



EXPLORE THE BIBLE®

1, 2 Kings Sermon Series

Supports Session 6: Proven

Sermon Title: “Worthy of Worship” (Revelation 4:8-11)

Connection to 1 Kings 18:25-39

Elijah challenged the prophets of Baal to participate in an action to determine if Baal or God was worthy of worship. By the end of the day, everyone knew who the one true God was. John, in the book of Revelation, confirms that this same God is worthy of worship today.

Introduction/Opening

Worship can be defined as having reverence for or paying homage to someone or something. I think we would all agree that we have a built-in desire for worship. Some worship money, others worship relationships and still others might worship fame. We should not question if we are going to worship something, but rather who is worthy of our worship. John, in his vision on Patmos, shows us that Christ is the One who is truly worthy of our worship.

Outline

1. Christ is Worthy because He is Holy (v. 8).

The term *holy* means to be unique, set apart, and unlike any other. Holy can be used to define the very nature and character of God. He is set apart from sin and the power thereof. He is unlike any other in that He became a man, lived a perfect life, took on death to serve as a substitute for our sins, and now intercedes for us.

God’s holiness is also found throughout Scripture. Isaiah saw the Lord seated on His throne and cried out, “Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of Armies” (6:3). The psalmist declared that “God is seated on his holy throne” (47:8). Peter told the church that we are to be holy because God is holy (1 Peter 1:16).

God is the very definition of holy and because of this, He is worthy of our worship. He does not force us to worship Him, but rather invites us to worship Him. We would be wise to respond in worship as we see in verse 8 and cry out holy, holy, holy.

2. Christ is Worthy because He is in Authority (v. 8-9).

We see two distinct characteristics in these two verses that indicate that Christ is in authority. First, those who worshiped Him testified that He is the Almighty. Almighty means to be all powerful and shows that there is none greater. Also, the passage says that Christ is “the” Almighty. The is a singular word which once again reveals that there is none other than Christ who is almighty.

The second indicator is that He is seated on the throne. Those who were in authority sat. Christ exemplified this at the Sermon on the Mount when He sat down, called His disciples to Himself, and began to teach (Matt. 5:1). He exemplified authority at the start of His ministry, and He is still in authority now. He alone is worthy of our worship.

3. Christ is Worthy because He is Eternal (v. 10).

To be eternal means to have no beginning or end. The Bible makes it abundantly clear that Christ is eternal. John started his Gospel by saying, “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning” (1:1-2). Christ defined Himself as “the First and the Last, and the Living One, I was dead, but look – I am alive forever and ever” (Rev. 1:17-18).

Many have come throughout the ages and proclaimed to be a god. They have sought fame and loyal subjects. Yet, we can go to each of their graves and know that they are no longer with us. This, however, cannot be said of Jesus. The tomb that He borrowed is empty and He reigns today. He is worthy of our respect and adoration because of this truth. Christ alone is worthy of our worship.

4. Christ is Worthy because He is Creator (v. 11).

Have you ever been in awe of a sunrise or sunset? Have you ever viewed the Rocky Mountains or seen the vast expanse of the Gulf of Mexico? Have you ever held a newborn baby and been amazed at how the child was knit together in a mother’s womb? Someone had to create all these things. The Bible says that this Creator is God Himself and He is worthy of our worship.

Conclusion

We started this message by acknowledging that we are all wired for worship. We can pay our respect and adoration to an object like money. We can pursue status or fame to have others adore us and our achievements. All these pursuits will leave us empty and longing for more.

The only One who is worthy of our worship is Christ. He is worthy because He is holy, in authority, eternal, and creator. We know these things to be true because the Bible testifies of these truths throughout. If something stands in your way of worshiping Him, ask God to remove the obstacles so that you can worship Him and find the joy and fulfillment you desire. Do not allow anyone or anything to hinder you from worshiping Him because He is worthy.

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