



Sermon Guide: Rediscovering the Good News of Jesus: “A Life Of Worship” |

Mike Woods | March 03, 2024

Summary

In the culmination of our series on the Gospel, Mike calls us to reflect on how the Good News that Jesus is the fulfillment of the story of God's interaction with His creation ushers us into a life of worship. Drawing mainly on John's experience of the throne room of God in Revelation chapters 4 and 5, Mike walks us through that story from creation to consummation, finding the different reasons for our worship.

As we reflect on the vision of the Apostle John on the island of Patmos, we see a depiction of worship in its most ideal form. John is transported to a heavenly throne room where he witnesses the elders and creatures worshiping God, representing humanity as it was intended to be. This scene echoes the worship that occurs when we recognize God's intrinsic glory and his handiwork in creation and respond in praise.

John's vision continues with the revelation of a scroll in God's right hand, representing his perfect plan for creation. Yet, there is a profound paradox: God freely offers the scroll, yet no one is found worthy to open it because humanity has chosen sovereignty over submission to God.

In the midst of John's weeping, the Lamb, who is Jesus, appears. He is both the Lion of Judah and the slain Lamb, embodying victory and sacrifice. Jesus, standing at the center of the throne, takes the scroll, signifying that He alone is worthy to unveil and fulfill God's plan. This moment is the heart of the Gospel, revealing Jesus as the one who redeems and restores us to our intended place as priests and kings, serving and reigning with God.

The vision culminates with a celestial chorus of angels, creatures, and all of creation, worshiping the Lamb and proclaiming His worthiness. This is the ultimate fulfillment of God's plan, where all of creation joins in eternal praise to God and the Lamb.

As we reflect on this vision, we are reminded that worship is not only about singing songs or attending services. Worship is a response to who God is and what He has done through Jesus Christ. It is a life lived in surrender, transformation, and anticipation of the day when we will join the eternal chorus of praise.

Key Takeaways:

- Worship is a transformative response to the Gospel, where we offer our lives as living sacrifices to God, embracing His mercy and allowing Him to renew our minds. This transformation is not an isolated event but a continuous journey of becoming more like Christ. [\[03:28\]](#)
- The vision of the heavenly throne room in Revelation serves as a reminder that true worship is about recognizing and revering God's holiness and sovereignty. As we encounter God's majesty, we are called to worship Him with awe and humility, acknowledging that He is the source of all life and the sustainer of the universe. [\[14:18\]](#)

- Jesus, the Lamb at the center of the throne, is the embodiment of God's plan for humanity. His presence at the center of the throne reminds us that He is the focal point of all creation and history. [\[24:14\]](#)
- The final chorus of worship in Revelation, encompassing all of creation, points to the ultimate hope we have in Christ. Worship is both a present reality and a future promise, where we join with all of creation in praising God for His redemptive work through Jesus. [\[28:52\]](#)

Bible Reading:

1. Romans 12:1-2a (ESV)

"I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind."

2. Revelation 4:8-11 (ESV)

"And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and within, and day and night they never cease to say, 'Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!' And whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to him who is seated on the throne, who lives forever and ever, the 24 elders fall down before him who is seated on the throne and worship him who lives forever and ever. They cast their crowns before the throne, saying, 'Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created.'"

3. Revelation 5:9-10 (ESV)

"And they sang a new song, saying, 'Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth.'"

Discussion Questions

1. How does living as a sacrifice translate into daily life for a believer, based on Romans 12:1-2?
2. What can we learn about the nature of true worship from the continuous worship of the living creatures and the 24 elders in Revelation 4?
3. What is the significance of the new song sung in Revelation 5:9-10, and how does it relate to the identity and mission of the people ransomed by the Lamb?

Going Deeper

1. Reflect on your daily routine. What is one area where you can live more sacrificially for God this week?
2. Consider the awe and reverence shown by the elders and creatures in Revelation 4. How can you incorporate a deeper sense of reverence in your personal worship?
3. Choose one attribute of God highlighted in the worship scenes of Revelation 4 and 5. How will you focus on that attribute in your prayers and actions this week?