

## PERSPECTIVE OF PRAISE

As we look at the the visible world around us; global, local and even our own situations, we can often have reason for discouragement, for it looks like evil is winning. Asaph felt this way, but then he had a change in perspective about how the wicked seemed to have many blessings - Psalm 73:1-6.

**'.....it was oppressive to me until I entered the sanctuary of God; then I understood their final destiny.' (ruin and destruction) - Psalm 73:16-19 NIV**

The apostle John was suffering for 'the faith' on the island of Patmos. He was without comfort, friends and acceptance from society. He may have felt that God was far away but then Jesus revealed himself to him as the victorious omniscient holy judge in Revelation chapter 1. In chapter 4, John saw into the invisible spiritual world and God's view of history. He was shown the control center of the universe, which is a throne with someone sitting on it. The world may seem to be in chaos, but God himself is in charge overall. History is not happenstance, as God is working His grand purposes in human history. The visible world is influenced by powerful spiritual entities both good and bad as seen in the book of Revelation. Thankfully, God almighty has the final victorious reign! Before the chaos that is seen in chapters 6-18, God reveals the end of all history in Revelation 5. This is much like movies where they show the end of the plot at the beginning and then flashback to events that lead to the end. In this scene he saw myriads of angels encircle the throne along with the living creatures and elders 5:11, and they sing:

**"Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise" 5:12 'Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea and all that is in them, singing, "to Him who sits on throne and to the Lamb..... 5:13a.**

This is a universal exclamation of worship unto the God who created them. This victory praise takes place **after** the wrath and judgments are completed on the earth. Jesus is then honored because of what he accomplished at the cross, and also his final victory over God's enemies - Revelation 19.

**'Therefore, God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, 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 to the glory of the Father'. - Philippians 2:9-11 NIV**

Did you notice in the above scriptures the underlined phrase; 'in heaven, on earth and under the earth'? Even all the fallen angels and the devil himself must bow before King Jesus. The **final battle** of the ages as seen in the book of Revelation is **about worship**, but it started in heaven long ago with the leading worship angel named Lucifer. He became proud of his beauty and position and sought to replace God on the throne and to be worshiped. - Isaiah 14:11-17; We read of his 'stringed instruments' NKJV and 'harps' NIV. He is described as a 'light bearer' or 'daystar' v.11-12. Ezekiel 28:11-19 'tabrets and pipes' KJV; 'settings and sockets' or 'tamborines and flutes' NASB v.13. Pipes refer to wind instruments and tabrets would include percussion instruments. Lucifer was a master musician who could probably make beautiful music unto God. He was there at the creation when the angels sang together - Job 38:7. Lucifer's focus switched from God unto himself as a god and was cast out of heaven and now operates in the second heaven in earth's atmosphere. His name was changed from Lucifer (light bearer) to Satan which

means 'adversary' and to 'prince of darkness' as he now opposes God and all of His plans, purposes and people. Satan took his background of worship unto God and perverted it to inspire music filled with sex, drugs, violence, rebellion, discord, darkness and death. In the desert, Satan offers Jesus all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor if Jesus would worship him - Matthew 4:8-9. He has continued this offer to millions since then and will succeed in seducing many to do so near the end of this age.

**All the inhabitants of the earth will worship the beast - all whose names have not been written in the book of life belonging to the Lamb that was slain from the creation of the world.**  
- Revelation 13:8 NIV

King Nebuchadnezzar thought he was on the throne, but learned the hard way that God is really supreme and ended up eating grass like cattle and having feathers and nails. - Daniel 4:28-33.

**'At the end of that time, I Nebuchadnezzar, raised my eyes toward heaven, and my sanity was restored. Then I praised the Most High; I honored and glorified Him who lives forever. His dominion is an eternal dominion; His kingdom endures from generation to generation. All the peoples of the earth are regarded as nothing. He does as He pleases with the powers of heaven and the peoples of the earth. No one can hold back His hand or say to Him: 'What have you done?' - Daniel 4:34-35 NIV**

An encounter with God can change one's perspective and lead to heartfelt worship of the Most High God.  
[jesusreigns.net](http://jesusreigns.net)