

28. The New Song Of Praise

We are going to continue to think about this wonderful key that God has given us, to drive the devil out and to create a throne for God in our hearts and in our homes. That is the key of praising God.

In the book of Revelation, which is the last book of the Bible, we have more glimpses of heaven given to us than in any other book in the whole Bible. Now it is very sad that many believers don't read the book of Revelation. The devil doesn't like you to read it because it is the book, in which you read about the devil's final destiny of being cast into the lake of fire. The devil certainly does not want you to read about his defeat and his being cast out. But I would encourage you, if you have never done it so far, to really seriously read and meditate on the book of Revelation.

In that book we have many sevens. It speaks about seven lamps, seven thunders, seven trumpets and many sevens like that. One of those seven's which is not mentioned as seven, but which is hidden throughout the whole book are the seven glimpses of heaven. If you have the patience to meditate on these seven glimpses of heaven, you will see that, in every one of these places, they are praising God. I just want to show you those passages very briefly.

First of all, in Revelation 4:8-11, the last four verses of Revelation 4, you find that they are praising God and singing, 'Thou are Worthy' and they cast their crowns before Him. Secondly, again in Chapter 5:8-14, you find the elders and the living creatures and the angels - millions and millions of angels singing with a loud voice. Notice that they don't say it softly. Verse 12 says, "With a loud voice they praise God and praise the Lord Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God."

28. 讚美的新歌

我們現在要繼續思考上帝給我們的這把絕妙的鑰匙,它可以將魔鬼趕走,爾後在我們的心裡,在我們的家裡,為上帝造寶座。這把鑰匙就是讚美上帝。

《聖經》的最後一本書,啟示錄,對於天堂的描繪超過了整本《聖經》其它任何一本書。可悲的是,現在很多的信徒壓根不讀啟示錄。魔鬼不願意讓你讀這本書,因為就是這本書描述了魔鬼被拋入火湖的最後下場。魔鬼當然不喜歡人讀到它徹底的失敗和被清除。然而我想要鼓勵你,假如你還從沒有讀過,那麼你一定要仔細認真的讀和默想這本啟示錄。

這本書裡有很多個「七」。它提到了七燈、七雷、七號,等等。還有一個隱藏的「七」,就是對天堂的七瞥。假如你對這七次天堂的描述耐心去默想,就會發現,每一次,他們都正在讚美神。我幫你們快速的流覽一遍。

首先,啟示錄 4 章 8 到 11 節,我們看到他們在唱歌讚美神,「你是配得的」,並且他們將冠冕放在祂的寶座前。第二處,5 章 8 到 14 節,長老們、四活物和千千萬萬的天使們在大聲唱歌讚美。請注意他們不是在輕柔的發聲,12 節說,他們大聲的讚美神和神的羔羊,主耶穌基督。第三處,7 章 9 到 12 節講到許許多多重生得救的人,被主耶穌基督的寶血洗淨後站在那裡,大聲對寶座上的神喊著說,我們的救恩歸於神,爾後眾天使都加入其中,他們在寶座前俯伏于地敬拜神,說,「阿們!頌

Thirdly, we see another example in chapter 7: 9-12. This is the great multitude of people who have been born again, cleansed in the blood of Jesus Christ, who are standing and then again, it says in verse 10, they cry out with a loud voice to Him who sits on the throne, saying, our salvation is due to God and all the angels also join in that, and they fall down before the throne and worship God, saying, Amen, Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power be to God. And then the fourth sight of heaven, we find in chapter 11:15-18. There we find loud voices in heaven again saying, the kingdom of this world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ and we give thanks Oh Lord because You have taken Your great power and have begun to reign. Then we see a fifth picture in chapter 14: 1-4 where we see 144,000 standing with the Lamb on mount Zion and also singing this new song. The sixth glimpse of heaven is chapter 15:1-4 where we see a sea of glass, and those who overcome standing there and with the harps of God. They were singing the Song of Moses and of the Lamb, saying, great and marvellous are Your works, Oh Lord. Then the last glimpse of heaven is in chapter 19:1-6 where there is a loud voice again of a great multitude singing, Hallelujah, Salvation and Glory and Power belong to our God, and Babylon has been judged. And the second time, they said, Hallelujah, give praise to our God. In verse 6 we read, 'This voice of the great multitude was like the sound of many waters and as the sound of mighty peels of thunder.'

