



Empowering People to Change the World

Worship that God Likes

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Joining the Road Church Family

If you desire to make The Road your home church:

- Want to join our family
- If you have been through Pizza with the Pastors and our Road Map classes (The next Pizza with the Pastors is at the end of January 2026)
- Please stand and pray
- Remain standing...Join us in declaring our Road Declaration...

Road Declaration

Worship that God Likes

I grew up in my faith starting in the 70s and 80s during the “worship wars,” when the sound of worship was changing. The Jesus Revolution was happening, and many hippies were coming into the church...

- People fought over whether hymns or choruses were better
- People fought over the organ or guitars
- People fought over traditional or contemporary music
- People fought over hand-raising
- People fought over worship that was “about God” or “to God”

People complain, “I didn’t really even like worship today... I really don’t like all those repeated verses—it’s just 7/11 worship, seven words sung eleven times!”

But what kind of worship does God like?

- Isn’t that the fundamental question? Not what I like, but what does HE like?!

- So, if we know what God likes, wouldn't we want to conform our earthly worship to His standard?
- But, just maybe, what God likes is not what we like. HIS way is not our way. Isaiah says it best in Isaiah 55,

***“For My thoughts are not your thoughts,
Nor are your ways My ways,” says the Lord.
“For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
So are My ways higher than your ways.” (Isaiah 55:8-9)***

In discussion with a Samaritan woman, Jesus said, “The hour is coming and now is, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. God is Spirit and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.” (John 4:23-24)

Jesus on Worship: True Worshippers Will Worship the Father in Spirit and Truth (John 4:23)

- What is spirit and truth worship?
- God has indeed shown us in Scripture the kind of worship He likes! He has actually allowed us to enter into His Praise and Worship Service

Revelation 4 shows us the kind of worship God likes

- God has His own personal Sanctuary for worship!
- He made these heavenly beings to show us what worship is. God shows us what worship is in Revelation 4.
- This is God's Living Room. Therefore, this is the kind of worship God must like.
- This is perfect worship. This is worship in heaven—God's Living Room. This is the perfect worship service.

Revelation 4

Vs.1

“After these things I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven. And the first voice which I heard was like a trumpet speaking with me, saying, “Come up here, and I will show you things which must take place after this.”

- God’s phenomenal invitation! The door is standing open, like, ALL the time.

Worship is an Invitation into His Presence

- “Come up here and I will show you things.” Wow.
- God is inviting John to see how HE likes worship.
- Worship is the invitation of God to enter into His presence!
- EVERYONE is welcome to worship!
- Here’s what is kind of cool: it is through entering into worship that God encounters us and we encounter Him, and He even shows us things!

Vs. 2-6

“Immediately I was in the Spirit; and behold, a throne set in heaven, and One sat on the throne. And He who sat there was like a jasper and a sardius stone in appearance; and there was a rainbow around the throne, in appearance like an emerald. Around the throne were twenty-four thrones, and on the thrones I saw twenty-four elders sitting, clothed in white robes; and they had crowns of gold on their heads. And from the throne proceeded lightnings, thunderings, and voices...”

(This is really loud, with quite a light show happening!)

“...Seven lamps of fire were burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God. Before the throne there was a sea of

glass, like crystal. And in the midst of the throne, and around the throne, were four living creatures full of eyes in front and in back.”

- Throne, throne, throne. It's mentioned thirteen times in Revelation 4.
- The focus is the “One who sat on the throne”

Worship is Focused on an Enthroned King

- A King sits on a throne; King Jesus is the focus of worship.
- All the watchers, heavenly court, and living creatures are all focused on the One who sits on the throne!
- The Triune God—the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—loves this worship service!

Vs. 7-8

“The first living creature was like a lion, the second living creature like a calf, the third living creature had a face like a man, and the fourth living creature was like a flying eagle. The four living creatures, each having six wings, were full of eyes around and within. And they do not rest day or night...”

- Listen, it says they do not rest day or night! This is what God loves. Day and night, constant worship.
- God loves this worship so much that He receives it 24/7.
- This is why the Moravians, in the 18th century, made 24/7 prayer and worship their focus.

***“...They say,
“Holy, holy, holy,
Lord God Almighty,
Who was and is and is to come!”***

Worship is about God's Holiness

- The most ancient manuscripts we have of Revelation 4 have “Holy” mentioned not three times, but *nine* times!
- God doesn’t love 7/11 worship as much as he loves 1/9 worship—one word repeated nine times

Holy, holy, holy, holy, holy, holy, holy, holy, holy
Lord God Almighty
Who was and is and is to come

Vs. 9-10

“Whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits on the throne, who lives forever and ever, the twenty-four elders fall down before Him who sits on the throne and worship Him who lives forever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying:

***“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.”***

- Wow! This is the most perfect definition of true worship: “To give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits on the throne.”

The Heavenly Definition of Worship:
“Give Glory and Honor and Thanks to Him
Who Sits on the Throne.”

- That’s the worship HE likes! We may not like it, but HE loves it. But it doesn’t matter, because it has never been about us

Worship is adoration, awe, and reverence to God. It’s loving God with your total being. This is why Jesus answered the question of the greatest commandment with “love the Lord your God with all of your heart, with all of your soul, with all of your mind, and with all of your strength.”

- THEY love it. The Triune God—The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. This is God's Worship Service. This is God's Sanctuary!
- It's about a King seated on His throne Who WAS, Who IS, Who IS TO COME—the Kingdom of God that WAS. The kingdom of God that IS. The Kingdom of God that is coming.
- It's the "already but not yet" Kingdom; "On earth as it is in heaven"
- Worship is bringing the Kingdom of the now *in heaven* and making it the now *on earth*!
- Worship is focusing on the King, the future reign of the King on earth, as He is already in heaven!

**When We Worship the King on His Throne,
We Give Glory, Honor, and Thanksgiving to the King.
We are Truly Lining Ourselves Up
With the Kind of Worship that God Likes!**

- So, *how* we worship doesn't matter to God. It's all about your heart.
- Are you worshipping a King on His throne? That's the question.
- Are you giving Him glory, honor, and thanksgiving? That's true worship.
- Let's move into worship now. Close your eyes and, if you can, see the Lord high and lifted up.