

Hopewell ARP Prayer Meeting, Wednesday, November 11, 2020

Devotional from Revelation 5:9-14

⁹ *And they sang a new song, saying: "You are worthy to take the scroll, And to open its seals; For You were slain, And have redeemed us to God by Your blood out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation,*
¹⁰ *And have made us kings and priests to our God; And we shall reign on the earth."*
¹¹ *Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne, the living creatures, and the elders; and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands,*
¹² *saying with a loud voice: "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain To receive power and riches and wisdom, And strength and honor and glory and blessing!"*
¹³ *And every creature which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, I heard saying:*
"Blessing and honor and glory and power be to Him who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb, forever and ever!"
¹⁴ *Then the four living creatures said, "Amen!"*
And the twenty-four elders fell down and worshiped Him who lives forever and ever.

The Lamb has just taken the scroll so far. He hasn't opened it. He hasn't loosed the seven seals. But in last week's portion (v8), they already fall on their faces in unison with the prayers of the saints, and now they launch into their own prayer.

"You are worthy [...] worthy is the Lamb." That's the substance of the prayer. The rest is details, but the substance is the worthiness of Christ. This is the great part of the substance of their prayers in glory. Is it so in ours?

Is it a great portion of the substance of our prayers to confess the worthiness of Christ?

Here, He has not opened the scroll, but they adore Him for the worthiness just to take it. He has not opened its seals, but they adore Him for His worthiness to open them.

In our prayers, we should adore Christ for His worthiness to do what He will do in the future!

They also praise Him for completing His earthly work.
They praise Him for having been slain.
They praise Him for redeeming us to God by His blood.

In our prayers, we should adore Christ for the perfection of His service and work unto the God!

They also praise Him for what He has done for them.
They praise Him for having redeemed them out of every tribe, tongue, people, and nation
They praise Him for making them kings and priests unto God.

In our prayers, we should adore Christ for the difference He has already made in/for us.

They also praise Him for what He will do for them in the future.
They praise Him for the fact that they who are now in glory as kings and priests unto God will yet reign even on the earth.

In our prayers, we should adore Christ not only for what we already experience but also for what we have been promised, and what Christ has secured, for us to experience in the future. We need to keep groaning toward to the last, great day.

They praise not only Christ, but they praise God for Christ.
They praise not only the Lamb, but Him who sits on the throne.

In our prayers, we should always adore the Father, who has given us the Son.

(The following is a machine-generated transcription. Please be aware of—and patient with—transcribing errors. If there is something confusing or obviously erroneous, you are welcome to listen to the audio recording, which you may find via tinysa.com/hopewellarp)

Lord's Day morning for the prayer well here.Revelation 5 verses 9 through 14.

And I think I'll begin reading in verse 1, so that we can understand a little better.Some of what they are adoring the lamb for adoring the Lord Jesus for in the portion before it's this evening.So revelation 5 beginning in verse 1.And I saw on the right hand of him who sat on the throne a scroll.

Written inside and on the back sealed with seven seals.And I saw strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice. Who is worthy to open the scroll and to loose its seals?And no one in heaven or on the earth.Or under the earth was able to open the scroll or to look at it.

So I wept much because no one was found worthy to open and read the scroll or to look at it.But one of the elders said to me.Do not weep Behold.The lion of the tribe of Judah.The root of David.Has prevailed to open the scroll and.

To loose it's seven seals.And I looked and behold in the midst of the throne.And of the four living creatures and in the midst of the elders stood a lamb.As though it had been slain having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spurts of gods and out into all the earth.

Then he came and took the scroll out of the right hand of him who sat on the throne.Now when he had taken the scroll the four living creatures and the 24 elders fell down before the lamb.Each having a harp and golden bowls full of incense which are the prayers of the saints.

And they sang a new song saying.You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals.For you were slain.And have redeemed us to God by your blood.Out of every tribe and tongue and people a nation.And then made us kings and priests to our God.

And we shall reign on the earth.Then I looked and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne the living creatures and the elders.And the number of them was 10,000 times ten thousand and thousands of thousands saying with a loud voice.Worthy is the lamb who is slain.

To receive power.And riches and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and blessing.And every creature which is in heaven and on earth and under the earth and such as are in the sea and all that are in them. I heard saying.Blessing and honor and glory and power.

Be to him who sits on the throne and to the lamb forever.And ever.Then the four living creatures said amen.And the 24 elders fell down and worshipped him who lives forever.And ever.

So last week we considered verse eight in which the prayers of the saints are these bowls full of incense, but now in verses 9 through 14, we have this outpouring of adoration and praise.You are worthy.And so forth.So far all the land has done is taken the scroll in his hand.