Have you got a little picture of heaven now? What does this heaven and the praise sound like - like thunder? There is not a single angel there, sitting depressed and gloomy or complaining about something, or scared, wondering, what is going to happen to the world next. No, nobody is scared; they are praising God with all of their heart, because

贊、榮耀、智慧、感謝、尊貴、權柄、大力都歸與我們的神,直到永永遠遠。」第四處,在 11 章 15 到 18 節,我們又看到天上有大聲音說:世上的國成了我主和主基督的國。我們感謝你,因你執掌大權作王了。第五處,是在 14 章 1 到 4 節,我們看到有十四萬四千人同羔羊一起站在錫安山,在唱這首新歌。第六處在 15 章 1 到 4 節我們看到了玻璃海和那些得勝了的人,拿著神的琴。他們在唱神僕人摩西和羔羊的歌:全能者啊,你的作為大哉,奇哉!啟示錄裡對天堂的最後一瞥是在 19 章 1 到 6 節,眾人在天上大聲唱,哈利路亞!救恩、榮耀、權能都屬乎我們的神,巴比倫得到了審判。爾後又一次他們說,哈利路亞!榮耀歸於神。第 6 節說到,群眾的聲音,如同眾水的聲音,大雷的聲音。

現在你對天堂有一些畫面了嗎?那裡頌贊的聲音如何?如同雷聲!天堂裡沒有任何一個天使坐在那悶悶不樂,沮喪的抱怨什麼,抑或是恐懼、疑惑,擔憂未來。沒有一個都沒有。他們都在用心的讚美著寶座上的神,頌贊祂的主權、祂的聖潔和祂的公義審判。天堂裡沒有一張臉是拉長的,那裡沒有抑鬱的天使。只能在地獄見到他們。你應當知道,你越多的拉長臉、憂鬱不堪,

they know that God is on the throne. They praise God for His sovereignty, His holiness, His judgment. There is not a single long-faced, gloomy angel anywhere in heaven. You will only find them in hell, not heaven. And the more you are long-faced and gloomy, the more you bring the spirit of hell into your lives. And the more you are cheerful and happy, acknowledging that God is on the throne, in your heart, in your home, in your Church, and in heaven, the more you bring the spirit of Heaven into your life.

So we see here again and again, in these glimpses of heaven, that people shout Hallelujah and Amen. It is meaningful praise, because they say Hallelujah, because God has done this, or because God is sovereign. They worship the God in the beauty of holiness. Now the Holy Spirit has come from heaven into our hearts, to produce within our hearts, the atmosphere of heaven. He has come into our homes to produce the atmosphere of heaven in our homes. He comes to our Churches to produce the atmosphere of Heaven in our Churches. What should it be? It should be an atmosphere of praise.

Now you may say, well, when I get to heaven, I will start praising the Lord. Well, why has the Holy Spirit come then? He has come to prepare us for heaven. He has come to teach us the language of heaven before we reach there. Now, for example, if you have decided that you are going to migrate to, say, France and live in France for the rest of your life, what would you do before you go to France? One thing you would certainly do is learn French, the language of France. You won't wait till you go there. You will like to learn it before you go there. And you know what the language of heaven is? It is the language of praise. It is good for us to learn it now, before we go to heaven.

It is a language in which there is no grumbling, no

就是在越多的將地獄的靈帶進你的生活。你越多的歡喜快樂,承認神在你心靈的寶座上,就是越多在將天堂的靈帶進生活。

因此在這些對天堂的瞥見裡,我們一次次看到人們在那裡歡呼哈利路亞和阿門。這些讚美都是充滿真心實意的,因為神成就了,因為神掌權了。他們在聖潔的美好裡敬拜上帝。如今聖靈已從天上而來,進入了我們的心裡,在裡面帶給我們天國的氛圍。祂讓我們的家產生天國的氛圍。祂讓我們的教會產生天國的氛圍。那氛圍是怎樣的?那就是頌贊的氛圍。

現在可能你想說,那等我到了天堂,就會開始頌贊神了。可是,如果是這樣,聖靈何必來世上呢?祂來就是為了讓我們在去天堂之前,學會那裡的語言。即使在世上,比如你想移民去法國,並且餘生都在那裡度過,你出發前會做什麼?你鐵定會做的事之一,就是學習法語,學習那個國家的語言。你不會完全等著到了那再學,因為你會很想要學習那裡的語言。你知道天堂的語言是什麼嗎?那就是讚美神。我們最好在出發之前就學習這門語言。

