr ha-shîrîm, “song of songs”) | NKJV: “The song of songs”

-Isaiah 26:3 — Hebrew: שְׁלֹמֹם שְׁלֹמֹם (shālôm shālôm, “peace, peace”) | NKJV: “perfect peace”

“...full of eyes in front and in back...each having six wings, were full of eyes around and within...”

*And they do not rest day or night, saying: “Holy, holy, holy,fn Lord God Almighty, Who was and is and is to come!”*

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CREATED FOR THE PURPOSE OF WORSHIP:

-Isaiah 43:21 — “This people I have formed for Myself; they shall declare My praise.”

-Psalm 29:2 — “Give unto the LORD the glory due to His name; worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.”

-Psalm 95:6 — “Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the LORD our Maker.”

-Psalm 100:2 — “Serve the LORD with gladness; come before His presence with singing.”

-John 4:23 — “The true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him.”

-Hebrews 13:15 — “Let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name.”

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What is worship?

Worship = proskuneō(προσκυνέω); Lit. to kiss the hand; OR to fall upon the knees and touch the ground with the forehead as an expression of profound reverence

-ROOT: Pros (to draw near/closer) + kyōn (a dog)

-Thus, it means to draw near with a submissive reverse, much like a dog.

-Hebrew (shakha) lit. meant “to bow down”

\*\*Tozer-“The contemporary Christian crowd is running after religious entertainment when they should be seeking God.”

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What good is a crown?

CROWNS MENTIONED IN THE NEW TESTAMENT:

- Crown of Life — Rev. 2:10; James 1:12 — Given to believers who endure temptation and remain faithful unto death. (“The Martyr’s Crown”)
- Crown of Righteousness — 2 Tim. 4:8 — Given to those who love and long for Christ’s appearing
- Crown of Glory — 1 Pet. 5:4 — Given to faithful shepherds and spiritual leaders
- Incorruptible (Imperishable) Crown — 1 Cor. 9:25 — Given to believers who exercise disciplined, self-controlled Christian living
- Crown of Rejoicing — 1 Thess. 2:19; Phil. 4:1 — Given for souls won and disciples made for Christ

Worship is giving God all the glory He deserves.

-How much worship is God worthy of?

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Heavenly Worship is Orderly Worship

“Whenever the living creatures give glory...the twenty-four elders fall down...”

In heaven everyone will have perfect pitch and perfect tempo!

ORDERLY WORSHIP:

- 1 Corinthians 14:33 — God is not the author of confusion but of peace
- 1 Corinthians 14:40 — Let all things be done decently and in order
- Ecclesiastes 5:1 — Draw near to hear rather than to offer the sacrifice of fools

1 Chronicles 15:12-13 — [David] said to them, “You are the heads of the fathers’ houses of the Levites; sanctify yourselves, you and your brethren, that you may bring up the ark of the LORD God of Israel to the place I have prepared for it. For because you did not do it the first time, the LORD our God broke out against us, because we did not consult Him about the proper order.”

1 Chronicles 13:8-10 — Then David and all Israel played music before God with all their might, with singing, on harps, on stringed instruments, on tambourines, on cymbals, and with trumpets. And when they came to Chidon’s threshing floor, Uzza put out his hand to hold the ark, for the oxen stumbled. Then the anger of the LORD was aroused against Uzza, and He struck him because he put his hand to the ark; and he died there before God.

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## CHAPTER 5

What is the scroll?

-Find that out tonight!

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no one was found worthy to open and read the scroll, or to look at it.

Who wasn't worthy?

-Adam was there.

-Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob were there. -Moses was there.

-Elijah, Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Daniel.

-King David was there.

-Peter, Andrew, James, and John.

-Paul, Luke, & Mark

-Mary, Mary, and the other Mary

-Polycarp, Augustine, Luther, Calvin, & Spurgeon.

-Billy Graham and Chuck Smith.

-Michael, Gabriel, and all the angels were there.

-And if you are a believer in Jesus Christ today, you and I will be there also.

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Do you know what it feels like to be utterly desperate?

“So I wept much...”

“And behold... a Lamb...”

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“each having a harp”

Colossians 3:16 — Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

Psalms = “Strummed/Plucked Songs”

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“each having... golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saint”

-Incense isn't worth much without some fire.

**\*\*Bounds-** Prayer and devotion are united as soul and body are united, as life and the heart are united. There is no real prayer without devotion, no devotion without prayer.

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If you feel like your prayer life is struggling, but your “worship life” is going great, there is something broken there, and perhaps it is your understanding of worship.

\*Torrey- “We are not ready to pray until we are ready to worship.”

Songs of Prayer

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\*\*Altar of incense- this was the closest item to the holy of holies in the Tabernacle and Temple

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“And I looked, and behold, in the midst of the throne... in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb...”

Was Jesus ever not on the throne?

Your heart is not fit for heaven if you cannot worship the Lamb now.

-You will never know rich and powerful worship, until you can be broken before God, absolutely helpless, without any hope at all...

But then behold, the Lamb...