Jonathan Edwards said, “God is glorified not only by His glory’s being seen, but also by its being rejoiced in. When those that see it delight in it, God is ore glorified than if they only see it.” Last week in our OT reading, Moses prayed, “Lord show me your glory.” As God’s children, our worship is personal though it’s *NOT* about us. It’s about His glory and our responsibility is how we respond to it. In out NT reading, Revelation 4:9-11 (see biblical passages in support of this message at the end of the text), we are privileged to witness this worshipful scene in Heaven. You can almost feel the joy and delight of those around the throne in the presence of the glory of God, which brings us to examine another aspect of worship. Do we truly delight in God? Revelation 4:11\* gives us our reason for being: We were created to worship.

Because of His will, His glory, and His power, we exist. And we exist to worship and to find delight in Him—to delight in His grace and His will. David the Psalmist sings, “I delight to do your will, O My God; Your law is in my heart” (Psalm 40:8). Do we enjoy, as David did, our relationship with Bod? Do we delight in it? Last week, we talked about Moses’ worship as he encountered God, reminding ourselves that we are also to embrace and recognize His presence. We do that by delighting in His ways and His will. “Delight yourself in the Lord,” writes David in Psalm 34:7, “and He will give you the desires of your heart.” This verse describes great joy in its subject. —not in God’s *stuff* but in God Himself. This word “delight” in

Hebrew is ***anag***. It is also used for a garment that is delicate or luxurious. To clothe ourselves in the delight of God is a true, authentic act of worship; that is, we find fulfillment in just belonging to Him. That’s the source of worship. The fulfillment—

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\* Revelation 4:11

11 “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 wearing of the luxurious robe of delight—speaks to our being delicate and pliable in the hands of God (Isaiah 61:10\*; Psalm 29:1-2\*\*)—being adorned in His presence. Our songs of praise are because of who He is. J. D. Greer writes, “True worship is obedience to God for no other reason than that you delight in God.” King David tells us in scripture that there is joy to be found in God’s presence: “In your presence, there is fullness of joy” (Psalm 16:11). Practically, though, how do we do this? How do we put on His delicate and luxurious clothes and express joy in His presence?

Look with me at Psalm 37—V. 3 Trust in the LORD and do good”; v. 4 Take delight in the LORD”; v. 5 “Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him”; and v. 7 “Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for him.” Find delight in this His word! Discover here what God reveals about His character. The result is greater delight and true satisfaction. And here is the wonderful news: Delighting in God is Heavenly activity that we can enjoy now. We are citizens of Heaven and can take delight in the benefits of our citizenship in the here and now. Because of His will, we exist! So, what do we choose to do with that truth? For those of us who are born again, saved by the blood of the Lamb, what do we choose to do with the fact that, as Romans 5:8 affirms, “God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us”?

I urge you to consider this: We can’t allow familiarity of this message of His love and His creation of us to keep us from embracing and enjoying its truth! Worshipping God in delight is the result of comprehending who God is and what’s He has done for us. God takes real pleasure in our enjoyment of Him! It affects

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\*Isaiah 61:10

10 I delight greatly in the LORD; my soul rejoices in my God. For he has clothed me with garments of salvation and arrayed me in a robe of his righteousness, as a bridegroom adorns his head like a priest, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

\*\*Psalm 29:1-2

1 Ascribe to the LORD, you heavenly beings, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength. 2 Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; worship the LORD in the splendor of his holiness.

our dedication, our service our availability, our ability to delight in one another. Oswald Chambers said, “We are now, and will be in the future, only as intimate with God as we choose to be.” To delight--to find joy in our God—is worship that produces intimacy. It produces maturity of faith. He promised us abundant joy, full joy. Too often, busyness and distance, coupled with obedience, prevent our expressing delight and experiencing His joy. Listen, church, expressing delight in Him takes discipline. It requires spending time with Him in prayer, spending time with Him in His word. It result from repenting, and it must emerge from us even when we don’t feel like worshipping in delight. But we must remember that it is not about us. Thankfully, many a struggling effort at worship may seem like duty or obligation but will soon turn into a source of joy and delight because He so appreciates our effort. Worship is delighting in God. It is nurturing the relationship between each of us and Him. And He delights in us! Hear and believe King David in Psalm 149:4: “For the Lord takes delight in His people; He crowns the humble in victory.” Do we return that delight?

Passages in Support of this Message

Psalm 29:1-2

1 Ascribe to the LORD, you heavenly beings, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength. 2 Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; worship the LORD in the splendor of his holiness.

Revelation 4:9-11

9 Whenever the living creatures give glory, honor and thanks to him who sits on the throne and who lives for ever and ever, 10 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 and say: 11 “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.”