這是一種不嘍嘯、不抱怨、不發牢騷的語言,無論原因

complaining, no murmuring concerning anything. It is a language of continuous praise. Let's learn that language now, before we go. We are told in Revelation 14, one of the passages that we looked at, that there were 144,000 people who sang a new song before the throne. "And no one else could learn that song except these people, and they learnt it while they were on Earth" (Rev. 14:3). Now what is this new song that these 144,000 people were singing? We already saw in Revelation 4 and 5 that the new song is the song of praise and it is a song to God and to the Lord Jesus Christ. What is the old song then, if this is the new song?

Well, the old song is the song that everybody sings on earth. The song of grumbling, complaining against people and circumstances; 1st verse, 2nd verse, 3rd verse; all verses of the old song is the same; somebody or the other has done something and something or the other has gone wrong. Every day they are singing that same song, verse after verse after verse. This has only got one thing; everything is going the bad way and this person is bad and the other person is bad and this person is evil and somebody else has treated me badly and somebody else has cheated me and the circumstances are so bad and it is a time of financial difficulty; it is the same old thing in every single verse.

It is the old song, but in the midst of such a world, where everybody is singing that old song, do you know that God wants from you, if you have given your life for Christ? God wants you to learn this new song and that is the song of praising Him. Don't wait till you get to heaven. Learn the language now where you say, 'Lord, I know You are on the throne,' and if you are willing, as we saw in one of earlier study, to die with Jesus.

為何。這是一種對神持續讚美的語言。請讓我們現在就學習這門語言,在我們出發去天堂之前。啟示錄 14 章告訴我們,有十四萬四千人坐在神的寶座前唱新歌。「除了從地上學會這歌的,再沒有人能學這歌。」(啟示錄 14 章 3 節)這十四萬四千人唱的新歌到底是什麼?第 4、第 5 節我們能看出這歌是頌贊神和主耶穌基督的。那麼,假如這是新歌,那老歌又是什麼?

那老歌就是我們在地上大家都唱的抱怨牢騷之歌。這首歌抱怨他人、抱怨環境,一句、兩句、三句,這老歌的每句都是一樣的,要麼某個人,要麼某件事,反正總有事情不順心。他們每天一句一句又一句,唱著同樣的事情——又有什麼事情不對勁了,不是這個人太壞,就是那個人太邪惡了,要麼就是這個人對我不好,那個人騙我,環境真糟糕,或者錢不夠花了。反正這首老歌的每句歌詞都是在唱這個。

這就是啟示錄裡說的老歌,可是當地上的芸芸眾生都在唱這首老歌的時候,你知道假如你已將生命交托給基督,那麼上帝想從你這要的是什麼呢?上帝想要你學會這首讚美的新歌。不要等到想去天堂時現學。現在就學著說,「主啊,我知道你在寶座上。」爾後若你願意,像我們前面學習過的,請與主耶穌同死,不再為自己而活。

We complain because we don't have our own ways. Everything doesn't work out according to our plans, but they are working out according to God' plan. God is on the throne and you are not, that is good. If we were on the throne, we would mess up everything in our lives. Since God is on the throne, He makes everything for good. So when people praise God, in Heaven, they are praising God because they believe in His sovereignty. And if we believe in the sovereignty of God, that, God Almighty is ruling this universe, we would also give thanks in everything.

I am going to show you three passages in scriptures, from the New Testament, about what we are to give thanks for. Now this is not found in the Old Testament because they did not have the Holy Spirit. You see in the Old Testament, they came together may be on Saturdays in the Temple to praise God, and then they go back home for six days of grumbling and complaining and then come back again on next Saturday morning to praise God in the Temple. Now, that is how many Christians live today. They come on Sunday morning to the church meeting and to praise and thank God, and go back home to six days of grumbling and complaining and then come back again the next Sunday morning to praise God. That is an Old Testament life. Well, it is better than nothing, but it is hypocritical. It is saying something which is not true in the rest of our life.

