

HEALING STREAM MINISTRIES presents...

**THE UNDILUTED, FULL STRENGTH, THREE ANGELS' MESSAGES
with enough power to...**

- **cleanse from all sin**
- **set us free from all bondage**
- **break all the power of the enemy over us**
- **restore us to total spiritual health**
- **develop immunity to all last-day deceptions**

#23 – The Worth of Worship

The first angel's message tells us that worship is our response to the everlasting gospel. *"Fear God...give Him glory...worship Him"* (Revelation 14:6,7. The word 'worship' is a derivation of an old English word essentially meaning "to shew worth." The worth of worship is found in our esteem of the One whose highest desire is that we know Him personally and intimately.

- **What is God worth?** Listen to the witnesses from planet earth [the twenty-four elders] in heaven's open courtroom as they declare, *"You are worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things, and by Your will they exist and were created"* (Revelation 4:11). Our God is the only one worthy [qualified] to receive worship because He has created all things. When you worship Him as Creator, you also affirm your own true worth as a person created in His image. In other words, our self-worth does not come from within us, but from outside of ourselves. It resides in the One who created us and whose desire for us is that we delight ourselves in Him. Thus understood, worship does not reduce us "to size," but it rather lifts us up to discover our original and true dignity as sons and daughters of the heavenly King.
- **What is the worth of the Son?** Listen again to the judicial testimonies of the assembled witnesses in heaven's courtroom as Jesus Christ is enthroned as Judge and King upon His ascension. *"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..."* (Revelation 5:9). Then the 'jury' [many angels around the throne] gives its testimony. *"Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom, and strength and honor and glory and blessing"* (Revelation 5:12). What are you worth? You are worth the Son, for according to the price paid for our redemption you should value yourself.

This passage of Revelation 5:12 affirms that Christ is worthy to receive these seven things – power, riches, wisdom et cetera. But Jesus Christ can only receive these if we first give them to Him. Have you ever said to yourself, *My life could be a whole lot better if I only had MORE power, riches, wisdom, strength, honor, glory and blessing in my life? If I only had more of these in my life, I could experience better self-esteem.* When we devote ourselves to seek these things for ourselves, we wreck havoc with our own lives and often the lives of others.

In our act of giving these seven things to the Lamb, God starts doing a work of surgery on our lives in decentralizing self. Here is how this process works. It is a complete reversal of our customary pursuits to exalt and satisfy SELF. The lie of the enemy is that you can find your own NET WORTH as you seek these seven things for yourself. God's

truth is that your true NET WORTH is found in worship as you give these seven things to Jesus Christ.

In worship we give God and His Son Jesus Christ...

- **power** – which means that we acknowledge our helplessness and powerlessness, and instead depend on His power, for God’s strength is made perfect in our weakness. (2 Corinthians 12:9).
- **riches** – which means that we abandon all our materialistic pursuits as being able to satisfy our deepest needs. We claim that our greatest riches reside in the “pearl of great price,” Jesus Christ.
- **wisdom** – which means we acknowledge the vanity and limits of our wisdom and learning; we confess that even our best thoughts about Him are still incomplete in understanding Him fully. Intellectual pride is an idol that must be cast down.
- **strength** – which means that we allow Him to effectively work in our behalf as we give up all our attempts to have everything under our control.
- **honor** – which means that the greatest honor we can give Him is to trust Him and to distrust ourselves.
- **glory** – which means that we let go of all our attempts to earn our salvation, and instead we give Him the glory by receiving salvation as a free gift. God is most glorified when we are most satisfied in Him.
- **blessing** – which means that instead of pursuing blessings for ourselves we instead focus on magnifying Him, *“Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name”* (Psalm 103:1).

When we seek these things for ourselves, we open our lives to the possibility that demonic spirits may control us, for we are essentially worshipping SELF. And worship of SELF is the worship of the beast because we honor the creature more than the Creator. (See Romans 1:18-25). Things not surrendered to Jesus become the raw material that the devil uses to fashion idols made in our own image. All such idols reduce us to children of lesser gods.

The greatest safeguard against the worship of the beast is our genuine worship of the Lamb. The beast symbol of Revelation can also serve as an inspired cartoon of your own life when you are self-focused. Look at the horns, power, heads, crowns, and mouths of the beast. The beast wants to control. The beast seeks to find his worth by his own accomplishments to impress both God and others. A false sense of self-worth is based on our own work. In the everlasting gospel God instead gives us self-worth based on Christ’s work.

So the next time when you go to God’s house to give Him worship, ask yourself these questions:

- Do I in my worship agree with the testimonies of the witnesses in heaven’s courtroom?
- In the way I participate in worship (singing, praying, praising) what rating and worth do I ascribe to God and His Son Jesus Christ?
- What do I discover about my own worth in worship like that?

When you worship like this, you will discover that your personal self-worth is not derived from the strokes and opinions of others about your performance, but genuine self-worth comes as a gift from the One who died for you. *“You have redeemed us to God by Your blood...and made us kings and priests to our God”* (Revelation 5:9,10). This is

rock-solid self-esteem based on 'Christ-esteem' and 'Christ-worth.' As you in worship give Him worth, God also reveals to you your true worth. As God the Father and the witnesses assembled in heaven's courtroom (Revelation 4 & 5) esteem Christ, so God esteems you. When God the Father upon Christ's ascension accepted Him and enthroned Him as Judge and King before the worshiping witnesses from heaven and earth, He also in this act loved and accepted you, showing you your true worth.

"The Father gave all honour to His Son, seating Him at His right hand, far above all principalities and powers. He expressed His great joy and delight in receiving the Crucified One, and crowning Him with glory and honour...And all the favours He has shown to His Son in His acceptance of the great atonement are shown to His people. God loves them as He loves His Son...The seal of Heaven has been affixed to Christ's atonement. His sacrifice is in every way satisfactory. In Him mercy and truth have met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other. The Father embraced His Son, and in this included all who receive Him." (E.G. White, *Bible Echo*, May 22, 1899).

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The Undiluted Three Angels Messages –
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