

DOXOLOGIES

SERMON #8: HE LOVES, HE LIBERATES, ALL CREATION LAUDS THE ONE WHO IS ENTHRONED [Revelation]

Doxologies: To him be glory....

Rev. 1:5b-6 - To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Rev. 5:12, 13 - Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing! ...To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!

Rev. 7:12 - Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.

Introduction

We come to the climax. "Glory"—16 times in Revelation (NIV). If you know even a little about Revelation, you probably expect a focus on God's glory. Seven blessings on believers. Doxologies, glory, worship, honor.

An extensive doxology is in Rev. 7 – blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might.... Seven things. The number is probably not accidental—especially in Revelation. John cannot stop multiplying, adding up the reasons God is to be worshiped.

Three great theological truths. There is much more, but we limit ourselves to three.

Three texts, three Bible studies. We have to unpack these verses.

HE LOVES

God loved us

His love is evident in what he has done for us. He made us a kingdom, priests. Rich! Beyond comprehension. Reflected again and again throughout Scripture. We talk about God's love without expecting anything of ourselves. He made us into something.

HE LIBERATES

God demonstrated sacrificial love, God freed us. We are freed from our sins by his blood.

ALL CREATION LAUDS

To laud means to honor, praise, worship

God is worthy of worship; the Lamb is worthy of worship

The last two doxologies say it all!

Glory, dominion

Blessing and honor and glory and might

Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might

- Blessing (eulogia)
- Glory (doxa)
- Wisdom (Sophia)
- Thanksgiving (eucharistia)
- Honor (time)
- Power (dunamis)
- Might (ischus)

What words can we use to describe this God?

How can we ever adequately respond? Every respond is inadequate? People quibble over little things like they were big things. People want to do as little as possible. What is the minimum?

Seeking the minimum often means we have not seen the grandeur. We do not pray the grandeur. We are not overwhelmed, we do not have a vocabulary of adoration.

We do not have lives of adoration. Generalization, some do; but many do not.

We conclude the series, what will be different?

Is it only head knowledge? Will we change? Will we worship? Will we speak differently? Will we live differently?

Today is the day to begin, to change, to renew, to restore, to resolve to grow.

Just say to God, I want to grow in giving you glory.

A believer who submits and obeys gives God glory

A faithful disciple who follows closely gives God glory