



WorshipInRevelation

Gist: Some bottom lines of worship in the book of Revelation.

Preface:

1. The bottom line of Revelation 1-3 is Pride versus Worship God.

The “that sort” of II Timothy are in control today of religious organizations, first coming up with a secret and false rapture, and then within themselves are become “lovers of self and lovers of money”. {It requires a lot of self-love to make all the millions today of many religious leaders.} And have you noticed that in these times, the religious organizations whether it be a church, a denomination, or a University has become more important than the individual believer, the leaders of organizations expect Christians to serve the organization rather than the organization serving the individuals, alias “Christ for Individuals”.

“Because thou sayest...” The worst thing that any individual or church can do is to feel sufficient within themselves.

“Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked” (Revelation 3:17)

This is no new problem: it is only an old problem with new disguises. There are only seven New Testament churches mentioned in the introduction to the book of Revelation; each of those seven churches had problems; but one of them in (Revelation 3:17 KJV) particular had the glaring problem of **self-sufficiency**.

Self sufficiency or self reliance is difficult for an individual or church to see without an objective and outside warning. Look at what this church at Laodicea thought of itself: we are rich, we have plenty of goods, and we are self-sufficient since we have “need of nothing”! Look at what the Ascended Christ speaking to the Apostle John thought of this same church: you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked! Quite a contrast between what the church thought of themselves, and what Christ thought of the church. While throughout this chapter and the rest of the book the Mormons will be used as the extreme example of those who are self-sufficient, depending on their own works for salvation, and that is one of their official doctrines as stated by Joseph Smith in THE DOCTRINE AND COVENANTS, this problem is by no means isolated to the Mormons nor to the religious. After all, Mormons are only about the 14th largest denomination in the world. Now this is an INTERNAL PROBLEM; and that is part of the reason that it is so difficult to see by an individual or church. We need to blame everything on Satan or someone else EXTERNALLY – the old matter of “the devil made me do it”, while we tend to overlook the greater problem of ourselves and the fact that as the Apostle James quoted from the Old Testament that “the spirit (the human spirit) that dwelleth within us lusteth to envy” (James 4:5)

2. The bottom line of Revelation 4-7 is Worship Christ or Number the People of God.

Before we thank God that we are not as the Mormons, the Church of Christ, the Roman Catholics, Jehovah Witnesses, and some non denominational churches who claiming to be the only Church and the only Christians have numbered the people of God in a circle about themselves; before we thank God that we are not as the hypocrites, the Jewish people of the First Century who also claimed to be and still do to be the elect of God in spite of the rejection of Jesus Christ, we should also consider our own guilt of a priority for numbering what we consider to be the people of God over the Worship of Christ. This chapter explains that!

Church people like other people have the two great needs of (1) guilt relief and (2) self identity. Even in the churches these needs are not met according to God’s ordained methods in the Bible: (1) confession and forgiveness of sin and (2) personal identification with Christ through repentance and faith. Therefore you expect in the larger American society there must be substitute solutions for these two great needs. Guilt relief can be found in the church when the appearance of relief is chosen over the reality by justification through attendance, and self identity rather than with Christ can be found by identifying primarily socially with the other members of the church who may or may not have properly identified with Christ or found proper guilt relief.

These artificial means of guilt relief and self-identity are enhanced by the pastor and the people when they like so many others in history attempt to number the

people of God in a circle about themselves. It seems pathetic to us who objectively witness it when a very small church has so rationalized in such a manner as to think they are the only people of God in the whole world. Of course, Elijah felt the same way when things were not going so well; except he felt as if he was the people of God of one, one individual –

“Lord, they have killed the prophets, and digged own thine altars; and I am left alone, and they seek my life. But what saith the answer of God unto him? I have reserved to myself seven thousand men, who have not bowed the knee to the image of Baal. Even so then at this present time also there is a remnant according to the election of grace.” (Romans 11:3-5 KJV)

“THERE IS A REMNANT”, that is what I mean when I say “Seven Christian Thousand”. It may be six thousand, it may be eight thousand or nine thousand. It is only that today as the today at the present time of which the Apostle Paul wrote in the First Century there is a small number of the real people of God as compared to those who call themselves the people of God, and the seven thousand Jews in the land of Israel during the time of Elijah only serves to remind us how small the remnant may be as compared to all those who claim to be the people of God.

