

Worthy Is the Lamb

1. Of Angel Praises
2. Of Our Praises

A Vision of Heaven

- Today our celebr of J' res from dead cont full force, as East joy resounds hearts/halls church/school. For Xp not dead; risen, just as said. And that's more imp than anything else in world. Nothing more imp than J' death cross, res dead – bec: 1st) res proves our sins forgiven; it proves that J' sacr on cross actly did pay sins whole world, incl your sins/mine. 2nd) Res proves J keeps his proms. Before died, promd come back life; tall prom to make. But J kept his word; always keeps word; prom keeper; res proves that. Finly) greatest prom J ever made: bring his people home heaven. J once: **“In my Father's house...”** That's prom. And res proves J can/will keep that prom.
- Today, we have vision of what that prom will someday look like. Here in Rev 5, Ap Jn gives vision heaven. Magnif, breathtak, what we can look forward to w/ confid, bec JC, Lamb God, on East Sun, rose fr dead. So: worthy Lamb (WL)! Today, tog w/ saints/angels, all creation, we proclaim: WL!

Worthy is the Lamb

- **Vs. 11-12a (Lamb).** 5th/East window; that Lamb is Jesus. Why called Lamb? JB: Look, Lamb God (LG), takes sin world. But why a lamb? Remem when Israelites coming out slav in Egypt during Ex? God sent 10 plagues against Egypt; 10th was angel death. But God told his people: take special lamb, no defects/flaws; sacrifice; then blood doorposts. And when God saw blood lamb doorposts, angel death passed over those homes, people inside saved. That lamb died in place people; and it's blood saved them from death.
- And so, J is LG bec he died in our place; and his blood saves us from death – not blood painted on doorposts, but painted on beams cross. Why angels here: **“WL slain.”** On cross, the perfect LG (no defects/sins) was slain&sacr to rescue us from eternal death in hell. **“He was led like a lamb to the slaughter” (Isa 53).** And 1 Pt 1, **“You were redeemed...with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.”** A lamb (window). WL!

Of Angel Praises

- WL of angel praises! Just look who's praising him here! **Vs. 11.** Just picture scene! Countless multitudes of angels – there're everywhere; glorious; loud – **vs. 12!**
- Remem where angels come from? Created beings; not eternal on front end, like God is; God created them when created world. Yes, some evil angels fell away; banished hell; demons. But these angels here: perfect, sinless. So are ones that guard/protect us. That's their job: to praise God, protect us. **Psalm 91, “He will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.”**
- But ever think re this: these angels praising J, not for saving them, but for saving us! J died for our sins, not theirs! They're sinless; didn't need saving! And yet here is this glorious multitude of angels overjoyed at what J did for us. On GF, there was captive audience in heaven – angels watching with rapt attn as Son of God (whom they knew long before he became human, took on flesh) – as their Creator was tortured/killed by his own creation – these sinful humans! And you'd better believe they were watching when that tomb broke upon on East Sun morn, and Xp came back life! Like watching winning 3-pnt shot at buzzer; crowds go wild. J comes back life; angels in heaven go wild. J wins! Can't contain exctmnt; WL! That's how excited angels get.
- Why don't we get that excited? We're ones needed be saved, not them. So why do we so often lose that res excitement, live like just don't care? Roll into church maybe 1x/mo, maybe 2x/yr – like this res thing no big deal; like this debt of sin erased thing, this rescue from hell thing no big deal. Come on! Where's the excitement/joy!/? Xp risen, indeed; or Xp risen, whatever? We've got guard

ourselves vs this apathy, this careless indifference, in all aspects of our Xian life – whether coming church, coming Bible class & SS, our prayers, offerings, volunteering, even our love for one another. J died/rose for us – big deal! Angels in heaven celebrating this. WL of angel praises!

Of Our Praises

- And WL of our praises! Now look who's praising him: **vs. 13a**. Now all creation joins to praise J. That includes believers in heaven, faithful who've gone before us; and includes believers here on earth, people like you and me – saying **vs. 13b**. Together with saints/angels in heaven, and all creation on earth – WL of our praises!
- Today 15 young Xians will publically confess faith in risen Lord. They'll promise remain faithful to J whole life; and even say they'd rather die for faith than fall away from J. That's praising J right there! Many us (myself incl), made those very same promises in our Luth conf.
 - When Xians confess faith in J in front of others – that's praising J.
 - When Xians remain faithful to him (don't become Chreaster Xian – come only Xmas & East) – when remain faithful, that's praising J.
 - When live like Xian, make decisions in life thinking to self: this what J wants me do, this how I say thank you to J – that's praising J.
 - When wrestle with tempt, say: know what, Devil, no; I'm not going do that; that's not who I am; I'm baptized believer, child of God; this isn't how we live – that's praising J.
 - And when you do give into tempt, say: God have mercy on me, sinner; and repent, turn from sin, and believe that Lamb (window) shed his blood for you, to forgive you – that's praising J.

Amen!

- So: don't have to be in heaven surrounded by **“many angels...vs. 11b”** to exclaim WL! You can do that right here/now, as you live for J. But know what: someday you'll be there! **“In my Father's house...”** This vision of heaven we see here in Rev – someday we're going see it firsthand. J promd to bring us here; he's prom keeper. You're going see that Lamb on that throne; you're going see those angels; you're going join their praises: WL!
- **Vs. 14**. Amen = yes, Lord, I believe this is so! Jesus, I believe: in you; you're alive, risen from death forever; someday you're going bring me to heaven; you are worthy of angel praises and our praises. Yes, Lord, I believe this is so! Amen!

Revelation 5:11-14

¹¹ 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.