

G R O W

Get focused, Read, Observation, Worship

Created by God – Revelation 4:11

What would your reaction be if you opened your clothes dryer and found all your laundry neatly folded and stacked? You would likely think someone was playing a prank on you. You would rightly assume that someone had come along and folded and stacked the laundry and put it back in the dryer. Do you think that could ever happen? We know that we can put neatly folded laundry in the dryer and just after a few minutes of tumbling, it would be unfolded, tangled, and a mess. But we know that the clothes would never go from chaos to order, and the same is true for our universe. For everything to come together for the order and life we see in the universe and humans, we need God.

GET FOCUSED

What distracts you? Is it your phone, television, clutter, or something else? Let us focus our hearts and minds for the new few moments so that we can hear from God in His Word. Take a few moments and silence anything that would distract you: things within you and outside of you.

READ

What's your favorite Bible translation? Many grew up with the KJV, others prefer NIV. There are different translation styles and methods; some carefully translate every word while others paraphrase. You can visit hbcaltan.com/grow to learn about the different Bible translations. It's recommended that you use a literal translation like the ESV, NASB, or NKJV to study the Bible, but reading from other translations can help you understand the verse or passage as well. Take a few moments and read Revelation 4:11.

OBSERVATION (COMB through the text)

In this step, we want to investigate the passage, to understand its message and meaning. In addition to reading our main passage, read the verses around it to understand the **context**. In Revelation we get a look into the throne of God in Heaven. In this vision, we see people and creatures worshipping God. And they declare why God is worthy of worship. God is holy, perfect in His being and character. And God is worthy of worship because He is creator.

Next, we want to **observe** the key words and phrases in Revelation 4:11. What stands out to you? You should see these key words and phrases: worthy, Lord and God, glory/honor/power, created all things, and by your will.

To help understand the **meaning** of these words and phrases, invest in a good study Bible or utilize online tools like netbible.org. The term “worthy” means weighty, and this means something has value or is befitting of honor. What is the Lord God befitting to have? He is worthy of glory, honor, and power. The term “God” is a general word that refers to a deity, a supernatural being. The Bible declares there is just one God (Is. 44:6, 1 Tim. 2:5). And this one God is the Lord, which means ruler, and it refers to one that has absolute sway over another. The Bible declares that God is the sovereign ruler over all things (Heb. 4:13). He is sovereign lord because He is creator of all things; everything comes from Him. We are not here by cosmic chance or any other means; we are here by His will. This means we are here by God’s design and intentional effort and purpose (Ps. 33:6, Genesis 1, Jn 1:3). And because this is who God is and who we are in relation to Him, He alone is worthy of glory, honor, and power.

“Glory” means to have a high view of another, to see another as highly valuable. So to give glory to God means we are show how valuable He is to us. We do not just do this with song or words, but with how we live our lives (Rom. 12:1, 1 Jn. 3:18). “Honor” means to regard another with high value or reverence. We give God the highest honor, so He comes first in our lives (Lk. 14:26). When you revere another, they are special and get special consideration in your life. “Power” means force or control. To give God power means you yield your life to Him, you give Him control of your life. This is what it means to make Jesus Lord of your life. Many know they are sinners and want God to save them from the penalty of sin; they know Jesus is the Christ, the Savior. But we must also know Him as Lord and give Him power over our lives.

So, what’s the **bottom-line**, how would you sum all this up? God is our creator and He alone is worthy of worship.

WORSHIP

In this last step, we consider how to live all this out. This is what worship is. Worship is more than songs; it is showing who God is in our lives. We can sing all the right songs but still live wrongly, so take a few moments and consider what this scripture means for your life.

We’ve been called to give Him glory, honor, and power. Are there parts of your life that are not fully yielded to Him? Are there parts of your life that don’t glorify or honor Him? What’s something you can do today or this week to glorify God, to show others His great value? How can you show others that Jesus is Lord of your life? Think on these things and continue to meditate on them as to worship God.