He hasn't yet opened it and he hasn't yet loosed the seven seals.But already they are launching into this great praise and sung prayer of adoration.You are worthy verse nine worthy is the lamb.Verse 12 blessing and honor and glory and power be to him.Verse 13.This is the substance of the prayer here.

The rest is details why he is worthy for what? But the substance is the worthiness of Christ himself. The great part of the substance of their prayer and glory in this place is to adore the Lord. Now wonder if a great part of our own prayers. Is to adore.

The Lord.

How much of our time how much of our focus in praying? Is spent on confessing the worthiness of Christ. Here he has not yet opened the scroll but they adore him that he is worthy to do so. He has not opened it seals, but they adore him for his worthiness to open them.

So one of the things for which we should be adoring Christ in our prayers is his worthiness to do those things that we need him to do and that he has said he will do and that he will do. So we adore him for his worthiness. Notice they also praise him for his completed earthly work.

They praise him for having been slain. They praise him that it is unto God that he has redeemed us by his blood. We too and our prayers should adore Christ for the perfection of his service and work on God the completion of his mission. Notice also they praise the lamb for what he has done for them.

That they have been redeemed out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation. They praise him that they are already in glory kings and priests unto God with crowns that they may cast down before him. And conducting this worship in his presence. So they praise him for what he has done for them.

So far we see that we should adore Christ for his worthiness particularly his worthiness to do that with for which we ask and which we seek from him to do. Second that we praise and adore him for the perfection of his service and work unto God. Third we praise and adore.

Him for the benefits that He has one for us to have accrued to us by what He has done. Third or no that was third Fourth we are to pray for what? He will complete obtaining for us complete getting for us in the future. They praise Him that not only are they kings and priests unto God now verse 10, but that they will also reign on the earth.

Their kingship and their priesthood in glory before him are not yet the fullness of what Jesus has earned for them. They will reign on the earth. In our prayers, we should adore Christ not only for those good things that we already experience from Him. But also for those sure things that we will have from Him in the future things that He has promised things that He has secured.

We need to keep groaning toward that last great day as those who have the firstfruits of the Spirit but even as we groan we adore Christ for His worthiness and the fact that He will bring us to that day. We shall reign on the earth first ten.

Finally, they praise not only Christ not only the lamb. But they praise Him who gave them the lamb? Blessing and honor and glory and power be to Him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb. Forever. And ever. Somehow in my young Christianity, I ended up with a distorted view for a while thinking of the Father as generally loving that needing some softening up from Jesus for me.

That was a terrible thing of me to think because it was as a father who gave Christ in his love. And so you notice that the praise in heaven addresses both. Blessing and honor and glory and power be to him who sits on the throne. And to the Lamb.

Forever and ever. So as we adore the Lord in prayer and perhaps you come and you want to adore the Lord Jesus in your praying you want to adore. God in your praying and you think Well, I just don't feel like I have that many words. You know, open your mouth and feels like the brain can't make anything for you to express and that's a dreadful thing for us

to feel because we know he is so worthy and we want to give it to him so here are several things that we confess his worthiness to do what he says that he will do and what we need him to do.

Second his the perfection of his service and work unto God not only the fact that he is completed everything the father has sent him to do but he prays him for the perfection of his obedience that is counted to you the completion completion of his attendment the sufficiency of his sacrifice on the cross and so forth.

So his worthiness to do what we need him to do the perfection of his service unto God what he has already won for us all of the blessings that we enjoy in him peace of conscience joy in the Holy Ghost as other things that we already have and then in the fourth place those things that he will get for us we of course are not yet kings and priests and glory unto God, but we are a royal.

Priesthood as it were and those things are already but a lot of what they praise him for here in glory is in our future and then in all of our futures is to be raining on the earth. And one thing for you know, we Americans who basically live like potentates and have all of this liberty that we have and.

Yet to pray we shall reign on the earth but you think of those in in Revelation 5 and the oppression and the persecution that many of them lived through very little liberty and yet the day of the current earthly magistrates is coming to an end and we and they shall reign together on the earth and then in the last place remembering also to adore the father.

Who has given us the Sun along with him so there's actually a lot there that we can if we kind of go step by step and sometimes you have to do that if it doesn't just flow you can go over your checklist yeah praising praising him for his worthiness praising him for what he has done praising him for what he will do praising him for what you have praising him for what you will have praising the father.

Forgiving you the sun. When I dare say in each of those sections as you start to pray and praise you will find that the Lord will give you and you will you may be surprised how easy it becomes and how much with which you are able to adore the Lord Jesus