

Falling Down in Worship

Revelation 4-5 on September 25, 2022

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Please read Revelation 4 before going further in this transcript.

Today we're continuing in our sermon series called "Taking Revelation to Heart." Now that we've finished going through Jesus' letters to the 7 churches, we're going to continue on through the rest of the book. And as we do that, we're going to cover larger sections of text. So, for example, today we'll look at all of chapters 4-5. Rather than taking a verse-by-verse approach, we'll be focusing on the larger themes of the book.¹ Now, for those of us who enjoy digging in a little deeper to some of these particular verses, Pastor Eric and I have put together a list of resources for further study. Please take a look at the salmon-colored insert in your bulletin titled "Revelation Resources."² Today's sermon is going to focus on WORSHIP, specifically "Falling Down in Worship." Have you ever fallen down in worship? I'm not asking if you've ever lost your footing and fallen down in the sanctuary. Nor am I asking about something like "being slain in the Spirit." What we need to ask ourselves this morning, is how the worship that's being described in Revelation 4-5 applies to our own lives? Is there something here for us to learn from this heavenly example of "Falling Down in Worship?"^{3 4}

The fact is, worship is one of the primary themes woven all throughout the book of Revelation – it's a book of worship. Chapters 4-5 just happen to be one place where it shows up most prominently. Revelation 4:1 begins, "After this I looked, and there before me was a door standing open in heaven. And the voice I had first heard speaking to me like a trumpet said, "Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this." John

¹ See an excellent overview of Revelation's themes by Grant R. Osborne, *Revelation*, Baker, Grand Rapids, MI, 2002, pp. 31-49.

² In it, you'll see a couple of books by our very own, Micah Carpenter. You also notice a book by a woman named, Nancy Guthrie. In addition to her book, she also has a podcast, listed near the bottom under "Media." I highly recommend her podcast. In fact, it's SO good, I'm now listening to it for the second time. I'd also recommend you consider what's in the fine print at the very bottom of the insert. It's our E-Free website, which not only has an archive of all of our sermons from Revelation but also has a link to the written transcripts. (<https://efcbemidji.org/sermons>) Last Sunday's sermon had over 50 footnotes, with LOTS of extra information that I simply couldn't fit into the 30-minute sermon. So, the Revelation Resources on that salmon-colored insert come highly recommended as a way of going deeper in your discipleship. Find the Revelation Resources here: https://f48e4d0647a4846e783f-630fc55a419ca7bd9440f14e925dee8e.ssl.cf2.rackcdn.com/uploaded/b/Oe14872154_1663962324_bltm-september-25-2022.pdf

³ Revelation 4-5 contains a total of 5 praise hymns: 4:8 and 4:11 are directed to God the Father. 5:9-10 and 5:12 are directed to God the Son. 5:13 is directed to both the Father and the Son. *The NIV Study Bible*, Zondervan, Grand Rapids, MI, 2011, p. 2156 footnote on Revelation 4:8.

⁴ All of the major events throughout the book of Revelation are surrounded by worship. In fact, some scholars have identified as many as 15 or more separate times of worship scattered throughout the book. Some of which include Revelation 4:8, 11; 5:9-10, 12, 13; 7:10, 12; 11:15, 17-18; 12:10-12; 15:3-4; 16:5-7; 19:1-2, 3, 5, 6-8. (Grant R. Osborne, *Revelation*, Baker, Grand Rapids, MI, 2002, p. 47.) In other words, Chapters 4-5 contain five of them, but there are many more yet to come. Revelation is not just a book of prophecies, it is a book of worship!

is invited up to heaven to get a glimpse of what must take place.⁵ This “voice like a trumpet,” is the same one from back in Revelation 1:10, which was the voice of Jesus. So this invitation is from none other than Jesus Himself: “Come on up here and see what’s about to take place.” But before John gets a glimpse of the future that’s about to unfold, He gets a glimpse of God on His throne in heaven. And this gives him the proper perspective that he needs for everything else that follows. In fact, it not only gives John the proper perspective, but it gives ALL of us proper perspective, anyone who plans to read the rest of this book. This glimpse into what’s going on in heaven, reveals the setting for everything that’s about to transpire in the coming chapters.⁶ In other words, along with John, you and I are getting our worldview realigned with God’s worldview, with His sovereign perspective on the events going on in this world.

