

the main points again...

AN OPEN DOOR - Peep behind the curtain

John's focus is drawn heavenward...
The door is open...
He is called to come...

THE VISION - A glimpse of heaven

Seated on the throne...
Sacrificial Lamb...
The scroll...

JESUS AT THE CENTRE

The Lion of Judah
The Victorious Lamb

TIME TO WORSHIP

The object of Praise is the 'Lamb of God'...
The focus of Praise is the work of the lamb...
There is a New song to sing...

CRESCENDO OF PRAISE

Angels are singing...
The creatures and elders join in...
Finally the full chorus of all in heaven and earth...

'... The end result of the act of worship is that our lives are turned around. We come to God with a history of rejecting and being rejected. At the throne of God we are immersed in God... God, not the ego, is the centre. ...The self is no longer the hub of reality. God is at the centre, he creates and redeems. Amen!' (Peterson)

So what? Rev: 4-5

1. John says he is 'In the Spirit' when he sees an 'Open door' and is called up to take a look behind the curtain... Read Ch4 v 1-7 again. Try to visualise the scene as John describes it. What is the central focus?
2. Realising the admonitions that have been delivered to the seven churches in the previous chapters, and the suffering that Christians are told they will undergo, what do you think is the significance of the 'Throne scene'?
3. When faced with the presence, glory and might of God, what would the expected reaction be? Is that what happens in John's vision?
4. John's vision of the future begins with an awareness that the record of history belongs to the one who sits on the throne of heaven. The scroll is then given and the throne is shared with one who is worthy to open it. What made him worthy to hold the future in his hands?
5. Initially John is filled with grief over the thought that no one is able to open the scroll (5:4). Can you relate to the deep sadness of thinking that all that is evil in the world cannot be overcome? Have you ever gone through a time in your life when you thought the world was running out of control? What difference does it make to have the assurance that, 'there is a throne in heaven and the one is seated on has the world in his hands'?

PRAYER: Father, we tend to be so self-centred. Teach us to centre our lives on you and your son Jesus Christ, to get our priorities straight and to live lives of worship.

Sunday June 8th 2008

it's curtains

Peeping into Revelation



Throne Room: Revelation 4-5

Devoted to Christ, people, mission