**Because He Reigns – Rev. 1 5 -6**

**Focal Truth: Believers on earth glorify Jesus Christ the reigning King of heaven & earth**

**What do believers gain because of the reign of the Lord Jesus Christ? – Rev. 1 – 3 tells us of the promises of Lord Jesus to believers because He reigns!**

**We come today to glorify the Reigning Lord Jesus Christ!**

**Observations**

1. **Because Jesus Christ reigns – believers on earth are blessed with life - long grace & peace! 1: 4-5**

*John to the seven churches that are in Asia; grace to you and peace, from Him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven Spirits who are before His throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To Him who loves us and released us from our sins by His blood*

**John the Apostle reminds believers that the Triune God blesses them with grace & peace in the world**

1. **From** the Eternal Father – “who was, who is and who is to come” – the source of all blessings of salvation, all grace and all peace – 7 blessings in Revelation

2 Cor. 1:3 – Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ the Father of mercies & God of all comfort

Eph. 1:3 – Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ

1 Pet. 1:3 – Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ who according to his great mercy has caused us to be born again…

1. **From** the Holy Spirit – “the seven Spirits before the throne” – seven = fullness

* Holy Spirit is before the throne in glory – sent by God to believers
* Holy Spirit indwells & fills the believer
* Holy Spirit leads & empowers the believer
* Holy Spirit glorifies Jesus Christ

1. **From** Jesus Christ

the “**faithful witness** – the One who always speaks the truth of God

the “**first born from the dead**” – The first to be resurrected to eternal life

the “**ruler of the kings of the earth**” – He is Lord over all creation & nations

1. **Because Jesus Christ reigns – believers on earth praise Him as Savior! 1:5 -6**

*from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To Him who loves us and released us from our sins by His blood-*

*and He has made us to be a kingdom, priests to His God and Father – to Him be the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.*

**John the Apostle praises the Lord Jesus as Savior! – Believers = believer – priests!**

1. Believer – priests praise express “a doxa” - praise to Jesus Christ – “**To Him who**”

**8 doxologies are in the Book of Revelation – Rev. 1,5,7,11,15,16,19**

1. Believer – priests praise the Lord Jesus enduringly & continually – “**To Him who**”

Heb. 13:15 – *through Him then, let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that give thanks to His name*

1. Believer – priests praise Jesus Christ for His continual love for them Christ loves

“**To Him who loves us**” – Song – Oh how He loves us!

1. Believer – priests praise Jesus Christ who released them from their sins by his death on the cross

“**To Him who released us from our sins by His blood”**

1. Believer – priests praise Jesus Christ who made them a kingdom of priests to God the Father

Believer - priests now are a belong to the Kingdom of God – reign of God in Christ

Believer - priests come with direct access to God through Jesus Christ

Believer – priests are a royal priesthood – **separated to worship, serve the Lord Jesus Christ!**

1. **Because Jesus Christ reigns – believers on earth praise Him as Sovereign Lord! 1:6 -7**

*and He has made us to be a kingdom, priests to His God and Father – to Him be the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen. Behold, He is coming with the clouds and every eye will see Him, even those who pierced Him; and all the tribes of the earth will mourn over Him. So, it is to be. Amen*

**John the Apostle praises the Lord Jesus as Sovereign reigning Lord of heaven soon to come to the earth!**

1. Believer – priests give praise to Jesus Christ the Lord

* Praise Him for His suffering & death
* Praise Him for His resurrection, ascension & heavenly reign
* Praise Him for His soon return to reign on earth for 1,000 years

Rev. 5:12 – *Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive power, riches, wisdom, might, honor, glory and blessing…*

1. Believer - priests praise the eternal dominion of Jesus Christ

Dan. 7:13 -14 – *behold with the clouds of heaven One like a Son of Man was coming, And to Him was given dominion, glory and a kingdom, that all the peoples, nations and men of every language might serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion which shall not pass away; and his kingdom is one which will not be destroyed*

1. Believer - priests wait for the soon return of the Lord Jesus Christ – **behold He is coming with the clouds and every eye will see Him!**

**Isaac Watts – Hymn**

*Break off your tears, ye saints, and tell how high your great Deliv’er reigns,*

*Sing how He spoiled the hosts of hell, and led the monster, Death in chains.*

*Say: live forever, wondrous King, born to redeem and strong to save! Then ask the monster, where’s thy sting? And where’s thy vict’ry, boasting grave!*

**Things to Remember and Do**

1. Heaven is filled with the eternal sound of praise to the Lord Jesus Christ - King of Kings and Lord of Lords!

All of heaven is saying: *to Him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb, be blessing and honor and glory and dominion forever and ever! Rev. 5:13*

1. Believers live victoriously in the grace & peace of God in this world of hate & terror!
2. Glorify God! Believer – priests! – praise God all the days of your life! Jesus reigns forever!
3. Worship the Lord Jesus! Who loves you! Who died for you! Who reigns forever!

***To Him who loves us and released us from our sins by His blood***

***To the praise of the glory of His grace! The Lord is near to the door! Come Lord Jesus!***