How Would You Play if You Knew You Couldn't Lose? (Part 2)
<u>The Throne Room (Revelation 4-5)</u>

"Revelation was written to them, *but preserved* for us". — Jen Wilkin

REVELATION 4:1-3
1-After this I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven! And the first voice, which I had heard speaking to me like a trumpet, said, "Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this." 2-At once I was in the Spirit, and behold, a throne stood in heaven, with one seated on the throne. 3-And he who sat there had the appearance of jasper and carnelian, and around the throne was a rainbow that had the appearance of an emerald.

"God's throne is not empty, and it's not in trouble." — Charles Spurgeon (*The King in His Beauty, 1891*)

Point 1-True worship begins with a right view of God.

REVELATION 4:4-10
4-Around the throne were twenty-four thrones, and seated on the thrones were twenty-four elders, clothed in white garments, with golden crowns on their heads. 5-From the throne came flashes of lightning, and rumblings and peals of thunder, and before the throne were burning seven torches of fire, which are the seven spirits of God, 6-and before the throne there was as it were a sea of glass, like crystal. And around the throne, on each side of the throne, are four living creatures, full of eyes in front and behind: 7-the first living creature like a lion, the second living creature like an ox, the third living creature with the face of a man, and the fourth living creature like an eagle in flight. 8-And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and within, and day and night they never cease to say, "Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!" 9-And whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to him who is seated on the throne, who lives forever and ever, 10-the twenty-four elders fall down before him who is seated on the throne and worship him who lives forever and ever. They cast their crowns before the throne…

REVELATION 4:11
11-"Worthy are You, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for You created all things, and by Your will they existed and were created."

"In the act of worship, we are taken from the smallness of self to the greatness of God." — A.W. Tozer (*The Purpose of Man: Designed to Worship*, *2009*)

Point 2 — True worship lays down our crowns.

REVELATION 5:1
1-Then I saw in the right hand of him who was seated on the throne a scroll written within and on the back, sealed with seven seals.

REVELATION 5:2-3
2-And I saw a mighty angel proclaiming with a loud voice, "Who is worthy to open the scroll and break its seals? 3-And no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll or to look into it,

REVELATION 5:4
4-and I began to weep loudly because no one was found worthy to open the scroll or to look into it.

REVELATION 5:5
"Do not weep! Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that He can open the scroll and its seven seals."

"We never truly see the beauty of Christ until we realize how completely helpless we are without Him." — J.C. Ryle (*Holiness*, *1877*)

Point 3 — True worship feels the full weight of the question 'Who is worthy?'

REVELATION 5:6-8
6-And between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders I saw a Lamb standing, as though it had been slain, with seven horns and with seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. 7-And he went and took the scroll from the right hand of him who was seated on the throne. 8-And when he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each holding a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints.

REVELATION 5:9-10
9-"Worthy are You to take the scroll and to open its seals, for You were slain, and by Your blood You ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation,10-and You have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth."

"The way of victory is the way of the cross. The Lamb wins by suffering." — Eugene Peterson (*Reversed Thunder: The Revelation of John and the Praying Imagination, 1988)*

Point 4 — True worship rests in the Lamb who was slain.

REVELATION 5:11
Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands.

REVELATION 5:12
saying with a loud voice, "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!"

Sevenfold Doxology:
- Power…because He conquered sin and death.
- Wealth…because everything belongs to Him.
- Wisdom…because His plan is perfect.
- Might…because His strength is unmatched.
- Honor…because He alone is worthy.
- Glory…because He reveals God's character.
- Blessing…because every good thing flows from Him.

REVELATION 5:13
13-And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, saying, "To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!"

Philippians 2:10–11
"That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord."

REVELATION 5:14
14-*The four living creatures said, 'Amen!' and the elders fell down and worshiped.*

"Worship is the rehearsal of our eternal vocation." — N.T. Wright *(Simply Christian, 2006)*

Point 5 — True worship joins heaven's unending song.

Questions to Consider:
1-If He really sits on the throne, am I living like He reigns?
2-Have I laid down my own crown, or am I still trying to wear it?
3-Where am I looking for worth apart from Him?
4-Do I truly believe His sacrifice is enough?
5-And am I living each day as part of that unending song of worship?