This idea of realignment with God’s perspective made me think of taking our CRV in this week for some new tires. In the process, our mechanic discovered that it needed an alignment. And in the process of the alignment, we discovered that the back tires would require “adjustable control arms.” For whatever reason, these didn’t come standard with the vehicle, so they needed to be retrofitted. This retrofit is the best way to get all four tires in alignment, and to keep them in alignment over the life of the vehicle. Well, sometimes our faith needs a realignment, and sometimes it’s SO far out of whack that we need to retrofit certain parts of our faith. Spending time around God’s throne gives us the realignment we need. This is one of the main reasons we need to worship together consistently and faithfully, each and every Sunday. Our worship realigns us with God’s sovereign rule and reign.

Revelation 4:2-3 go on, “At once I was in the Spirit, and there before me was a throne in heaven with someone sitting on it. And the one who sat there had the appearance of jasper and ruby. A rainbow that shone like an emerald encircled the throne.” Being “in the Spirit” is John’s way of indicating that he was having a vision.⁷ John is not asleep or dreaming, he’s awake but having a vision.⁸ One thing that seems odd about John’s description here is that he doesn’t tell us the name of whoever is sitting on this throne. New Testament scholar Grant Osborne notes that John even omits the pronoun; all he says is that there was “SOMEONE sitting on it”

⁵ “Note the emphatic ‘must’ of divine necessity. God once more is seen as in sovereign control of history, determining the progress of events according to his divine plan.” Grant R. Osborne, *Revelation*, Baker, Grand Rapids, MI, 2002, p. 225.

⁶ “When [John] arrives, he sees ‘a throne in heaven,’ and this dominates...the rest of the book and prepares for everything that follows.” Grant R. Osborne, *Revelation*, Baker, Grand Rapids, MI, 2002, p. 220.

⁷ “In a state of heightened spiritual awareness by the power of the Spirit.” *The NIV Study Bible*, Zondervan, Grand Rapids, MI, 2011, p. 2156 footnote on Revelation 4:2.

⁸ In fact, back in Revelation 1:10, we learned that this is happening on a particular Sunday when he had a series of visions, during his time of exile on the Island of Patmos.

and he refers to “THE ONE who sat there.”⁹ Apparently, John doesn’t think he needs to tell us, who it is that’s sitting on the throne in heaven, because we should already know!^{10 11} Do you know who is sitting on the throne in heaven?

John then goes on to describe some other details surrounding God’s throne in heaven:

> He mentions 24 other thrones with 24 elders seated on them.

We can’t help but wonder whether this might be a combination of the 12 tribes of Israel from the Old Testament and the 12 apostles from the New Testament.¹² However, all that we’re really told about these 24 elders, is that they were dressed in white and wore crowns of gold.^{13 14}

> John explains that the power coming forth from God’s throne was SO INTENSE that lightning was flashing forth from it and booms of thunder reverberated.

> The Holy Spirit is there in front of the throne, symbolized by seven blazing lamps.^{15 16}

> The floor in front of God’s heavenly throne is described as a beautiful “sea of glass, clear as crystal.”^{17 18}

> Right in the center, around God’s throne, were four living creatures. Verse 6 doesn’t specifically call them “angels,” but based on descriptions elsewhere in the Bible, it seems pretty clear that’s what they are.^{19 20 21}

⁹ “John refuses to name the figure ‘on the throne’ and even omits the pronoun. The reader is to know who sits enthroned there.” Grant R. Osborne, *Revelation*, Baker, Grand Rapids, MI, 2002, p. 226.

¹⁰ John does give us a hint regarding His identity by describing His appearance: it was stunning, like jasper and ruby (some translations say Carnelian). His throne was encircled by a rainbow that shone like emerald. Since this rainbow ENCIRCLED the throne, it may have appeared like a halo of light, perhaps with the stones even serving as prisms through which the light shone. See discussion by Grant R. Osborne, *Revelation*, Baker, Grand Rapids, MI, 2002, pp. 226-227.