3. We often miss it with all the self-loving preachers that make money off Revelation and eschatology by making what is really simple complicated, but the real Theme or Gist of Revelation is WORSHIP GOD.

You want a primary theme for the book of Revelation, here it is from the angel that actually delivered Revelation from God the Father through the Lord Jesus Christ to the Apostle John, “WORSHIP GOD”. If you are truly worshipping God then you will not and can not be internally self sufficient; if you are truly worshipping the God of the Bible, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Author of the Bible and the Creator of the Universe, then you will have less external doctrinal problems. How does this reconcile with the gist I have announced of “Seven Christian Thousands”. Well, you will have to read the whole book for that but I will give you a clue now from what God told Elijah when Elijah felt even as those few Christians and only seven churches in Asia Minor thought that they were all that was left of servants of God; and when I refer to that event of from God to Elijah I read it from Romans as quoted by the Apostle Paul to explain why most of the First Century Jews did not accept Christianity.

“I say then, Hath God cast away his people? God forbid. For I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin. God hath not cast away his people which he foreknew. What ye not what the scripture saith of Elias? how he maketh intercession to God against Israel, saying, Lord, they have killed thy

prophets, and digged down thine altars; and I am left alone, and they seek my life. But what saith the answer of God unto him? I have reserved to myself seven thousand men, who have not bowed the knee to the image of Baal. Even so then at this present time also there is a remnant according to the election of grace. And if by grace, then is it no more of works: otherwise grace is no more grace. But if it be of works, then is it no more grace; otherwise work is no more work." (Romans 11:1-6 KJV)

Seven Christian Thousands, seven thousand for each generation represent the chosen people of God for each generation, a people that come independent of good works through the election of grace. Grace is grace and work is works, and the two are never to be confused in any generation; and although mankind has developed hundreds of ways to identify and number the people of God, God always reserves the right to number His own people. "Seven Christian Thousands" acknowledges that numbering by God Himself, and by the Grace of God!

I. Worship will not be ROUTINE with the Thousands in Heaven. A final way to Identify with God the Father in Worship, Thousands at the End with the Father's Name written in their Foreheads.

I asked myself since more years are behind me than ahead, and it can not be too long before in heaven or on the new earth, what is the best preparation that can be made for being in the Father's presence; and the answer is "GET good at worshiping God the Father, and get good at worshipping the Lord Jesus Christ. No matter the reputation and status of any church or the size of the mega church, the numbers will be no greater than the thousands of Revelation 14:1 and following who have the Father's name written on their forehead. You want an identity then consider yourself in heaven with an identification mark on your forehead of your heavenly Father's name.

And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters. (Revelation 14:6,7)

1. First consider the everlasting gospel to preach like that flying angel is heaven so we can duplicate it in our Worship Service each week. Under the teachings of

Scotfield and his religious followers we tend to forget that in the Bible, there is the Old Covenant, the New Covenant, and the Everlasting Covenant. The everlasting covenant was made with Abraham and his people of faith before the other two covenants, part of the everlasting gospel to preach the everlasting covenant of the everlasting kingdom of God and of heaven. God Himself first preached the everlasting gospel of the everlasting covenant to Abraham.

“...just as Abraham "believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness." 7 Therefore know that only those who are of faith are sons of Abraham. 8 And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel to Abraham beforehand, saying, "In you all the nations shall be blessed." 9 So then those who are of faith are blessed with believing Abraham.” (Galatians 3:6-9)

