

Have Thine Own Way, Lord

Worship is not some mysterious, ceremonial adjunct to our walk with God in Christ, somehow detached and indifferent to our daily life. Worship is central. It is foundational.

It is productive.

No matter how honest we are in our worship, no matter how dedicated we are in our focus on God and His majesty—indeed, *because of this intensity of focus*—there remains a cause-and-effect result. Worship changes us. Worship produces something positive and righteous in our lives.

Faithful, authentic worship always redounds to the profit of the worshipper.

Time spent before the throne of God changes our perspective from earth- to heaven-based: the more we commune with God, the more we see things His way. But worship changes other aspects of our walk as well, and foremost among them is a renewed sense of His lordship.

*Have Thine own way, Lord!
Have Thine own way!
Thou art the Potter; I am the clay.
Mold me and make me after Thy will,
While I am waiting, yielded and still.*

We commune with God in a number of ways, all profitable. In common prayer we pour out to Him the contents of our heart. In prayer we listen to His counsel, and are comforted by His grace. In the reading of His word we hear Him speak as if audibly, through the prophets, through the voice of His Son, through the anointed apostles—words all faithfully superintended by the Holy Spirit.

In worship before the throne, however, we gain the most immediate and strongest sense of His exalted position over us. To worship is to prostrate oneself before (literally, to kiss) a superior. We do not worship those who are *not* superior:

I, John, am the one who heard and saw these things. And when I heard and saw, I fell down to worship at the feet of the angel who showed me these things. But he said to me, “Do not do that. I am a fellow servant of yours and of your brethren the prophets and of those who heed the words of this book. Worship God.”

Revelation 22:8-9

But God the Father and God the Son do not reject our worship. It is appropriate. It is right.

And behold, Jesus met them and greeted them. And they came up and took hold of His feet and worshiped Him. Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid; go and take word to My brethren to leave for Galilee, and there they will see Me.”

Matthew 28:9-10

*Have Thine own way, Lord!
Have Thine own way!
Search me and try me, Master today!
Whiter than snow, Lord, wash me just now,
As in Thy presence humbly I bow.*

In this holy setting, more than in any other place we may inhabit while in this temporal form, the truth regarding our subservient yet honored position is reinforced.

“If anyone serves Me, he must follow Me; and where I am, there My servant will be also; if anyone serves Me, the Father will honor him.”

John 12:26

He is God and we are not.
He is Master and we are disciple.
He is Lord and we are servant.

Before His throne we gain not just the *realization* of truth, but we embrace it. We do not fear His lordship over our lives, but welcome it. We are not ashamed to call Him “Master,” for of the two from which we must choose, He is by far the better.

*Have Thine own way, Lord!
Have Thine own way!
Wounded and weary, help me, I pray!
Power—all power—surely is Thine!
Touch me and heal me, Saviour divine!*

At the Father's feet we declare and exalt the Godhead's supreme power over everything that is. That is what "lordship" means: supreme rule over not just the individual's heart, but every person and every thing that has ever and will ever exist.

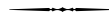
For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Philippians 2:9-11

The sanctifying path to Christ-likeness begins in humble adoration before the throne of God.

*Have Thine own way, Lord!
Have Thine own way!
Hold o'er my being absolute sway!
Fill with Thy Spirit till all shall see
Christ only, always, living in me!*

Adelaide A. Pollard



Every soul belongs to God and exists by His pleasure. God being who and what He is, and we being who and what we are, the only thinkable relation between us is one of full Lordship on His part and complete submission on ours. We owe Him every honor that it is in our power to give Him. Our everlasting grief lies in giving Him anything less.

A. W. Tozer