



Worship in Light of Heaven

**God gives us a glimpse of the future
to inform and change our worship now**

What do you see in heaven?

- **The Throne**
- **The River**
- **The Face**



*Isaiah 9:6-7 For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end. **He will reign on David's throne** and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this.*



What is the point of the throne???

“No longer will there be any curse...”

**The curse will be replaced by
*“the healing of the nations” (22:2)***

**God’s sovereign rule will destroy
all evil & all evil’s affects, restoring
God’s perfect order...
...the new heavens & the new earth**



How does this inform your worship now???

Our view in worship is to focus on the greatness, majesty, glory, power & authority of God

The focus is not on your “worship experience” or on creating a “worship experience”

In a world preoccupied with self-absorption, worship calls you to refocus the eyes of your heart from yourself to the greatness of God



Revelation 5:6 *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.*

How does this inform our worship now??

- Our corporate worship is mediated by Christ....
...made acceptable & pleasing to the Father through Him
- All that we do, say, pray, sing and teach in corporate worship points to the glorious grace of God in Christ which is the reason we are welcomed into the Father's presence with joy

The River (22:1-2)

Revelation 7:17 *For the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd; he will lead them to **springs of living water**. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."*

Revelation 21:5-6 *5 He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." He said to me: "It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To him who is thirsty I will give to drink without cost from **the spring of the water of life***

**Heaven will be an ever deepening & expanding satisfaction,
joy and delight in God
...drinking more and more deeply from the infinite perfection
of who God is**

1 Cor. 2:9 *However, as it is written: "No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him"--*

The River (22:1-2)

How does this inform our worship now???

- **We come to corporate worship thirsty to feast on the glory of God in Christ**

God is honored when people know that they will die of hunger & thirst unless they have God in all of his glory

- **We come to corporate worship expecting that God will be present because of Christ to satisfy our souls as with the richest of foods**

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The Face (22:4)

1 Corinthians 13:12-13 *Now we see but a poor reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known. And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.*

This amazing picture of relational intimacy is what makes the biblical teaching on heaven so unique

How does this inform our worship now??

Corporate worship must continually refocus our mind and heart on the wonder of the person and work of Jesus, the eternal Son of God born in a manger to be the Lamb of God on the throne who will put his name of love on you (22:4)

