

LESSON 12

Eternal Worship

Revelation 7:11-12

All the angels stood around the throne, and along with the elders and the four living creatures they fell facedown before the throne and worshiped God, saying, Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and strength be to our God forever and ever. Amen, Revelation 7:11-12.

Class Overview: Heaven is pictured as a place where worship never ends. Around the throne, the redeemed and all creation lift their voices in unceasing praise to God and the Lamb. This worship is focused entirely on Him—His holiness, His worth, and His saving power—and is filled with joy that cannot be diminished. In heaven, worship is not an event to attend but the atmosphere of eternal life. This lesson will help us see how our worship now is a foretaste of what is to come and challenge us to develop hearts that love to glorify God.

Class Objectives:

By the end of this class, you should be able to:

1. Describe the biblical vision of eternal worship in Revelation.
2. Explain why worship in heaven is unceasing, God-focused, and joyful.
3. Contrast earthly worship with the perfection of heavenly worship.
4. Apply the hope of eternal worship to present life, especially during times of sorrow and distraction.
5. Develop greater devotion to worshiping God now as preparation for eternity.

Introduction:

Through the years, I have been able to attend lectureships and conferences where thousands of people were gathered in one place. As the singing began, the sound was almost overwhelming. Voices rose together, strong and clear, filling the building with praise to God. I remember thinking, *this must be just a small taste of heaven.* Worship here on earth can be deeply moving, but it is always incomplete. Our voices grow tired. (*I can't sing like I could when I was younger.*) Our attention drifts. The demands of life eventually pull us away. Even the most powerful worship moments fade.

But Scripture gives us a picture of heaven where worship never ends. Revelation 7:9-12 describes a multitude that no one could number, from every nation, crying out together: *"Salvation belongs to our God, who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!"* In that city, worship will be unbroken, perfect, and eternal.

Heaven is not only a place of peace, fellowship, and rest: it is a place where God's people will give Him the glory He deserves forever. Worship will not be an event we attend, but the atmosphere of our eternal life with God.

Unceasing Praise

Day and night they never stop, saying: Holy, holy, holy, Lord God, the Almighty, who was, who is, and who is to come, Revelation 4:8.

From the Text

John's vision of heaven shows worship that never ceases. The living creatures around the throne give glory without pause, declaring the holiness and majesty of God. Worship in heaven is not bound by time, weariness, or distraction. It is the constant response of created beings to the eternal worth of the Creator.

Biblical Themes of Unceasing Praise

- Psalm 113:3: "From the rising of the sun to its setting, let the name of the Lord be praised."
- Isaiah 6:3: The seraphim call to one another, "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of Armies; his glory fills the whole earth."
- Hebrews 13:15: "Through him let us continually offer up to God a sacrifice of praise."
- Revelation 19:6: "Hallelujah, because our Lord God, the Almighty, reigns!"

The Experience of Worship in Heaven

- Worship will be continuous, not occasional: unceasing acknowledgment of God's greatness.
- Worship will be effortless and joyful: no fatigue, no wandering thoughts, no distractions.
- Worship will be universal: every voice and every creature united in adoration.
- Worship will be pure: no pride or hypocrisy, only truth and devotion.

Application

- Heaven reminds us that worship is not confined to one hour a week; it is the continual posture of a heart that sees God.
- Our worship on earth prepares us for eternal worship. Every song, prayer, and act of devotion points forward to that day.
- If we grow weary of praising God now, it challenges us to examine our hearts. Heaven is for those who love to worship.

The Focus of Heaven

They cast their crowns before the throne and say: Our Lord and God, you are worthy to receive glory and honor and power, because you have created all things, and by your will they exist and were created, Revelation 4:10-11.

From the Text

The worship of heaven is centered entirely on God and the Lamb. The elders fall before Him, casting their crowns, acknowledging that all glory belongs to Him alone. Worship in heaven is not self-centered or man-focused—it is God-focused. The throne is the center of heaven's life and activity.

