

# The Revelation of Jesus Christ

## The Worship of God in Heaven

### Revelation 4-5

#### 1. The \_\_\_\_\_ of Worship in Heaven

The Lord invited John to come up to heaven (Rev. 4:1) in order to show him what is to take place after Christ had dictated His letters to the seven churches (cf. Rev. 1:19). John witnesses the continuation of divine worship which Isaiah also witnessed (Rev. 4:8-11; cf. Isa. 6:1-4). When the Son appears near the throne so that He can reveal what is to come (Rev. 5:1-5), the result was that a new worship song began (Rev. 5:8-14) where the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders were joined by an innumerable host in heaven (Rev. 5:11), on the earth, and under the earth (Rev. 5:13). Later on, and just prior to the return of Christ, the multitude in heaven again praises God (Rev. 19:1-6).

#### 2. God is Worthy of Worship Because \_\_\_\_\_

God is worthy of worship for all that He is and does, and it is dangerous when men attempt to elevate one or another of His attributes above the others in order that it might dominate man's understanding of God. When Isaiah and John glimpse heavenly worship, the primary attribute for which God is being praised is his holiness (Isa. 6:3; Rev. 4:8). God's holiness is an all encompassing way to proclaim His uniqueness and His separation from all other things. God is uniquely holy, and this is a reason for why He is worthy of reverence, awe, and worship (Ex. 15:11; 1 Sam 2:2; cf. Rev. 5:1-5). No one can maintain any hint of self-righteousness when confronted with God's holiness (Isa. 6:5-7; Luke 5:8).

#### 3. God is Worthy of Worship Because \_\_\_\_\_

In addition to His holiness, those worshiping around the throne of God are shown to be praising Him specifically because He is eternal and because He is all powerful (Rev. 4:8). All other beings either have both a beginning and an ending (animals) or a beginning but no ending (humans and angels), only God is eternal with no beginning or ending (Rev. 1:8; cf. Gen. 1:1; John 1:1; Col. 1:17). God's omnipotence and His sovereign reign over all things is a matter of great comfort (cf. Gen. 45:7; 50:20) and a cause for worship (Isa. 43:13; Dan. 4:34-35).

#### 4. God is Worthy of Worship Because \_\_\_\_\_

After the four living creatures praised God for who He is, the twenty-four elders join in the worship by praising Him for His creative work (Rev. 4:11). Extolling God's work in creation is a regular part of the worship of God by His people (Ps. 136:4-9) because His creative and sustaining power (cf. Neh. 9:19-21) sets Him apart from all others (cf. Job 38:1-11). Similarly, after the Lamb is shown to be worthy of breaking the seals, He is then given praise for His redeeming sinners (Rev. 5:9) and because of His work on the cross (Rev. 5:12).