

PASTOR: Kip McCormick

DATE: July 28, 2024

SERIES: Rev'd Up

SERMON: What is Worthy of Your Worship?

MAIN SCRIPTURE: Revelation 4:1-11 (NASB)

SUPPORTING SCRIPTURE: Revelation 1:19; 3:20-21; 5:8-10; Isaiah 6:1-4; Ezekiel 1:5-25; John 14:1-3



MESSAGE TAKEAWAY: Only Christ is worthy of worship.

SUPPORTING THOUGHTS:

- Worship: Full devotion to someone or something over everything else.
- Chapters 4-8 represent one continuous vision.
- Futurist interpretation of Revelation: The Church is now absent on earth.
- The “Big Four” to remember about Revelation: 1) Christ will return; 2) God will triumph over evil; 3) We will be rewarded for our faith; and 4) Jesus wins.
- A door is a way to God through Christ.
- Keep it Simple: “In the Spirit” = The Holy Spirit was giving John a vision, showing Him things that he couldn’t see on his own or with his own senses.
- “Throne of God” symbolizes His absolute authority.
- 4 Main Views of the 24 Elders:
 - 1) 12 Old Testament Patriarchs (Israel) and 12 New Testament Apostles (Rev 21:12-14)
 - 2) The heavenly counterpart of the 24 priestly ranks (from Israel) who served the Temple (1 Chronicles 23:6; 24:7-18)
 - 3) A Divine Council, which is a special order of angels (Psalm 89:7)
 - 4) Representatives of the Church (as fulfilled in Revelation 3:21, since the church is raptured)
- Sea of Glass significance: Emphasizes the magnificence and holiness of God.
- Four Living Creatures: Angelic beings of high order (seraphim/cherubim), serving as part of the worship and government in heaven
 - Lion: symbolizes strength and power.
 - Calf (Ox): symbolizes humble service to a master (to God)
 - Man: symbolizes rational, created beings
 - Eagle: symbolizes how the cherubim fulfill their service to God with the swiftness of eagle’s wings.

- Four Living Creatures Correlated with the Four Gospel Accounts (McGee)
 - Lion: Jesus, the Lion of Judah, is king. First gospel account (Matthew), Matthew emphasizes the kingship of Jesus.
 - Calf (Ox): A servant animal. Second gospel account (Mark), with the emphasis on Christ as a servant.
 - Man: Son of Man. Third gospel account (Luke) emphasizes the humanity of Jesus.
 - Eagle: Soars above the clouds. Fourth gospel account (John) emphasizes Jesus' deity.
- Six wings: Represent power and swiftness (Isaiah 6:2)
- Eyes around and within: Represent complete knowledge.
- Day and Night worship: Represents the continuous worship of God in heaven.
- Idolatry: When you look to anything to give you what only Jesus can give you. If you lose it, your life is destroyed. (Keller)
- No idol is worthy of your worship. It will only compete with the One who is.

CHALLENGE: What “crown” do you need to cast at the feet of Jesus?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Which part of today’s teaching impacted you most?
- How have you struggled with worshiping people/things other than God? What were they? Share with the group.
- Even though Revelation has a lot of symbology, it has great applicability to our lives. Identify one place in chapter four that applies to your life or the lives of those around you.
- John tries to describe the indescribable – the throne of God. As you read the eleven verses of chapter four, how were you able to picture the throne of God?
- If you are struggling with worshiping someone/something other than Christ, own it, confess it to someone else as well as God (1 John 1:9) and develop a plan to put it in perspective.
- There are many different interpretations of Revelation. Take time to remind one another of “the Big Four” that Kip keeps coming back to when it comes to differences in interpretation of specific areas of Revelation. What are “the Big Four” and why are they important in our study?
- If you or anyone in your small group/study have missed a week, please remind one another (hold each other accountable) to go back and watch that week that was missed.

SOURCES: Eliyahu Lizorkin-Eyzenberg, Israel Bible Center (multiple books and commentaries); **Gotquestions.org**; **Life Application Study Bible** Commentary, Revelation; **John MacArthur** (multiple books, sermons, study bible; Grace to You Ministries); **Roy Rhodes** (Reasoning from the Scripture Ministries, Basic Bible Prophecy); **Chuck Swindoll** (New Testament Commentary – Revelation).