¹¹ 1 Timothy 6:16 tells us that God lives in unapproachable light and that no one can see Him. This is probably why verse 3 describes His appearance as something like jasper and ruby. See Ezekiel 1:26-28.

¹² Also consider 1 Chronicles 24:4-19.

¹³ Regardless of their exact identity, later on, in verse 10, we see them “falling down in worship” before God’s throne, laying down their crowns before Him in reverence. So the focus is not even on the elders, the focus is on the One who is worthy of our worship. Grant Osborne begins a deep dive into this question by noting that, “There is great debate as to the identification of the twenty-four elders – are they human or heavenly figures?” *Revelation*, Baker, Grand Rapids, MI, 2002, pp. 228-230.

¹⁴ This seems to flow right out Jesus’ promise in the previous chapter, where He says, “To the one who is victorious, I will give the right to sit with me on my throne, just as I was victorious and sat down with my Father on his throne” (Revelation 3:21).

¹⁵ We talked about these “seven spirits” back in Revelation 3:1 when we read the letter to the church in Sardis. In the book of Revelation, the number “7” is often symbolic for fullness or perfection. So “the seven spirits” is actually a reference to the Holy Spirit’s fullness or perfection. This is why some translate this as the “7-fold” Spirit.

¹⁶ Back in the Old Testament book of Zechariah, in chapter 4, Zechariah is given an explanation for the 7 lamps, which are parallel to the 7 spirits in Revelation 4:5. The explanation shows up in Zechariah 4:6, “...Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit,” says the LORD Almighty.”

¹⁷ “Later Jewish writings compared the blue color of the “sea” to the floor of God’s heavenly throne and to the throne itself, citing Exodus 24:10.” (G. K. Beale, *The Book of Revelation: A Commentary on the Greek Text, New International Greek Testament Commentary* (Grand Rapids, MI; Carlisle, Cumbria: W.B. Eerdmans; Paternoster Press, 1999), 328.)

¹⁸ This picture of a “sea of glass” may be suggesting a calm sea. “In view of the Daniel and Exodus imagery, there is then a hint that John sees the chaotic powers of the sea as calmed by divine sovereignty.” (G. K. Beale, *The Book of Revelation: A Commentary on the Greek Text, New International Greek Testament Commentary* (Grand Rapids, MI; Carlisle, Cumbria: W.B. Eerdmans; Paternoster Press, 1999), 328.)

¹⁹ Compare and contrast these four creatures with Isaiah 6:2-3 and Ezekiel 1:4-10.

There's much that could be said about the various features of these four living creatures, but what matters most is what they never stop saying... Revelation 4:8 tells us,

“Holy, holy, holy
is the Lord God Almighty,
who was, and is, and is to come.”

This triple repetition of “Holy, holy, holy,” makes it exceedingly clear that our God is supremely holy.²² He is set apart and unique from all others. “The Lord God Almighty” is a declaration that our God is all-powerful. There is none greater in power, strength, and majesty than Him. He is the One “who was, and is, and is to come.”^{23 24} He lives eternally past, present, and future, and He is not subject to time like we are. In other words, we don't need to fret about the appalling wickedness in our world, because our God is holy, holy, holy! He will cleanse this world of evil, and bring forth justice, as He sees fit. Nor do we need to worry about the earthly powers that seek to do us harm, because our Lord God Almighty is ruling and reigning from His throne in heaven. (*What an encouragement this must have been to the 7 churches as they were facing persecution!*) And lastly, we do not need to be overly concerned about the unfolding timeline of End Times events, because the God who was, and is, and is to come, has all these things under His sovereign control. Everything is unfolding according to His Master Redemptive Plan, working itself out according to His perfect schedule.²⁵

Revelation 4:9-10 goes on, “Whenever the living creatures give glory, honor and thanks to him who sits on the throne and who lives for ever and ever, the twenty-four elders fall down before him who sits on the throne and worship him who lives for ever and ever. They lay their crowns before the throne....” So not only do they get up from their 24 thrones in order to fall down before the Lord, but they also lay their crowns at His feet. John's original readers would have been familiar with this practice because it was common at that time in history “for petitioners to prostrate themselves before the king and kiss his garment. Lesser kings would lay their crowns

²⁰ These four creatures “combine features of the cherubim of Ezekiel 1 and 10 and the seraphim of Isaiah 6.” *The NIV Study Bible*, Zondervan, Grand Rapids, MI, 2011, p. 2156 footnote on Revelation 4:8.

