

In Unison



The trumpeters and
singers joined in unison,
as with one voice, to
give praise and thanks
to the Lord.
2 Chronicles 5:13

Because He Deserves It

At the same time we might ask: Why is it so important to worship Him in the first place? And why is our position as worship leaders so important to the process? What's the big deal?

"You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being." Revelation 4:11

A Singular Devotion

The answer is the same to both questions: Why do we worship God alone? *Because He alone is worthy.* Why is it so important to worship Him? *Because He is worthy.*

The Father deserves our praise—He has it coming to Him. More than that, it is the godhead alone that deserves this unique worship.

Let them know that you, whose name is the Lord—that you alone are the Most High over all the earth.
Psalm 83:18

It is something of pristine eloquence and beauty to enter the sanctuary of the Lord—be it the sanctuary of

the corporate church or the sanctuary of our heart—to kneel before Him in utter humility, and to bring honor and glory to the Father simply because He deserves it.

We are to carry no agendas to the altar—no hidden, ulterior motives. We are to enter into worship without thought of self; for the moment at least, our petitions are to remain stuffed into our back pocket.

We are to offer up our words of praise for one reason only: He deserves them. God alone is worthy of our praise and adoration. And the words we offer are to bear no weight of self; they are to describe and proclaim only His holiness and worth-ship.

Worship is for the Lord and no one else, and the leading of others to the throne is a high and holy occupation.

If God welcomes those who worship Him—if He actually seeks out those who worship Him in Spirit and truth—then what must He think of those who encourage His worship, who draw those worshipers to Him?



hout joyfully to God, all the earth;

Sing the glory of His name;

Make His praise glorious.

Psalm 66:1-2 nasb

Why is it not all right to worship God *and anyone else of our choosing*? Why is it not all right for us to say: "Yes, I worship Jehovah God, but I also worship Buddha, the mighty oak, and my '57 Chevy."? Why should the God of heaven be so exclusive with our praise?

Break down their altars, smash their sacred stones and cut down their Asherah poles. Do not worship any other god, for the Lord, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God.
Exodus 34:13-14

“There is none great in the church but the Lord. Jesus is ‘the great Shepherd,’ he is ‘a Saviour, and a great one,’ our great God and Saviour, our great High Priest; his Father has divided him a portion with the great, and his name shall be great unto the ends of the earth. According to his nature should his worship be; it cannot be too constant, too laudatory, too earnest, too reverential, too sublime. There is none like the Lord, and there should be no praises like his praises.”

(Charles Haddon Spurgeon, *The Treasury of David*.)

“The gifted writer S.D. Gordon tells of an elderly Christian whose advancing years had taken their toll on her memory.

“As her health faded the time came when she could recite but a single verse—2 Timothy 1:12: ‘...I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day.’ Even these words slowly slipped from her memory until only a few days of her life remained and friends would hear her repeat just seven words: ‘That which I have committed unto Him.’

“Finally, as the hour of the woman’s death neared and her memory was all but gone, she voiced a single word repeatedly. It was all she could remember— ‘Him, Him, Him!’

“Said Gordon, ‘She had lost the whole Bible, except for that one powerful word. But she had the whole Bible in that one word—Him!’

“Here, beloved, is the key to any meaningful study of praise. Effective praise has its focus on our Lord alone. The more we are able to focus our praises exclusively on the nature and character of God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, the more power we will experience as the result of that praise.”

(Dick Eastman, *A Celebration of Praise* (Baker, 1984), p17)



Scripture

I call to the Lord, who is worthy of praise, and I am saved from my enemies. 2 Samuel 22:4

For great is the Lord and most worthy of praise; he is to be feared above all gods. 1 Chronicles 16:25

A song. A psalm of the Sons of Korah. Great is the Lord, and most worthy of praise, in the city of our God, his holy mountain. Psalm 48:1

Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise; his greatness no one can fathom. Psalm 145:3

Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, "He has spoken blasphemy! Why do we need any more witnesses? Look, now you have heard the blasphemy. What do you think?" "He is worthy of death," they answered. Then they spit in his face and struck him with their fists. Others slapped him and said, "Prophecy to us, Christ. Who hit you?" Matthew 26:65-68

Jesus has been found worthy of greater honor than Moses, just as the builder of a house has greater honor than the house itself. Hebrews 3:3

"You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your

will they were created and have their being."

Then I saw in the right hand of him who sat on the throne a scroll with writing on both sides and sealed with seven seals. And I saw a mighty angel proclaiming in a loud voice, "Who is worthy to break the seals and open the scroll?" But no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth could open the scroll or even look inside it. I wept and wept because no one was found who was worthy to open the scroll or look inside. Then one of the elders said to me, "Do not weep! See, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has triumphed. He is able to open the scroll and its seven seals."

Then I saw a Lamb, looking as if it had been slain, standing in the center of the throne, encircled by the four living creatures and the elders. He had seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. He came and took the scroll from the right hand of him who sat on the throne. And when he had taken it, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb. Each one had a harp and they were holding golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers

of the saints. And they sang a new song:

"You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased men for God from every tribe and language and people and nation. You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth."

Then I looked and heard the voice of many angels, numbering thousands upon thousands, and ten thousand times ten thousand. They encircled the throne and the living creatures and the elders. In a loud voice they sang: "Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!"

Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, singing: "To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honor and glory and power, for ever and ever!" The four living creatures said, "Amen," and the elders fell down and worshiped. Revelation 4:11-5:14

Hymns and Choruses

Thou Art Worthy (Mills [Rev. 4:11; 5-9])

Thou art worthy, Thou art worthy,
Thou art worthy, O Lord,
To receive glory, glory and honor,
Glory and honor and pow'r.

Immortal, Invisible (Smith)

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their sight;
All praise we would render— O help us to see
'Tis only the splendor of light hideth Thee!

Lord of All Being (Holmes)

Lord of all being, throned afar,
Thy glory flames from sun to star;
Center and soul of every sphere,
Yet to each loving heart how near!

O Worship the King (Grant)

O tell of His might, O sing of His grace,
Whose robe is the light, whose canopy space.
His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,
And dark is His path on the wings of the storm.

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