- a. The everlasting Gospel is to be preached on all the earth, to every nation, kindred, tongue and people. Alias, the Great Commission of the Church and any church is to preach that everlasting Gospel in any dispensation of time, not want as the Scotfield mites say for a certain falsely claimed dimension of time. Enough of this foolishness of the kingdom of God is a period on earth different from the kingdom of heaven with is natureally in heaven; there is a fine line of distinction between the two in that Jesus said you don't have to wait and watch for the kingdom of God because it is within you; and Jesus said in what is generally called the Beautitudes, repeating it twice, that “theirs is the kingdom of heaven, a possession of the poor on earth before they get to heaven. That is the only difference instead the fictitious web the Scotfield mites weave of a kingdom of God for one thousand years in Palestine under the rule of the Jews, with some natural bodies and then Scotfield followers with a new body as they rotate between heaven and earth.. It is quite confusion and unnecessary, and frankly the work of Satan and the Man of Sin, Scotfield.
 - b. The everlasting Gospel is to FEAR GOD AND GIVE GLORY TO HIM.
 - c. The everlasting Gospel is God's judgment is come. Since God says it, it is a settled fact already as good as done.
 - d. The everlasting Gospel is to Worship the God Who in the beginning created heaven and earth.
2. How to Worship this God in Revelation 15:3,4. Last Sunday a service at the FBC of Waco started with the pulpit leader saying of passing the collection plate, “This is the way we worship.” No, there is a better way as given in Revelation 15.

“And they sing the song of Moses the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, Great and

marvellous are thy works, Lord God Almighty; just and true are thy ways, thou King of saints.

Who shall not fear thee, O Lord, and glorify thy name? for thou only art holy: for all nations shall come and worship before thee; for thy judgments are made manifest.

- a. To Worship the God of Revelation 15, the God of Creation, we sing (1) the song of Moses and (2) the song of the Lamb.
- b. We have the exact words to worship This God, or if we chose a pattern of exact words: Great and
- c. marvellous are thy works, Lord God Almighty; just and true are thy ways, thou King of saints.
- d. Who shall not fear thee, O Lord, and glorify thy name? for thou only art holy: for all nations shall
- e. come and worship before thee; for thy judgments are made manifest.

II. Worship will not be routine at the Marriage supper of the Lamb, keep in Practice. Worship God the Father, Revelation 19:9,10

“And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God. And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, See thou do it not: I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.”

So what are the majors of Worship Services?

- (1). Fellow servants and brethren with testimonies to Jesus. The connection of revelation, secrets, and the book of Daniel as an introduction to the prophecy of the book of Revelation—in particular Daniel 2:28-30—is evident. While the Mormons in their Temple worship are in the secrets keeping business, God and his true Prophets and prophets are in the secret revealing business. During this study we will find an inevitable connection between the spirit of prophecy and the testimony of Jesus; and Jesus early in His ministry to the apostles and other Christians made it clear that what is entrusted by way of revelations is to be shouted from the housetops, not keep in secret.
- (2). Possess the Testimony of Jesus. Immediately you know “angel” not to be an angel in the conventional sense of the rest of the Bible, because there would be no need for Jesus to write to an angel. The angels are right there in heaven with Him, and can be spoken to directly. Therefore, the angel is really the pastor or leader of the local church.

Angel in the book of Revelation has more the meaning of “messenger of God”; and what we will find is that this is a small key to the unlocking of the mysteries of Revelation. It is these angels, fellow servants, brethren, and holders of the testimony of Jesus and of the Word of God that also have the spirit of prophecy. The “overcomers” are identified as: (1) The righteous and this is consistent with the final admonition of Revelation 22:11 where the righteous and holy are to keep on being righteous and holy; (2) Those who win souls by the testimony of Jesus and by the Word of God, a consistent and repeating theme in the book of Revelation; and (3) As the opposite of the wicked sinner where also in Revelation 22:11 it is admonished to let the filthy and liar keep on being filthy and a liar.

(3). Worship God the Father for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of preaching since according to II Corinthians 14 prophesy is preaching and good preaching is to edify, exhort, and comfort. In Revelation 22:20a the angel reminds that this is the testimony of Jesus that He will come quickly, and you know how Paul says to comfort one another with these words—

¹⁵For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are ¹⁶asleep. ¹⁶For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. ¹⁸Therefore comfort one another with these words.”