²¹ Given their duties of leading worship around God's throne, they are more than likely angels of highest rank. Their proximity to the One sitting on the throne inspired them to lead all of heaven in unceasing praise. Some have speculated that lion, ox, man, and eagle may “represent the noblest, strongest, wisest, and swiftest created beings.” *The NIV Zondervan Study Bible*, Grand Rapids, MI, 2015, p. 2596 footnote on Revelation 4:7.

²² “Triple repetition underscores God's infinite holiness.” *The NIV Study Bible*, Zondervan, Grand Rapids, MI, 2011, p. 1124 footnote on Isaiah 6:3.

²³ “An expansion of the divine name in Exodus 3:14-15.” *The NIV Study Bible*, Zondervan, Grand Rapids, MI, 2011, p. 2156 footnote on Revelation 4:8.

²⁴ “Who was, and is, and is to come” is a way of saying that “God's power and holiness extend from eternity past to eternity [future].” Consider Isaiah 41:4. *The NIV Study Bible*, Zondervan, Grand Rapids, MI, 2011, p. 2156 footnote on Revelation 4:8.

²⁵ See discussion by Grant R. Osborne, *Revelation*, Baker, Grand Rapids, MI, 2002, at the bottom of p. 236f.

before the emperor to show their submission to him.”²⁶ Part of the reason John writes down all of these details about God’s heavenly throne is to contrast them against Caesar’s earthly throne. The idolatrous worship of the imperial cult stood in mocking contrast to God’s heavenly throne. Grant Osborne highlights the parallels to these crowns, and to paying homage to the king, and to the presence of high-ranking officials, which were all common in Caesar’s court, BUT “only God is truly worthy of [all] this.... Caesar’s power and glory are nothing compared to God’s. He alone is worthy of allegiance and worship.”²⁷

In stark contrast to the arrogance of Caesar’s court, verse 11 reminds us of the only one who is truly worthy of our worship and allegiance. In Revelation 4:11, the 24 elders declare: “You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being.” The reason these worshippers were “Falling Down in Worship” is that they had a proper perspective on who alone is worthy. This scene of heaven’s throneroom gives us 3 reasons for “Falling Down in Worship.”^{28 29}

We should fall down in worship because...

1) The Lord creates all things. In verse 11 the worshippers declare, “...for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being.”³⁰ These elders, who had fallen down before the Lord, had a distinct realization of their utter dependence upon God for their very existence. They held a clear understanding of their position as created beings, created beings who owed their deepest devotion and reverence to their Creator.^{31 32} You see, Caesar didn’t create anything, nor did he sustain anything by His power. But the Lord God Almighty, who reigns from His throne in heaven, both creates and sustains all things. All of this world’s beauty and complexity was created by God’s will, and it continues to “have its being” only due to His sustaining power. The Lord didn’t stop at creating this world around us though, He also continues to create new things. Last week we talked about His new creations in Christ: “if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come.”³³ So as God continues to create increasingly

²⁶ Grant R. Osborne, *Revelation*, Baker, Grand Rapids, MI, 2002, p. 239.

²⁷ Grant R. Osborne, *Revelation*, Baker, Grand Rapids, MI, 2002, bottom of p. 218.

²⁸ See Revelation 1:17; 4:10; 5:8, 14; 7:11; 11:16; 19:4; and 22:8-9.

²⁹ I base these three points loosely from commentary by Grant R. Osborne, *Revelation*, Baker, Grand Rapids, MI, 2002, pp. 47-48.

³⁰ “It may be best to view the first verb as referring to the ongoing preservation of the created order and the second to the inception of creation: ‘they continually exist and have come into being.’” G. K. Beale, quoting Johnson at the end, *The Book of Revelation: A Commentary on the Greek Text, New International Greek Testament Commentary* (Grand Rapids, MI; Carlisle, Cumbria: W.B. Eerdmans; Paternoster Press, 1999), 335.

