

080821P

INTRODUCTION

1. "I am centered. I am balanced. I am at peace."
2. We are Christ-centered & heavenly-minded - Col 3:1-4. Rv 5:1-7.  
The King is coronated & heaven erupts in worship - Rv 5:8-14

**1st: The Worshipers of the Lamb - v8**

1. *when He had taken the book*: - Rv 12:9; none to accuse - Advocate 1Jn 2:1
2. *4 living creatures & 24 elders fell down before the Lamb*: v14. Worship
3. *each has a harp* - Levites: 1Chr 25:1,6.
4. *golden bowls full of incense, wh/ are prayers of saints*: Ps 141:2
  - i. *saints*: the redeemed: in heaven (Rv 6:8) & earth [Hb 12:22-24; 13:15]
  - ii. Our prayers play crucial role - Rv 6:9-11; 8:3-12. ].  
Worship is integral to movement of History - *hastening the coming day* - 2Pt 3:10-11.

**2nd: The Worship of the Lamb - v9-10**

1. *sang new song, saying*: longest of 3 doxologies in Rv 5
  - i. *New song*: sung when delivered. Song of Moses [Ex 15] w/ song of Lamb - Rv 15:2-4. New song: Ps 96:1-4; Isa 42:10a. Unprecedented & new in quality, kind - yet having continuity w/ what preceded.
  - ii. Who sings? 4 living creatures & 24 elders. *Sang song saying*. Only redeemed sing, other say - v13-14. If you're saved, you sing.
2. *Worthy - break seals* - Finally mankind can stop weeping: Lamb is worthy.
3. *You were slain* (passive) & *purchased* (active) for God w/ *Your blood*: Why Lamb is *worthy*.

- i. We are saved by God for God - A 20:28b *purchased w/ His own blood*.
- ii. A voluntary payment to the requirements of God's justice.

4. *men from every tribe, tongue, people, nation* [Rv 7:9; 10:11; 11:9; 13:7; 14:6; 17:15] => elect from all over the world

**3rd: We Have Been Saved to Worship our Savior - v10**

1. *You have made them to be a kingdom & priests to our God* - 1:6; 20:6. 1Pt 2:9 - our worship evidenced our redemption.
2. *they will reign on the earth* = now & future: purpose statement.
  - i. Already: Eph 2:6 - administer the keys of the Kingdom.
  - ii. Not yet: intermediate state - Rv 20:4
  - iii. Not yet: eternal life in glory - Rv 22:1-7
3. How do we presently reign? Worship that issues into triumph of witness.

**Applic #1: Value the Privileged Stewardship of Worship**

1. Impact of Isa 1:12 on me as young pastor.
  - i. Contra contemporary impulse to innovation.
  - ii. Regulative Principle - THB p.682 - LBC 22:1
  - iii. Worship is something Lord provides His people for honor of His name. 1Chr 29:1 temple [worship] is not for man but for Lord [Ps 115:1].
2. Our stewardship.
3. Our privilege: 1Chr 29:1 & *Sabbath is made for man* [Mrk 2:27]

**Appic #2: The Enthroned Jesus is the Central Focus of Our Worship**

1. Col 3:1-4 Rv 5 = present reality: *Christ is seated at the right hand of God.*
2. We worship Triune God w/ Christocentric focus.
3. Center self [not in self] but in Christ.