(4). The Testimony of Jesus is the spirit of Prophecy. “And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, See thou do it not; I am thy fellow-servant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God; for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.” (Revelation 19:10 KJV)

We already knew that Revelation is a book of prophecy so that here we are being told that such a book of prophecy has the spirit which is “the testimony of Jesus”; and to see how this “testimony of Jesus” is different from the testimony of Jesus as for example in the four Gospels or in the 14 letters of Paul, we will look at the other places in the book of Revelation where “the testimony of Jesus” is mentioned.

1. In the first two verses of the first chapter the Apostle John in attempting to identify himself, first calls himself (1) a “bondservant” then further identifies himself as (2) one “who bore witness to the word of God”, and (3) also as one who bore “the testimony of Jesus Christ, even to all those he saw” (Revelation 1:2. It is interesting that with these reference to the testimony of Jesus in the next verse is also a reference to “prophecy”—

“Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of the prophecy, and heed the things which are written in it; for the time is near.” (Revelation 1:3 NASV)

The ability to understand this prophecy and the spirit of this prophecy is more in terms of: (1) reads; (2) hears; and (3) heeds.

2. Other Christians who like John had been faithful to the word of God and the testimony of Jesus were not as fortunate as John, they had been martyred and were “souls under the altar” in Revelation 6:9. When they cried “How Long” and after they were given white robes they were told to wait a little while until (1) the number who would die as they died would be complete, and that (2) Those were their Christian “brethren”.

3. It is both clear that the “two witnesses” of Revelation 11 are related to the Apostle John and to the souls under the altar, and more specifically the “testimony” of the two witnesses which is completed in Revelation 11:7 is the testimony of Jesus for which the beast out of the “abyss” kills them.

4. When the Deceiver is thrown out of heaven by Michael and his angels, this Deceiver Satan is identified as the accuser of the “brethren”, the brethren who overcome on earth in spite of the accusation because (1) of the blood of the Lamb, the Lord Jesus Christ, (2) of the word of their testimony, and (3) because they did not love their life until death (Revelation 12:10,11). {NOTE: Constantly in the book of Revelation we detect some sort of relationship between the status of God’s people in heaven and the status of Satan, bound and loosed, or kicked out of heaven and turned loosed on earth with wrath as in Revelation 12:12.}

III. Non-routine Worship Since the Time is at Hand, Worship God, Revelation 22:8-21

And I John saw these things, and heard them. And when I had heard and seen, I fell down to

worship before the feet of the angel which showed me these things.”

Then saith he unto me, See thou do it not: for I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren the

prophets, and of them which keep the sayings of this book: worship God.

And he saith unto me, Seal not the sayings (in other words don’t keep your Bible and your testimony to Jesus to yourself) of the prophecy of this book: for the time is at hand.”

(1). Fellow servants and of thy brothers the Prophets. Professional have a haughty attitude toward the less educated, that they must come down to be simple for people even though they have spent many years in the word of God, you see the problem is that they

have not been trained in church administration and theology and professionalism of degrees.

(2) We worship among those that keep the sayings of the Word of God.

(3). Worship God the Father, Jesus says and repeats.

(4). The Time is at hand.

a. The just and unjust'

b. The filthy;

c. The righteous that remain righteous'

d. The holy that remain holy, unspotted from the world in the words of Pastor James.

He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still.

¹²

And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.

IV. Worship with Jesus, testimonies to Jesus, with Prophecy, the Bible, with obedience to teachings of Jesus, the Holy Spirit, and the bride of the Church, Who is Jesus and what does He expect in Worship. Bottom line of the bottom line in Revelation 22.

1. Who Jesus Is? I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last.

2. Like at the beginning of the sermon on the mount and indeed a continuation of those that are blessed. Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.

For without are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie.

3. More about who Jesus Is?

I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star.

4. The Holy Spirit of God and Christ the bride of the church say come to Worship.

And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is

athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.

5. Jesus testimony to the Word of God and warning not to tamper with it by way of theology, church administration, and professionalism (degrees).

For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: 19

And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.

6. Testimony of the Apostle John to the Second Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ.

He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen. (22:8-21)