

Redeemed to Worship

“Beholding the Beauty and Holiness of the Lord”

Psalm 27:4; Isaiah 6:1-13; Revelation 5

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Introduction

Some years ago, I read David McCullough’s biography of *John Adams*, who served as our second president and was instrumental in the founding of our country. Especially moving was the account of Adams’ lengthy correspondence with Thomas Jefferson. These two were political foes on many issues, and their relationship was strained for years.

However, in the later years of their lives, Adams and Jefferson began exchanging letters. The relationship between the two men was reconciled, and they spent their last days reflecting on shared experiences in the founding of the United States of America. Providentially, Adams and Jefferson both died on July 4, 1826.

When I came to the end of this exhaustive biography, I felt like I knew John Adams. By saying that, I have never thought that I would run into him at the post office. After all, he died two centuries ago. He’s dead. The only way I can encounter him is on the pages of his biography.

I wonder how many of us, when it comes to knowing and worshiping God, approach him like the main figure of a biography? We learn what he did in the past but don’t expect to actually engage with him. We hear and read his Word, but it’s no more than history, principles, commands, rules, and promises in a book. A unique book to be sure, but just a book.

The Bible isn’t the biography of a distant, absent, or dead deity. John Adams is dead; Jesus Christ is alive. Scripture speaks of a God who is near, a God who is active, a God who breaks into the present---a God with whom we can engage. A God who is personal. A God we can experience not just with head knowledge, but with a personal relationship initiated and enabled by God Himself. (Bob Kauflin, [True Worshipers: Seeking What Matters to God](#), pp. 127-29.)

~Psalm 27; Isaiah 6; Revelation 5

I. Beholding the B_____ of the Lord (Psalm 27)

II. Beholding the H_____ of the Lord (Isaiah 6)

III. Redeemed For Worship, Our Life's P_____

Conclusion

"Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.'" ~John 20:28,29

"Worship is not simple, but it is glorious! I have found...that it is the one thing the enemy will oppose more than anything else...The one thing he does not want is for you to worship Jesus Christ." ~Joseph Carroll

