

SING PRAISE

REVELATION 5:8-14

-- **Big Idea: Singing is one of the highest and most essential forms of worship.**

1.) Worship God in **PRAYER**

- v. 8 – In their worship of God, the four angelic creatures and the triumphant church are bringing forth prayers (bowls of incense).
- Worship is presenting to God what is pleasing to God, and the sincere prayers of God's people are received by Him as praise.

2.) Worship God in **TRUTH**

-- True worshipers worship **JESUS CHRIST**

- The Lamb accepts worship as His rightful glory and honor.
- v. 13 – The Lamb is worshiped in addition to and separate from Him who sits on the throne.
- **To worship God is to ascribe worth to God.**
 - The heart of worship is acknowledging the infinite worth of God (1 Corinthians 10:31, v. 4:11, 5:12).
- **Worship is rooted in **FACT** not just feelings (v. 9-10).**
 - Worship should always be rooted in truths about who God is and what He has done (1 Cor. 14:15, Psalm 105:1-2, 150:1-2).

3.) Worship God in **SONG**

a.) Singing a variety of songs brings glory God.

- Colossians 3:16, Revelation 4:11, 5:9-13

b.) The VOICE is the chief instrument of worship.

- Playing just about any instrument well in the service of God's praise is good and pleasing to God (Psalm 150:3-6).
- Only the voice can edify others and express truths from God's Word (Ephesians 5:19).
- **CLAPPING** is a culturally understood way for us to demonstrate agreement and enthusiasm at the conclusion of a song (Psalm 47:1, 98:8).

c.) We bring glory to God when we sing TOGETHER

- In chapters 4 and 5 the praise of God grows and expands until there is absolutely no one that is not singing praise with one voice to Him who sits on the throne and the Lamb.
- Congregational singing is the most effective and powerful way we can all express unified praise to God at the same time.

d.) Singing God's praise is not an OPTIONAL activity.

- The command to sing is the most frequent positive command in the Bible (1 Chronicles 16:9, Psalm 33:3, 95:1-2, 100:1-2, 144:9, 147:1, Isaiah 12:5-6, Jer. 20:13, Eph. 5:19, Heb. 2:12).
- Today's passage makes clear that God is most glorified and we are most satisfied when we use our voices to sing His praises.
- God delights to hear His people sing His praises together as one.

e.) SINGING is one of the highest and most essential forms of worship.

- This passage may very well be the highest and purest moment of worship recorded anywhere in Scripture, and the chief form of praise in this ultimate instance of worship is singing.
- Congregational singing is crucial in the church and the nature of our engagement in it says a lot about the church.

e.) Worship in song is not about YOU!

- In Revelation 4-5, it is clear that every eye and heart is fixed fully upon God and His glory, not people and their preferences.

Application

1.) **COME** prepared.

-- Congregational worship is not about coming together to worship. It is about coming together as worshippers (Romans 12:1).

2.) **SEE** the big picture.

-- Remember the central importance of corporate singing and the glorious fulfillment of our singing that we see in this text.

3.) **JOIN** the big choir.

-- What joy for us that we get to add our voices to this heavenly refrain of beautiful worship of our beautiful God!