

# Worship at the Throne

## Revelation 4 and 5

Revelation 4 and 5 offer a vivid depiction of heavenly worship, providing deep insights into its nature, focus, and significance. These chapters present a vision of the throne room of God, where worship is directed toward both God the Father and Jesus Christ, the Lamb.

### Revelation 4: Worship of God as Creator

1. **God's Sovereignty and Majesty:** (Revelation 4:1-5) The chapter opens with a vision of God on His throne, surrounded by four living creatures and twenty-four elders. The imagery—rainbow, thunder, lightning, and a sea of glass—emphasizes God's holiness, power, and transcendence. *Worship is a response to His supreme authority and glory.*
2. **Ceaseless Adoration:** Rev. 4:8) The four living creatures never stop saying, "Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!" This continuous praise highlights that worship is an eternal.
3. **Submission and Reverence:** (Rev 4:10) The twenty-four elders cast their crowns before the throne symbolizing the surrender of their authority and achievements to God.
4. **Focus on God's Creative Power:** (Rev 4:11) The elders declare, "*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.*"
5. **Key Lesson:** Worship in **Revelation 4** is God-centered, marked by awe, humility, and acknowledgment of His holiness and creative power.

### Revelation 5: Worship of the Lamb as Redeemer

1. **Christ's Worthiness:** (Rev 5:5-6) The focus shifts to the Lamb (Jesus Christ). He is worthy to open the scroll because of His sacrificial death and redemptive work.
2. **Universal Scope:** (Rev 5:13) The Lamb receives worship "*every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth.*" This shows that worship of Christ unites all creation.

3. **Sacrifice as the Basis for Worship:** (Rev 5:9) The new song sung to the Lamb: *"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."* Worship flows from gratitude for salvation.
4. **Equal Honor to Father and Son:** (Rev 5:13) The chapter culminates in a doxology to both the Father and the Lamb: *"To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!"*
5. **Key Lessons: Revelation 5** teaches that worship is Christ-centered, rooted in His redemptive sacrifice.

## Overarching Themes for Worship

1. Worship is **Theocentric and Christocentric**
2. Worship is **Participatory**
3. Worship is **Eternal**
4. Worship Involves **Surrender**

## Practical Application

1. Approach worship with reverence, recognizing God's holiness and Christ's sacrifice.
2. Center worship on God's character and redemptive acts, not personal preferences.
3. Engage in worship as a lifestyle, reflecting the eternal praise of heaven.
4. Unite with others in worship, mirroring the communal nature of the throne room.

# Worship that Makes God Feel at Home in Your Life

1. *Worship makes a journey to the throne of God and back.* God designed worship to draw us into his presence and to center our lives around his throne.

## **Revelation 4:3-6**

....around the throne *was a rainbow....*

....<sup>4</sup>Around the throne *were twenty-four thrones...*

....<sup>5</sup> From the throne *came flashes of lightning,*

....<sup>5</sup> before the throne *were burning seven torches*

....<sup>6</sup> *and* before the throne....

.... around the throne ....

....on each side of the throne ....

Worship draws us to explore the power, beauty, and life-giving presence of God. Worship makes God feel at home in our lives.

**Ephesians 2:19-22** (CSB) *So, then, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with the saints, and members of God's household, <sup>20</sup> built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. <sup>21</sup> In him the whole building, being put together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. <sup>22</sup> In him you are also being built together for God's dwelling in the Spirit.*

**1 Corinthians 3:16-17** (ESV) *Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? <sup>17</sup> If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy him. For God's temple is holy, and you are that temple.*

**Exodus 25:8-9** (CSB) *They are to make a sanctuary for me so that I may dwell among them. <sup>9</sup> You must make it according to all that I show you — the pattern of the tabernacle as well as the pattern of all its furnishings.*

**Hebrews 8:5** (CSB) *These serve as a copy and shadow of the heavenly things, as Moses was warned when he was about to complete the tabernacle. For God said, Be careful that you make everything according to the pattern that was shown to you on the mountain.*

2. In building a habitation for God, when we get the pattern right the promise will come to pass, *"I will dwell among them."*
  - a. Exodus 40:33-34
  - b. Revelation 4:1-2

## God's Resting Place

### 1. A Throne

**Revelation 4:2** (ESV) *At once I was in the Spirit, and behold, a throne stood in heaven, with one seated on the throne.*

### 2. A Holy Place

**Revelation 4:8** (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!"*

### 3. A Place of Thanksgiving

**Revelation 4:9** (ESV) *And whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to him who is seated on the throne, who lives forever and ever...*

### 4. A Place of Worship

**Revelation 4:10** (ESV) *The twenty-four 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, <sup>11</sup> "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."*

### 5. A Place of Humility

**Revelation 4:10** (ESV) *the twenty-four 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...*