³¹ See Grant R. Osborne, *Revelation*, Baker, Grand Rapids, MI, 2002, p. 46.

³² I like how New Testament scholar Grant Osborne writes about it: “Human creatures are, as creatures, subject to some lordship.... The choice is of fundamental importance.’ ...Every human being will worship something, and the choice determines one’s eternal destiny.” Quoting Harrington in part, Grant R. Osborne, *Revelation*, Baker, Grand Rapids, MI, 2002, p. 47.

³³ 2 Corinthians 5:17.

more newly created believers, it gives us even more reason to worship Him. Even beyond newly created believers, God will continue to create even more new things. Aren't you looking forward to celebrating the way that the book of Revelation ends? "Soon and very soon" God will newly create all things!³⁴ Here's just a brief fast forward to Revelation 21:1, 5, "Then I saw 'a new heaven and a new earth,' for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away.... 5 He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Did you notice where the Lord announces this from? From His throne. In the weeks to come, we'll find that all of the activities throughout the book of Revelation are being observed and overseen from God's throne in heaven. In fact, "The throne of God dominates the book."^{35 36 37}

We should (also) fall down in worship because...

2) The Lord triumphed at the cross. We see this as John continues to write about God's throneroom in Revelation 5:1f, "Then I saw in the right hand of him who sat on the throne a scroll with writing on both sides and sealed with seven seals."³⁸ 2 And I saw a mighty angel proclaiming in a loud voice, "Who is worthy to break the seals and open the scroll?" 3 But no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth could open the scroll or even look inside it. 4 I wept and wept because no one was found who was worthy to open the scroll or look inside. 5 Then one of the elders said to me, "Do not weep! See, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has triumphed. He is able to open the scroll and its seven seals." John is weeping not just because he was curious about what was in the scroll, but because He'd been told, when he was first called up to heaven, that he would be shown "what must take place." That information was contained in the scroll. John could see that mankind stood on the brink of this last, final phase before the culmination of all things.³⁹ The anticipation of all of heaven, has cold water thrown on it, because there didn't seem to be anyone worthy to open the scroll. That is... until one of the elders who'd been worshipping, points to "the Lion of Judah," "the Root of David." He is One who is "able to open the scroll and its seven seals." The Old Testament prophesied about Him

³⁴ After Jesus' 2nd coming, we'll receive our newly created heavenly bodies as well. See Philippians 3:20-21

³⁵ Grant R. Osborne, *Revelation*, Baker, Grand Rapids, MI, 2002, p. 222.

³⁶ God's throne stands in contrast to all of the other thrones throughout Revelation. In addition to the thrones of the 24 elders, we should also remember Satan's throne that was mentioned back in Revelation 2:13 in Jesus' letter to the church in Pergamum. When we get to chapter 13, we'll learn about the throne of the beast which will be given to him by the dragon. See Revelation 13:2 and 16:10.

³⁷ It's an interesting word study to search through over 40 references to "throne" in the book of Revelation.

³⁸ 7 seals indicates that it's securely sealed, or we might say completely, fully sealed, which means that it cannot be violated or broken. "A wax seal indicated that important ancient documents were authentic and unaltered (sort of like the tamper proof seal on certain food products today)... This scroll contains God's consummate plan of judgment and redemption, which Jesus alone reveals and executes." *The NIV Zondervan Study Bible*, Grand Rapids, MI, 2015, p. 2597 footnote on Revelation 5:1.

³⁹ And that's why many of us find the book of Revelation so intriguing and so exciting, it's the final book in the series! Revelation touches up against one of the bookends, with Genesis on the far-left end of the shelf, and Revelation on the far-right end.

with titles like these, pointing to His ultimate kingship.⁴⁰ There's a vital truth here that we dare not miss: this Lion has already triumphed! That's why "triumphed" is in the past tense. We don't need to wait until the end of the book of Revelation for His triumph, because Jesus has already triumphed through the cross.⁴¹

And then John sees Him, in Revelation 5:6-7, "Then I saw a Lamb, looking as if it had been slain, standing at the center of the throne, encircled by the four living creatures and the elders. The Lamb had seven horns [symbolizing complete power] and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. He went and took the scroll from the right hand of him who sat on the throne." John sees a Lamb who looked as if it had been slain, reminding us of Jesus' brutal death on the cross at calvary. This historical event from the past, provided the evidence for this present moment in heaven: Jesus, and Jesus alone, was worthy to break the seals and open the scroll.

