

## Coming To Mount Zion.

Hebrews 12:22-29.

Sunday, January 13, 2008.

The NT, and heavenly, worship of God's people in Hebrews 12:22-29 is worked out for us, and visually set before us in the book of Revelation. John's vision took place on the Lord's day, as the churches were gathered for worship, and he sees this worship from heaven's perspective. Remember the pattern of worship that exists in the heavenly temple; which pattern Moses saw and copied for the earthly temple in Jerusalem. Exodus 25:40 compared with Hebrews 8:5.

1. God's people gather for worship and enter the Lord's presence by way of dealing with Sin. (Burnt offerings / Prayer of confession.)
2. The word of God is proclaimed, reminding God's people of His promises and provisions for them, and calling them to respond with faith and obedience. (Scripture reading and Sermon.)
3. God's people respond with faith and obedience, presenting themselves to God as living sacrifices in their prayers and praises and offerings. (Praises, Prayers and Offerings.)
4. God's people fellowship with the Lord in the covenant meal; partaking of all the benefits of redemption, and then go forth with the blessing of their God. (Peace offerings / Communion and the Benediction.)

### I. Gathering for worship and dealing with sin.

Hebrews 12:22-24 compared with Revelation 4 and 5.

A. Gathering for worship Rev. 4, and Hebr. 12:22 "You have come to..."

"I saw a door standing open in heaven." Rev. 4:1 .

"A trumpet speaking with me saying, come up here." Rev. 4:1.

The scene described is the throne room of the heavenly temple where worship takes place. The veil is conspicuously missing.

The angelic beings are Cherubim, two of which stood over the ark of the covenant in the earthly copy of the heavenly temple.

The churches are represented by 24 elders; a fuller picture emerges in Ch. 5.

B. Dealing with sin. Rev. 5.

The history of redemption can not unfold itself unless sin is dealt with first.

It is a sealed scroll. Then in the midst of the throne, and of the angelic beings, and of the elders stands a Lamb "as though it had been slain."

It is followed by a NT hymn of praise; A new song: "You are worthy... for You were slain, and have redeemed us to God by Your blood."

### II. The word of God is proclaimed. (Repeated five times in Revelation.)

Hebrews 12:25-27 compared with Rev.6:1- 19:5.

A. Hebrews 12:25-27.

1. Refuse not Him who speaks... from heaven vs. 25.
2. His voice shakes heaven and earth. Vs. 26.
3. "Shaking" refers to the removal of the OT economy here in Hebrews.
4. In Revelation it refers to the passing away of this world. Gal 6:14

By implication we may include the crucifixion of our carnal natures.

- B. Rev. 6:1-19:5 combines the preaching of God's word with the worshippers' response.
1. The seven seals proclaim God's word 6:1- 8:5.  
The worshippers respond with prayer and praise. 7:10-12 and 8:4.  
The Lord answers with "Noises, thundering, lightning and earthquake."  
This is comparable to the "shaking" of Hebr. 12:26, 27.
  2. The seven trumpets proclaim God's word. 8:6-11:19.  
The worshippers respond with prayer and praise. 11:16-18.  
The Lord answers with "Noises, thundering, earthquake and hail." 11:19
  3. The seven signs proclaim God's word. 12:1-15:8.  
The worshippers respond with the song of Moses and of the Lamb. 15:3,4.  
The Lord answers by filling the heavenly temple with the smoke of His glory.  
No one can enter until the seven bowls are finished.
  4. The seven bowls proclaim the word of God. 16:1-21.  
The worshippers respond with silence because no one can enter the heavenly temple because of the manifest glory of the Lord. 15:8.  
There are times when all you can do is to be silent before the Lord. Ps. 46:10.  
The Lord answers with "Noises, thunderings, lightnings, earthquake and hail. 16:18,21.
  5. The sevenfold judgment of Babylon proclaims God's word. 17:1-19:5  
The worshippers respond with prayer and praise 19:1-5.  
The Lord responds, calling the worshippers to the marriage supper of the Lamb With the sound of many waters and mighty thunderings the announcement is made from the throne in the heavenly temple. 19:5-7.

### III. The worshippers respond.

- A. In Hebr. 12:28-b, 29. "'Let us have grace whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and Godly fear, for our God is a consuming fire.'
- B. In Revelation as already covered above.

### IV. Covenant meal and Benediction.

- A. In Hebr. 12:28-a. "We receiving a kingdom which can not be shaken..."  
The Lord's supper prophetically anticipates the receiving of the kingdom..
- B. In Revelation 19:6-21 we have two meals.
1. The marriage supper of the Lamb. 19:6-10.
  2. The great supper of God's wrath (for the vultures.) 19:11-21.  
Remember the two trees / meals in the garden of Eden.; the two kinds of sacrifices of the OT; the two kinds of partaking of the Lord's supper, so here are two suppers.
  3. The benediction. 20:1 - 22:21.  
The final blessedness of the redeemed is set before us here.  
The final cursing and destruction of the Devil and the lost is set before us also.  
With the two suppers belong two destinies; two final pronouncements.