But, in the New Testament, we are told to give thanks always, not just sometimes. First of all, let me show you, 1 Thessalonians 5:18, where it says, "In everything give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus." So tell me, after reading that verse, how many things should you thank God for? - Everything. How can you give thanks for everything when some of those things don't appear to be very good for you? Because you believe in

我們之所以會抱怨,是因為事情的發展沒有順著我們的意思,不是每件事都按我們的計畫進行,但要知道,事情都會按照神的意思進行。真正在寶座上的是上帝,而不是你(幸虧是這樣)。假如你在寶座上,我們的生活都會是一團糟。而因為上帝在寶座上,祂可以使一切變好。因此,天堂裡對神的讚美,是因為他們相信祂的神權。假如我們也同樣相信祂的神權,也就是相信宇宙的主權在祂手裡,那麼我們也應該在所有事上都對祂感激。

下面我要指給你看《聖經》新約裡的三處經文,講到我們為什麼要感激神。這些內容在舊約《聖經》裡你是看不到的,因為那時的人沒有聖靈在裡面。舊約時代,你能看到人們週六到殿堂裡讚美上帝,爾後回家在其餘六天裡牢騷抱怨,再在下一個週六到殿堂讚美神。今天的很多基督徒也是如此。他們周日早上在教會聚會時感謝讚美神,爾後回家抱怨六天,再在下一個周日早上去教會讚美神。這是舊約時代的生活模式。這種生活確實比不信神要好一點,然而卻是虛偽而自欺欺人的。因為他們嘴裡說出來的並不是生命的真實狀況。

然而在新約時代,《聖經》告訴我們要凡事謝恩,不是選擇性的。首先請看帖撒羅尼迦前書 5 章 18 節,這裡說,「凡事謝恩,因為這是神在基督耶穌裡向你們所定的旨意。」那麼告訴我,你看到這句經文後覺得有幾件事該向神感恩?答案就是所有的事。可那些對我們不利的事情叫我們如何感恩呢?如果你相信羅馬書 8 章 28 節所說的,即使邪惡的事,神也能利用它,使其對你有益處。羅馬書的 8 章 28 節就像是個濾網。你們都見過淨水器的濾網,在出口處水已經清澈的了。那

Romans 8:28 that, even though that is evil, God makes it work for your good. Romans 8:28 is like a filter. Now, some of you may have seen 'Aqua Guard Filter' which filters the water that comes through the pipeline and, at the end of that system, you get a clean glass of water. That is a water filter with ultra violet rays and candle that removes germs and bacteria. You can put any amount of dirty water through that and what you get through at the end, is clean water. Romans 8:28 is like that clean water - everything works for good. That is why we give thanks in everything. The second verse in Ephesians 5 where it says, verse is Ephesians 5:20 where it says, "Give thanks for everything, always, for all things" (Eph. 5:20). That means all the time and for every single thing, we should give thanks. And the last verse is in 1 Timothy 2:1 where it says that we are to give thanks for all men. Can you understand it now? - In every situation, for everything, at all times, and for all men.

Now when you learn to do that, you learn the new song and you can learn it only on earth. Why? Because in heaven you don't have difficult situations, you don't have difficult people, you don't face problems, you don't face trials. So, it is only here on earth that we can learn this wonderful new song - to learn to praise God in every type of situation, with every type of person. Say, 'Lord you are on the throne. Things may be difficult for me, maybe hard even, but you are on the throne.' Let me encourage you, dear friend, to learn this song of praise, now.

是因為篩檢程式裡面有紫外線殺菌等等的。你把髒水加進去,出來的是清水。羅馬書的 8 章 28 節就像是篩檢程式一樣,每一件事都成為有益處的。也正因如此,我們應該為萬事向神感恩。第二處是在以弗所書 5 章 20 節說,「凡事要奉我們主耶穌基督的名常常感謝父神。」這裡說,要在所有的時間,在所有的事上感謝神。還有提摩太前書 2 章 1 節說到,我們要為萬人感恩。現在你明白了嗎?為了所有的境況、所有的事情、在任何的時間為任何的人,我們都要感謝神。

當你學著如此的時候,就是在學習這「新歌」,而這歌只有在地上才能學。知道為什麼嗎?因為天堂裡沒有困境,沒有難以相處的人,你將不再面對困難,不再面對試煉。因此只有當你在地上時,才有機會學習這絕妙的新歌——學習如何在面對何樣境況、何樣人時,都去讚美神。說出「主啊,你在寶座之上。或許有些事情對我而言很艱難,可你在寶座上。」我想要鼓勵你,我親愛的朋友,現在就開始學這首讚美之歌。