Revelation 5:8-10 goes on, "And when he had taken it, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb. Each one had a harp and they were holding golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of God's people. 9 And they sang a new song,⁴² saying: "You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased for God persons from every tribe and language and people and nation. [*He is a God of ALL peoples!*] 10 You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth." Verse 10 hints at yet another reason why we should fall down in worship. It's not as immediately obvious as the first two reasons...

We should (also) fall down in worship because...

3) The Lord judges evil justly. Verse 10 ends by saying, "they will reign on earth" ("they" refers to God's people). This hints at a future time when evil will no longer hold sway. This will become ever clearer as we continue our journey through the book of Revelation. As these 7 seals are broken open, God's righteous judgment will be poured out. This judgment will be a cause for even further worship. We'll hear worshipping over and over again in the coming chapters, even right in the midst of God's wrath being poured out on sin. We'll find songs of worship that declare things like, "Just and true are your ways, King of the nations,"⁴³ and "Hallelujah! Salvation and glory and power belong to our God, for true and just are his judgments."

⁴⁰ See Genesis 49:9-10.

⁴¹ See Grant R. Osborne, *Revelation*, Baker, Grand Rapids, MI, 2002, p. 221.

⁴² We talked about singing a new song back in January of this year: <https://efcbemidji.org/sermon/a-new-song/>

⁴³ Revelation 15:3 and 19:1-2.

Osborne summarizes it this way: “The cross is the basis of both divine [redemption AND divine justice].”⁴⁴

Well, there’s so much more that could be said, and some of it will be... but not today. Today’s text leaves us with an important question: Have we discovered just how worthy the Lord is, of our worship? As the 24 elders gathered around God’s throne, there were deeply aware of His worthiness, which is why they fell down in His presence. It wasn’t just about their physical posture though, it was an overflow of their heart attitude toward God. Our worship involves both an intellectual understanding of just how awesome God truly is, as well as a personal encounter with the Living God, who is holy, holy, holy.⁴⁵ The final verses of Revelation 5 describe the building swell of worship around God’s throne. Verse 11 says that there were 10,000 x 10,000 angels there, that’s eight zeros, 100 million angels!⁴⁶ (*I’m struggling to even imagine this many angels!*) But the exact math is not the point. The point is that this is no small minority of worshippers, ALL of them are convinced that the Lord is worthy of their worship.^{47 48} The choir swells to an even larger size in verse 13, including “every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea.” I think it’s safe to say this is one of the largest choirs ever assembled!⁴⁹

After you read these closing verses of Revelation 5:11-14, why not turn on some worship music and join this choir? “Then I looked and heard the voice of many angels, numbering thousands upon thousands, and ten thousand times ten thousand. They encircled the throne and the living creatures and the elders. 12 In a loud voice they were saying: “Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!” 13 Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, saying: “To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honor and glory and power, for ever and ever!” 14 The four living creatures said, “Amen,” and the elders fell down and worshiped.”

Psalm 95 invites us to worship, “Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the LORD our Maker; for he is our God and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care.”

➤ ***Why not worship the Lord right now?***

⁴⁴ Grant R. Osborne, *Revelation*, Baker, Grand Rapids, MI, 2002, p. 246.

⁴⁵ Consider 1 Corinthians 14:15.

⁴⁶ See Daniel 7:10 and Hebrews 12:22.

⁴⁷ In fact, a few chapters later Revelation 7:9-11 records, “...there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb... 11 All the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures. They fell down on their faces before the throne and worshiped God.”

⁴⁸ John Piper has a good article on Jesus’ worth: <https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/you-are-right-abigail-disney>

⁴⁹ Grant R. Osborne, *Revelation*, Baker, Grand Rapids, MI, 2002, p. 220.