

Spiritual Growth Lessons from Christian Ambassadors

Lesson 82 – *Thou art Worthy, O Lord*

By Sharon K. Griffiee

Brothers and sisters, as you begin reading this lesson, perhaps dealing with annoying distractions around you, I would like to draw your attention away to a sacred place. I am referring to the unending worship service taking place in heaven! Imagine the activity taking place. Surrounding the throne of God, are four living creatures, who are deeply involved in worship. In fact, they do not rest day or night, but continue saying:

Revelation 4:8 (NKJV) – “Holy, holy, holy, Lord God almighty, who was and is and is to come!”

In addition to the living creatures, there are twenty-four elders who fall down to worship Him who sits on the throne. In humble adoration they cast their crowns before the throne proclaiming words of praise.

Revelation 4:9-11 (NKJV) – *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.**”*

(bold emphasis is mine)

Notice that heaven’s worshipers are not, in any way, short on praise. They are going all out to lift their voices in praise! They are fully committed, enjoying the spontaneity of giving God glory and honor and power; acknowledging continually that He is the Creator and Sustainer of the universe.

Christ is Supreme

Colossians 1:15-20 (NIV) – ***The Son** is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.* (bold emphasis is mine)

These powerful verses of scripture remind us how blessed we are to worship and serve a living God. How awesome is that? While all religious leaders throughout history have come and gone, our faith remains in Jesus, our Lord and Savior who lives eternally.

Hebrews 1:3-6 (NLT) – ***The Son** radiates God’s own glory and expresses the very character of God, and he sustains everything by the mighty power of his command. When he had cleansed us from our sins, he sat down in the place of honor at the right hand of the majestic God in heaven. This shows that the Son is far greater than the angels, just as the name God gave him is greater than their names. For God never said to any angel what he said to Jesus: “**You are my Son. Today I***

have become your Father.” God also said, “I will be his Father, and he will be my Son.” And when he brought his supreme [firstborn] Son into the world, God said, “Let all of God’s angels worship him.”

“Son” is the distinctive name which Jesus has inherited. No angel can claim the kind of relationship that Father God has with his only begotten Son Jesus. Clearly the worship of all heaven is offered to the “Son”.

Angels do have an important role. They are special servants of God, sent to minister to those who are heirs of salvation (Hebrews 1:14). But angels are not to be worshiped. Read about this truth in the Book of Revelation 22:8-9. Also: Exodus 20:3-4

The closeness of Father God to his Son, Jesus, is unmistakable. For he says to his Son, referring to him as God,

Hebrews 1:8-9 (NLT) – “Your throne, O God, endures forever and ever. You rule with a scepter of justice. You love justice and hate evil. Therefore, O God, your God has anointed you, pouring out the oil of joy on you more than on anyone else.”

The Destined call of Jesus to the world

By means of the incarnation (Jesus was virgin-born, conceived by the Holy Ghost), Jesus stands as God’s complete and final message to a lost world. Though little is known about his early childhood, it was in the Temple that Jesus welcomed the revelation, that he was *sent* into the world to reconcile all people to God. At the age of twelve Jesus was sitting with the religious teachers listening and asking questions.

Luke 2:47 (NKJV) – And all who heard him were astonished at his understanding and answers.

When his worried and anxious parents came looking for Jesus, who had been missing for three days, he wondered what all the fuss was about, for he said to them,

Luke 2:49-50 (NKJV) – “Why did you seek me? Did you not know that I must be about My Father’s business?” But they did not understand the statement which he spoke to them.

Though Jesus knew, at the age of twelve, *why* he was sent into the world, that does not mean he immediately jumped into ministry. Of course not. He was not prepared to become the Savior of the world at age twelve. There were years and years of preparation before him. I believe that Jesus knew in his heart that a major part of being about “His Father’s business”, was *waiting* for the call. He knew he had to be ready when the time came, for the salvation of souls was at stake. So, for eighteen long years Jesus prepared for the task that *only He* could fulfill. Jesus was thirty years old when he began his public ministry. The time for Jesus to *begin* his ministry finally came when John the Baptist appeared on the scene. Praise God, forever!

John 1:29 (NKJV) – The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!”

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Questions regarding personal worship

Do you plan daily time for praise and worship of our Lord and Savior, Jesus?

How important is it for you to spend time with fellow believers on a regular basis?

How important is it for you to spend time *alone* with God on a regular basis?