

## Let Us Adore Him

Week 1

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Jarrold Adkins

If adoration is the guide that leads us to encounter Christ, everyone was created to adoration. Cf. **Psalm 96:9** *Oh, worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness! Tremble before Him, all the earth.*

### Matthew 2:1-11

*1 Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, 2 saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." 3 When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; 4 and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. 5 They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:*

*6 "And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel."*

*7 Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. 8 And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him." 9 After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. 10 When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. 11 And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. Cf. **Luke 1:46-55; 2:8-20***

- **Fell down and worshiped** – Matthew makes clear at the beginning of his gospel that he sees Jesus as fully divine and our designed response to that encounter is worship.

**Proskyneō** – The Greek word proskyneō is often translated into the generic English word "worship," but its meaning carries deeper nuances than the vague action of singing songs in a service.

**Adoration** – is worship that displayed as intense reverence, devotion, and love of the perfections and characteristics of God.

Worship can manifest in various forms, appealing to different personality types. Both charismatic and contemplative practices are essential for a holistic approach to worship.

## **Revelation 4:1-11**

*1 After these things I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven. And the first voice which I heard was like a trumpet speaking with me, saying, "Come up here, and I will show you things which must take place after this." 2 Immediately I was in the Spirit; and behold, a throne set in heaven, and One sat on the throne. 3 And He who sat there was like a jasper and a sardius stone in appearance; and there was a rainbow around the throne, in appearance like an emerald. 4 Around the throne were twenty-four thrones, and on the thrones I saw twenty-four elders sitting, clothed in white robes; and they had crowns of gold on their heads. 5 And from the throne proceeded lightnings, thunderings, and voices. Seven lamps of fire were burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God.*

*6 Before the throne there was a sea of glass, like crystal. And in the midst of the throne, and around the throne, were four living creatures full of eyes in front and in back. 7 The first living creature was like a lion, the second living creature like a calf, the third living creature had a face like a man, and the fourth living creature was like a flying eagle. 8 The four living creatures, each having six wings, were full of eyes around and within. And they do not rest day or night, saying: "Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, Who was and is and is to come!"*

*9 Whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits on the throne, who lives forever and ever, 10 the twenty-four elders fall down before Him who sits on the throne and worship Him who lives forever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying: 11 "You are worthy, O Lord, To receive glory and honor and power; For You created all things, And by Your will they exist and were created."*

### **Discipleship Homework:**

Use the questions and statements below to help you apply the teaching into your life.

- Reflect on your own worship style. Do you lean more towards charismatic expressions (e.g., singing loudly, raising hands) or contemplative ones (e.g., quiet prayer, stillness)?
- What scriptures support the different expressions of worship? It may also be helpful to examine different cultural or denominational expressions of worship (e.g., charismatic, liturgical, traditional). Write a short summary of what you learn and share it with your group next week.
- If you're naturally expressive, spend some time this week worshipping God in stillness and silence. If you're more reflective, try worshipping in a more expressive way, such as clapping, singing aloud, or even dancing. Journal about your experience: What felt natural? What felt challenging? How did you connect with God?
- Have questions about the message or need help with the homework? Please email Pastor Jarrod at [jarrod@1116.church](mailto:jarrod@1116.church).