

Eric Adarkwah

The Book of Revelation- Bible 364

Dr. Thomas Donworth

Finals: The Manner of Worship According to the Book of Revelation.

The article entitled “The Manner of Worship According to the Book of Revelation” written by Mazie Nakhro outline the pattern of worship as exercise by the twenty-four elders, angels and saints in heaven emphasizing on the importance and mode of worship. Mazie explained that worship includes acclamations of praise and thanks, songs, prayers, gifts, response to God’s revelation, silence in anticipation of God’s intervention, and celebration of God’s goodness. He emphasized that this genuine worship is the kind of worship that exalts the Sovereign God in spirit and truth. The book of Revelation attest to the fact that the primary reason for worshipping God is for who He is. Aside this primary reason Mazie gives five reasons why believers today should worship God with reference to the Book of Revelation. According to Maize, God should be worship for His creative works. The twenty-four elders ascribe “Worthship” to God because He created everything out of nothing. He emphasizes on the fact that God has the right to expect worship from His creation because all things have their being according to His will. God is worthy to receive glory and honor and power. God deserves our worship for His redemptive activity. Again, the twenty-four elders magnify the worth of the lamb because he was slain and by His death,

His blood has purchase men for God from every tribe and language and people and nation and have made them to be a kingdom and priest. They will worship God for His realized design. The heavenly hosts will shout in praise to God for His ruling over what is rightfully His when the tribulation ends. God, the true owner, will repossess the world from satanic rulership. The certainty of this inspires the twenty-four elders to prostrate themselves before God and the Lamb. They will worship God for His righteous judgement. God's vindication of the blood of the martyrs and his execution of judgement on Babylon, the great harlot will inspire the martyred souls to worship God by thankfully acknowledging Him "Yes, O Lord God, Almighty, true and righteous are thy judgement" (Revelation 11:7). They will worship God for consummated union. The marriage between Christ and His people, the church inspires the heavenly multitude to rejoice and worship God.

According to Mazie Nakhro Worshiping of God in heaven will be expressed through praise and thanksgiving, songs, prayers, gifts, response to God's revelation, anticipatory silence for divine intervention, and festive celebration of God's goodness. He noted that the Lamb is praised and worshipped because He alone is worthy to open the scroll and break its seven seals. The Lamb is worthy to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise and has been given the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. The

elders praise to affirm the incomparable worthiness of the Lord God. Thanksgiving is offered to God because He is the sovereign King. The twenty-four elders' express thanksgiving because the wicked are judge and the righteous are rewarded. There are songs of praise and thanksgiving offered by the redeemed multitude to God and the Lamb. Singing in heaven is in unison. They are in harmony as the heavenly choirs corporately lift their songs in antiphonal praise. Angels pray along with the saint and speedily carry out God's answers to the saints' prayers. In recognition of His worthiness, and in total submission to His will, the twenty-four elders willingly remove their symbols of honor and voluntarily lay them at the feet of the Lord as an act of worship. The whole of heaven remains silent as an anticipation of divine intervention so that justice and peace prevail on earth as they do in heaven. Another worshipful act of worship is the Festive celebration of God's goodness. This celebrative worship will be done in the form of serving resting, rejoicing, eating and drinking in the presence of God and His Lamb. Believers are entreated to worship God through praises, thanksgiving, songs, prayers gifts, response to God's revelation, silence anticipation of God's intervention and the celebration of God's goodness.

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Finals: Chronological Issues in The Book of Revelation

The article entitled “Chronological Issues in the Book of Revelation” written by Robert L. Dean Jr elaborate on the different viewpoint concerning the Chronological order of the book of Revelation to determine whether the trumpet judgements will occur in the first half of Daniels seventieth week or the second half. The article emphasis on the three series of the seven judgements each. That is, the seventh seal judgement, includes and introduces the seven-trumpet judgement, and the seventh trumpet judgement includes and introduces the seven-bowl judgement.

Some Scholars who belong to the futurist interpretation of Revelation 4-22 hold the viewpoint that all the three series of judgement, that is the seals, trumpets and bowls will occur in the second half of the tribulation. Some also hold the view that the seal judgements will occur in the first half of the tribulation and that of the trumpet and bowl judgments will be in the second half. A third view, held by several interpreters, is that the seal and the trumpet judgement will be in the first half and the bowl judgement in the second half. There has not been a clear interpretation concerning the order of the various judgement since each view has difficulty but the view with the least problem is generally accepted.

Robert explained whether the seal judgement will be in the first or the second half of the tribulation. He noted that those who view that the seal judgement will occur in the first half of the tribulation emphasize on the parallels between the events described by Jesus in the Olivet Discourse. (Matthew 24) and the seal judgement. He noted that several commentators argue that Jesus predictions of false christs, wars, famines, earthquakes, persecution and martyrdom parallel the first five seal judgements. They emphasize on the fact that Jesus said that these tragedies are not yet the end but rather the beginning of birth pains. They argued that the signs that Jesus spoke about concerning His coming could be intensify beyond what has been normal to human history. They concluded that the fact that these judgements occur in the second half of the tribulation suggests that the seal

judgement, which precede them, will take place in the first half, not the second half.

According to Robert, several commentators argue that the sealing of the 144000 will take place after the sixth seal, even though several questions are left unanswered. Base on that interpretation it seems preferable to place the sealing of the 144000 near the beginning of Daniels seventieth week. He emphasized on measuring the temple in Revelation 11:1-2 and stressed that a commentator called Garland noted that the two witnesses are view as ministering in the first half of the tribulation. Commentators Ryrrie and smith also place the two witnesses in the first half of the tribulation. Some commentators disagree on the significance of the measuring of the temple, but Garland suggested that the measuring indicates a separation between a portion which God recognizes, that is (the temple, altar and worshipper) verses a portion He rejects (the outer court). It is argued that the second Woe in Revelation 11:14 may have chronological significance just as Revelation 8:1 follows the events of chapter 7. The chronological marker for the second woe is extremely important, for it firmly places the death of the two witnesses in the same period as a trumpet judgement and near the end of that series. Revelation 6-19 seem to follow a general sequence of event. It is argue that Revelation 6 gives the chronological progression of the seal judgements, and chapter 7 depicts God's work of redemption within the same period of time and this is consistent with the fact that the 144000 are called the first fruits, in Revelation14:4. Chapter 8 and 9 describe the six

trumpet judgements that will end at the middle of the tribulation while chapter 10-13 records three other events that will have been taking place during the first half of the tribulation. In the view that the trumpet judgement and the two witnesses will occur in the second half of Daniels's seventieth week, the events of the six-trumpet judgement must necessarily span almost the entire second half. For in that case, the seventh trumpet could not sound until after the ascension of the two witnesses and this must be at the end of their ministry of 1260 days and this will would leave no time for the seven peals of thunder in Revelation 10:3-4. But since the second woe will end with the ascension of the two witness and because the two witnesses will serve for 1260 days, it is argued that it is not possible for this to take place in the second half of the tribulation. Therefore, the view that places the two witnesses and the trumpet judgements in the first half of the tribulation, Daniels seventieth week might be true.