Biblical Themes of God-Centered Worship

- Exodus 15:11: “Lord, who is like you among the gods? Who is like you, glorious in holiness, revered with praises, performing wonders?”
- Psalm 29:2: “Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; worship the Lord in the splendor of his holiness.”
- John 4:23–24: True worshipers will worship the Father in Spirit and in truth, for the Father seeks such as these.
- Philippians 2:10-11: Every knee will bow, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.

The Experience of Heaven's Focus

- All attention will be on the throne: no distractions, no competing affections.
- All glory will be directed to God: He alone is worthy.
- The Lamb who was slain will be exalted as Savior and King.
- Worship will be unified: not divided among denominations, cultures, or personal preferences.

Application

- Heaven reminds us that worship is not about us: it is about God.
- Worship is not measured by how it makes us feel but by whether God is honored.
- When we gather in worship now, we practice for eternity by learning to shift our focus away from ourselves and onto Him.

The Joy of Worship

After this I heard something like the loud voice of a vast multitude in heaven, saying: Hallelujah! Salvation, glory, and power belong to our God, because his judgments are true and righteous ... Then I heard something like the voice of a vast multitude, like the sound of cascading waters, and like the rumbling of loud thunder, saying: Hallelujah, because our Lord God, the Almighty, reigns, Revelation 19:1-2, 6.

From the Text

The worship of heaven is marked by overwhelming joy. A vast multitude cries out “Hallelujah!” with the sound of rushing waters and rolling thunder. The joy of heaven is not silent or subdued: it is full, exuberant, and shared. Worship is the celebration of God’s victory, salvation, and reign.

Biblical Themes of Joyful Worship

- Psalm 16:11: “In your presence is abundant joy; at your right hand are eternal pleasures.”
- Psalm 100:2: “Serve the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.”
- Isaiah 51:11: “The ransomed of the Lord will return and come to Zion with singing, crowned with unending joy.”
- Luke 2:10–11: The angel announced, “I proclaim to you good news of great joy … today a Savior was born for you.”

The Experience of Joy in Heaven

- Every voice will be lifted in glad praise: joy unbroken and unending.
- Worship will not be hindered by sorrow, pain, or distraction.
- Joy will be multiplied because it is shared with the redeemed of all ages.
- The victory of God will be the theme of eternal rejoicing.

Application

- Heaven reminds us that true joy is found in God’s presence, not in earthly circumstances.
- Worship now should reflect the gladness of eternity: praising with our hearts as well as our lips.
- If worship feels like a burden, heaven challenges us to rediscover the joy of honoring God.

Conclusion

Heaven is a place where worship never ends. Around the throne of God and the Lamb, every creature will lift its voice in unceasing praise, perfect focus, and overflowing joy. Worship will not be something we “go to,” … it will be the very atmosphere of our eternal life.

Think of it: no distractions, no weariness, no divided hearts. Only glad voices, united together, honoring the One who saved us. The scenes of Revelation remind us that the center of heaven is not mansions, streets of gold, or gates of pearl: it is the throne of God. The joy of heaven is the joy of worshiping Him forever.

And this truth challenges us now. If we long for eternal worship, then our hearts must learn to treasure worship in the present. Every song sung, every prayer lifted, every word of Scripture read is a rehearsal for eternity. Worship here is preparation for the endless worship of heaven.

For Discussion

1. Revelation 4:8 describes worship that never stops. What does this teach us about the nature of worship in heaven?



1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. Why do you think worship in heaven is continuous and not occasional?

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

8. _____

9. _____

10. _____

3. Revelation 4:10-11 shows elders casting their crowns before God's throne. What does this action teach us about humility and focus in worship?

11. _____

12. _____

13. _____

14. _____

15. _____

4. How is worship in heaven different from worship on earth in terms of focus and distractions?

16. _____

17. _____

18. _____

19. _____

5. Revelation 19:1-6 describes a multitude shouting "Hallelujah!" What does this reveal about the joy of heavenly worship?

20. _____

21. _____

6. How does the picture of unbroken, joyful worship in heaven encourage you during times of sorrow or hardship now?

7. What are some practical ways our worship on earth can better reflect the focus and joy of heaven?

8. If heaven is filled with eternal worship, what does that reveal about the kind of hearts we need to be developing today?
