

The Enthronement of the Lamb



Collegiate Quarterly

Teacher's Guide

Materials

Reproducible Activity, Bibles, paper, pens, flip chart

Surveying the Source

Isa. 6:1–8; Ezekiel 1; Rev. 3:21; 4; 5

Plotting the Course

The students will:

- ▶ Identify the key themes detailed in Revelation 4 and 5.
- ▶ Explore the beauty of Christ's inauguration and praise in heaven.
- ▶ Reflect on John's description of the work of God and future events for God's chosen people.

Preparing to Lead

Much has been learned about the past, present, and future prophecy thanks to the apostle John's vision in Revelation. Revelation chapters four and five are a type of opening of the curtains for believers to the realities of heaven. In the biblical literature, nothing else compares to the glo-

ries described in them. We ought to faithfully and prayerfully read them to learn of Jesus. These chapters remind us of our calling to praise and worship the One who sits on the throne—the Lamb. What a day it will be when we see Him as our King of kings!

Getting Started

A. Divide the class into two groups to read and discuss the following questions:

What does Rev. 4:8 teach us about the importance of worship in heaven?

What elements do you imagine when you consider the lyrics to the song in Rev. 4:11?

Bring the class back together and invite everyone to share their thoughts.

B. Write the words "Heavenly Worship" in the middle of the flip chart.

Have the group brainstorm definitions, examples, feelings, and any ideas associated to these words.

Have the group agree on the top four descriptions and share personal reflections on each.

Introduce the lesson for the week.

Delving Into the Word

A. Ask individuals to turn to Revelation 4:1–11 and read aloud.

Reflect and discuss the following five questions:

Why do you think the expression of worship is so key in the heavenly realms?

How does John describe the appearance of God? How would you interpret this imagery?

In what ways would you interpret the imagery surrounding the throne? i.e. sea of glass

What can we learn about the nature of God in this passage?

In what ways is this depiction of Jesus relevant to God’s church today?

B. Divide the class into two groups. Have each group discuss the following questions and then share their findings with the whole group.

Group 1: Consider the terminology in Revelation 4–5. *Discuss:*

What recurring features and details in these chapters describe a heavenly scene?

Discuss the importance of the following phrases: “I was in the spirit,” “You are worthy, our Lord and God,” “The Lion of the tribe of Judah,” and “He can open the scroll.”

Compare the above chapters to this event in Jesus’ life on earth. Read Matthew 21:6–11, 15, 16.

Group 2: Compare and contrast Isa. 6:1–8, Ezekiel 1, and Revelation 4.

What common descriptors for the heavenly creatures are used in these passages?

In what ways do these passages glorify Christ?

What do the songs mean?

What are the imminent lessons for God’s remnant church today that can be applied from these passages? Share your views.

Discussing the Ideas

1. Can you think of any reasons people may struggle to believe and trust in Jesus’ authority?

2. Is there someone you know that is currently struggling with any prophecies that you can pray for and encourage this week?

3. If you could remove just one thing that gets in the way of you worshipping Jesus everyday, what would that be?

4. Who are the people in our sphere of influence that we can share the message of Jesus’ heavenly ministry this week?

Closing the Activity

Hand out the Reproducible Activity and have the class complete it.

Invite the students to consider possible areas in their lives in need of change in light of Jesus’ soon return and His ministry today.

Determine a means to keep the students accountable for their commitments to make Jesus a priority in their lives. Close with prayer.

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A Heavenly Foretaste

Ellen White quotes the two hymns of praise found in Rev. 5:12, 13 on a number of occasions. The twenty-four elders sing in verse 12, and “every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and on the sea, and all that is in them” sing in verse 13. One or both of these hymns are quoted in the last paragraphs of *The Desire of Ages*, *The Acts of the Apostles*, and *The Great Controversy*.

Read the following profound statement by Ellen White and answer the questions that follow:

“We may have a vision of the future, blessedness of heaven. In the Bible are revealed visions of the future glory, scenes pictured by the hand of God, and these are dear to His church. By faith we may stand on the threshold of the eternal city, and hear the gracious welcome given to those who in this life co-operate with Christ, regarding it as an honor to suffer for His sake” (*Acts of the Apostles*, p. 601, 602).

What stands out to you from Ellen White’s comments?

Why do you think she describes these scenes are important to the church?

What is Ellen White inviting each believer to partake in?

What is the meaning of the phrase “by faith we may stand?”

What areas in your life do you feel need change as you consider Jesus’ return?

Pray for His leading.

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