

THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST

DEFINING TRUE WORTH

REVELATION 4 & 5

THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST

*This is a revelation from Jesus Christ,
which God gave him to show his servants the events that must soon take place.
He sent an angel to present this revelation to his servant John,
who faithfully reported everything he saw.
This is his report of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ.*

REVELATION 1.1-2

AN OPEN DOOR IN THE SPIRIT

Then as I looked, I saw a door standing open in heaven, and the same voice I had heard before spoke to me like a trumpet blast. The voice said, “Come up here, and I will show you what must happen after this.” At once I was in the Spirit, and there before me was a throne in heaven . . .

REVELATION 4.1-2

THE THRONE ROOM OF ETERNITY

Then as I looked, I saw a door standing open in heaven, and the same voice I had heard before spoke to me like a trumpet blast. The voice said, “Come up here, and I will show you what must happen after this.” And instantly I was in the Spirit, and I saw a throne in heaven and someone sitting on it. The One sitting on the throne was as brilliant as gemstones—like jasper and carnelian. And the glow of an emerald circled His throne like a rainbow.

REVELATION 4.2-3

Twenty-four thrones surrounded Him, and twenty-four elders sat on them. They were all clothed in white and had gold crowns on their heads. From the throne came flashes of lightning and the rumble of thunder. And in front of the throne were seven torches with burning flames. This is the sevenfold Spirit of God. In front of the throne was a shiny sea of glass, sparkling like crystal. In the center and around the throne were four living beings, each covered with eyes, front and back. The first of these living beings was like a lion; the second was like an ox; the third had a human face; and the fourth was like an eagle in flight. Each of these living beings had six wings, and their wings were covered all over with eyes, inside and out.

AN UNCEASING DECLARATION

Day after day and night after night they keep on saying,

*“Holy, holy, holy
is the Lord God, the Almighty—
the One who always was, who is, and who is still to come.”*

REVELATION 4.8

A CONTINUOUS WORSHIP

Whenever the living beings give glory and honor and thanks to the One sitting on the throne (the One who lives forever and ever), the twenty-four elders fall down and worship the One sitting on the throne (the One who lives forever and ever). And they lay their crowns before the throne and say,

*“You are worthy, O Lord our God
to receive glory and honor and power.*

*For You created all things,
and they exist because You created what You pleased.”*

A SEALED SCROLL & A SEARCHING QUESTION

Then I saw a scroll in the right hand of the One who was sitting on the throne. There was writing on the inside and the outside of the scroll, and it was sealed with seven seals. And I saw a strong angel, who shouted with a loud voice: “Who is worthy to break the seals on this scroll and open it?” But no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll and read it.

REVELATION 5.1-3

AN EXCLUSIVE VICTOR

Then I began to weep bitterly because no one was found worthy to open the scroll and read it. But one of the twenty-four elders said to me, “Stop weeping! Look, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the heir to David’s throne, has won the victory. He is worthy to open the scroll and its seven seals.”

Then I saw a Lamb that looked as if it had been slaughtered, but it was now standing between the throne and the four living beings and among the twenty-four elders. He had seven horns and seven eyes, which represent the sevenfold Spirit of God that is sent out into every part of the earth. He stepped forward and took the scroll from the right hand of the One sitting on the throne.

THE WORTH OF THE LAMB

And when He took the scroll, the four living beings and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb. Each one had a harp, and they held gold bowls filled with incense, which are the prayers of God's people. And they sang a new song with these words:

“You are worthy to take the scroll and break its seals and open it.

*For You were slaughtered, and Your blood has ransomed people for God
from every tribe and language and people and nation.*

And You have caused them to become a Kingdom of priests for our God.

And they will reign on the earth.”

THE ABSOLUTE WORTH OF THE LAMB

Then I looked again, and I heard the voices of thousands and millions of angels around the throne and of the living beings and the elders. And they sang in a mighty chorus:

*“Worthy is the Lamb who was slaughtered—
to receive power and riches and wisdom and strength
and honor and glory and blessing.”*

REVELATION 5.11-12

“LET EVERYTHING PRAISE THE LORD!”

And then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea. They sang:

*“Blessing and honor and glory and power
belong to the One sitting on the throne
and to the Lamb forever and ever.”*

THE AFFIRMATION OF HEAVEN'S HIGHEST CREATION

*And the four living beings said, "Amen!"
And the twenty-four elders fell down
and worshiped the Lamb.*

REVELATION 5.14

► Only Christ can open the door and authorize one's entrance into heaven.

“I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life. No one can come to the Father except through me.”

JOHN 14.6

“Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.”

ACTS 3.12

Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near to God with a sincere heart . . .

HEBREWS 10.19-22

- Only through the Holy Spirit can we know Christ and understand spiritual truth and spiritual realities.

But when the Father sends the Advocate as my representative—that is, the Holy Spirit—he will teach you everything and will remind you of everything I have told you.

JOHN 14.26

What we have received is not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may understand what God has freely given us. This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, explaining spiritual realities with Spirit-taught words. The person without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God but considers them foolishness, and cannot understand them because they are discerned only through the Spirit.

1 CORINTHIANS 2.12-14

Tragically, many Christians are spiritually shallow in worship, understanding, and expression.

Brothers and sisters, I could not address you as people who live by the Spirit but as people who are still worldly—mere infants in Christ. I gave you milk, not solid food, for you were not yet ready for it. Indeed, you are still not ready. You are still worldly . . .

1 CORINTHIANS 3.1-3

- ▶ Only the “One on the throne” and the Lamb possess true and eternal worth and have the right to define what is worth-while.
- ▶ Only in Christ do we have any eternal worth or value. It is the “purchasing power” of the Lamb that pays the debt of our sin, and credits to us His righteousness and worth in God’s evaluation.

- ▶ To you, is God worth knowing? Your worth-response (worship) to God is limited to your understanding of His worth. How are you increasing your understanding?
- ▶ When we are unengaged or minimally engaged in worship, we dismiss and disregard the “heaven-recognized” value of Christ—

In a loud voice they sang:

*“Worthy is the Lamb who was slaughtered—
to receive power and riches and wisdom and strength
and honor and glory and blessing.”*

- ▶ Jesus invites us to enter into him, to deeply connect and abide in him, and experience His surpassing worth.

“Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me.”

REVELATION 3.20

“If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.”

JOHN 15.7-8