

Where Do We Go From Here? (The Throne Room)

There is a shift and a change, a modification, even a quiet revolution taking place. God's people are hungering and thirsting for His Presence, impacting upon the pattern and experience of worship. Throne-room worship is not really a mystical thing. It is quite simple really.

The thirst in the Church is causing a shift as our hearts and minds lift from earth to heaven. The King of kings is our focus and the throne-room has our attention more than the earth! Worship on earth changes as we seek to align with and replicate the worship of heaven rather than what we have learned on earth! Heaven's pattern for worship becomes our pattern for worship. We find we love what God loves and hate what He hates. His priorities become ours. His values become our values. The most difficult part for us is letting go of our desire to be on the throne and from us being the focus.

"Now is the time for The Assembly / West Monroe to worship in Spirit and truth. The Assembly will worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness. We will honor the holiness of God. We will join the angelic hosts in crying out...HOLY is the Lord." Worship will change in the church in that it will be released from, inspired by, centered around and linked to the throne of God...God has given us a key and that key is worship. And it's going to bring revival if we continue to worship like this...heaven and earth are in sync. What was happening in heaven is happening on earth. And what is happening on earth is happening in heaven. It's time for us to be joined as one."

Hosea's marriage to Gomer was a prophetic Word to Israel. The Lord said He would allure His bride into the wilderness to stir and awaken bridal love. (Hosea 2:14) He has been doing the same again in His Church. It is in the wilderness we come to the throne and bow in worship. It is there we find comfort, peace, satisfaction, meaning, reality, strength, healing, grace and love. Even when the rest of the world around us is in chaos, turmoil and mayhem, the throne room is where His presence is found. In His presence idols fall, mountains melt, the earth heaves, the rain falls, curses are broken, and the sting of death, pain and sorrow are removed, tears are bottled and there is fullness of joy!

Aligning With Heaven

When our worship follows the pattern of heaven, we become aligned with heaven. At this point heaven and earth come into perfect harmony and synchronization. What is happening in heaven is happening on earth, and what is happening on earth is happening in heaven. Heaven and earth are joined as we come into total agreement. We may or may not hear the angelic choir and orchestra, but when our theme, our focus, our objective and our pattern is the same as heaven's, then they **do** join with us.

Heaven's atmosphere: "custom built" for His habitation

We all like to fill our homes with things that make us comfortable and where we can be at ease. We choose colors, furniture and decorations that reflect our personalities, tastes and lifestyle. Royalty does the same with their palaces only without the constraints of cost. Heaven is God's home and earth is His footstool.

The environment that surrounds God's throne, i.e. non-stop worship, is something that He has chosen and created. It is the exact setting, surrounding and atmosphere that He likes. It is the atmosphere that He gravitates to and where He likes to be.

Four characteristics of heaven's worship

The order of these four characteristics is as important as the elements themselves. The pattern is progressive; line upon line, precept upon precept. If the first precept is not established the next will not be possible. Throne room worship (all aspects of it) involves a progression of ascending to the throne.

1. God is on His throne.

On earth there are pretenders and contenders for God's throne. There is a "battle" for the throne. BUT God just laughs at the kings of the earth who plot such vain things. (Psalm 2:4) "He who sits in heaven laughs".

His throne is **never** in danger. In heaven He sits upon His throne where rebellion and take-over cannot succeed.

In the heavenlies Lucifer proudly boasted that he would exalt his throne above God's creation. (Isa 14:13) BUT God who created the heavens and the earth and who holds the universe in the span of His hand, will consume the evil one with one breath of His mouth. (2 Thess 2:8)

In heaven, everything is based around God's throne which is exactly in the centre. When John had his vision of heaven he was taken through an open door. The first thing he is shown is the throne and the One sitting on it. Everything he sees and describes is said to be **around** the throne. "*Around the throne were twenty-four thrones... in the midst of the throne, and around the throne, were four living creatures (Rev 4:4,6)*" Everything is either in the throne or in a circle around it. Both the twenty four elders on thrones and the four creatures are **around** the throne. This is quite a different concept to most of our churches that are in rectangles with a stage up the front!

God's throne is central to everything. It is central to every decision, every purpose, every function, every direction, and every judgment. All who are there give way to His will, His desires and carry them out with His methods and at His direction. Those around the throne do not question, argue or contend with His will. "Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven" is not just a wonderful sounding religious slogan but something that must become a reality. **He Is Lord!**

2. He is honored 24/7.

The four living creatures "do not rest day or night, saying: "*Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, Who was and is and is to come!*" (Rev 4:8)" Verbally and musically He is honored and revered for who He is. The wonders of His character and nature are proclaimed, stated, announced, broadcasted and decreed. Such declarations and songs exalt and honor Him. It is all about Him. He is the focal point.

If you think about earthly relationships, when we focus totally upon an individual it is usually an intimate setting. Maybe a wedding or funeral or just with the one we love. To honor and praise somebody's personality and character is an aspect of intimacy. Throne room worship is intimate. The subject of adoration is the Lord. His name is honored. His personality and nature are exalted.

The heavenly community is engaged in continuous praise day and night. It never stops! Our corruptible bodies might struggle with 24/7 worship or get bored with an unchanging theme, but heaven doesn't. Day and night the theme remains the same, "holy, holy, holy is the Lord". Holiness is the one aspect of God's nature that is proclaimed day and night. As important as love is, it is not the subject of heaven's praise! Holiness is praiseworthy. Holiness is powerful. Demons addressed Jesus as "the holy One" and cringed at His presence. His holy pure blood destroyed **all** the works of the devil.

3. Corporate worship.

Rev 4:9

"Whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits on the throne, who lives forever and ever, ¹⁰the twenty-four elders fall down before Him who sits on the throne and worship Him who lives forever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying: ¹¹"You are worthy, O Lord".

Worship takes place when we have really connected with God. And each time we come to “worship” there is a progression of acknowledging, verbalizing and refreshing relationship that provokes, stimulates, invigorates and stirs worship to take place.

Music was a choice made by God at creation. God gave it a unique capability of drawing together and unifying multitudes into a singular expression of proclaiming His praise. The synergy of corporate praise and the “one sound”, as at the dedication of Solomon’s temple, produces an anointing and a manifestation of God’s presence that is not possible by any other means. I do not believe we will come into the pinnacle of worship or in alignment with heaven’s worship unless music is a part of this expression of praise. Though the songs themselves are **not** the worship, they are the vehicles or unique vessels through which we are corporately able to exalt and honor the Lord’s holy name. When this song comes from sincere lips and hearts that are in sync with heaven it causes the same individuals to **respond** in worship.

Rev 5:8-14

*“...the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders **fell down** before the Lamb, each having a harp, and golden bowls full of incense... ⁹And they **sang a new song...and I heard the voice of many angels** around the throne, the **living creatures**, and the **elders**; and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands, ¹²saying with a loud voice: “Worthy is the Lamb who was slain... And **every creature which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, I heard saying: “Blessing and honor and glory and power...then the four living creatures said, “Amen!” And the twenty-four elders **fell down and worshiped”**”***

4. God responds.

When we respond to His love in surrender, and give to Him honor, praise and worship, He in turn responds to us.

James 4:8

“Draw near to God and He will draw near to you.”

In the book of Revelation, it is interesting to observe that after every description of proclamations and praise toward the Lord, it is followed by an action from the Lord. Awesome things flow from the throne.

Throughout the book of Revelation, you will notice that there is a description of worship followed by a description of judgement. This pattern continues through the whole book, worship followed by judgement, more worship and more judgement. It is from the throne surrounded with the atmosphere of worship that judgement flows. All things are dealt with in accordance with God’s throne which is founded on truth, righteousness and justice. That which would contradict or violate God’s holy nature is removed. That which cannot co-exist with purity and love is excluded and expelled.

After this, the ultimate adjustment of all begins to unfold.

“Then the temple of God was opened in heaven, and the ark of His covenant was seen in His temple. And there were lightnings, noises, thunderings, an earthquake, and great hail.” (Rev 11:19)

The ultimate fruit of throne room worship on earth is that rivers of living water will flow. Jesus told us that “By their fruits you will know them”. (Matt 7:17-20) If we are ministering at the directive of the Holy Spirit, living waters will flow: angelic activity is released, divine re-alignments take place and healings and restoration **will** follow.

What “Throne Room” worship is not

Since we have considered the pattern of heaven let us now consider what it is **not**.

- Throne room worship is not the status quo.
- It is not us copying the best worship technique known to man or the best worship team on the planet.
- It is not us trying to replicate a successful model of worship used by the ministry of “xyz”.
- It is not just singing songs, or singing them according to some formula.
- It is not choosing the favorite songs of the pastor or worship leader.
- It is not putting someone on the worship team just because they are gifted in music.
- It is not a place for musicians egos to compete.
- It is not putting a novice in charge of “worship” because they have potential or could draw a crowd.
- It is not ordering the songs to make them conform to the traditions of man.
- It is not dictated by the clock (though it **does** respect time restrictions of human need and those in authority.)
- Its liberties are not an opportunity for rebellion.
- It is not a warm-up to the “main event” even if that “event” is something as important and vital as preaching the word.
- It is not a new fad, nor should the term be a new advertising buzz word to catch a crowd.
- It is not something where you can be a spectator.
- It is not something where you can be apathetic, disengaged or half-hearted.
- It is not something where you can fake who you are or pretend sincerity and truth.
- It is not an optional extra where you can tick a box and go if you want.
- It is not in competition to the great commission /evangelism.
- It is not in competition to the pure Word of God flowing.
- It is not something we do to attract unbelievers.
- It is not entertainment.
- It is not a song whose aim is to “minister” to people, to bring comfort and edification.

Psalm 27:5

“For in the time of trouble He shall hide me in His pavilion; in the secret place of His tabernacle He shall hide me; He shall set me high upon a rock.”

- Throne Room Song