

Revelation 7:12

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Saying, Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, be unto our God for ever and ever. Amen.

Analysis

The sevenfold doxology ascribes complete attributes to God: blessing, glory, wisdom, thanksgiving, honor, power, and might. The number seven symbolizes perfection; these attributes encompass all divine excellencies. The 'Amen' bookends (beginning and ending) confirm and seal the ascription—meaning 'truly' or 'it is certain.' Reformed theology emphasizes God's aseity (self-existence); He possesses these attributes eternally, and worship rightly acknowledges what is already true. The phrase 'for ever and ever' underscores divine eternality—His attributes never diminish or change. Worship recognizes and rejoices in God's unchanging excellence.

Historical Context

Seven-part blessings appear in Jewish liturgical tradition, reflecting the completeness associated with the number seven (creation week, Sabbath). Early Christian worship adapted these patterns while centering on Christ. This doxology's comprehensiveness demonstrated that worship must engage all aspects of human response—intellectual (wisdom), emotional (thanksgiving), volitional (blessing)—toward God's full character.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. How does the sevenfold ascription challenge you to worship God for all His attributes, not just those you find comfortable?
2. What does the eternal nature ('for ever and ever') of God's glory mean for how you value temporary earthly status?

Interlinear Text

λέγοντες ἀμήν ἡ εὐλογία καὶ ἡ δόξα καὶ ἡ
Saying Amen G3588 Blessing and G3588 glory and G3588
G3004 G281 G2129 G2532 G1391 G2532

σοφία καὶ ἡ εὐχαριστία καὶ ἡ τιμὴ καὶ ἡ
wisdom and G3588 thanksgiving and G3588 honour and G3588
G4678 G2532 G2169 G2532 G5092 G2532

δύναμις καὶ ἡ ἴσχὺς τῷ θεῷ ἡμῶν εἰς τοὺς
power and G3588 might G3588 God be unto our for G3588
G1411 G2532 G2479 G2316 G2257 G1519

αἰώνων· τῷν αἰώνων· ἀμήν
and ever G3588 and ever G165 Amen G281

Additional Cross-References

Jude 1:25 (Glory): To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.

Revelation 19:4 (References God): And the four and twenty elders and the four beasts fell down and worshipped God that sat on the throne, saying, Amen; Alleluia.

Psalms 100:4 (Blessing): Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name.

Colossians 3:17 (References God): And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

Psalms 107:22 (Parallel theme): And let them sacrifice the sacrifices of thanksgiving, and declare his works with rejoicing.

Psalms 147:7 (Sin): Sing unto the LORD with thanksgiving; sing praise upon the harp unto our God:

Jonah 2:9 (Parallel theme): But I will sacrifice unto thee with the voice of thanksgiving; I will pay that that I have vowed. Salvation is of the LORD.

Psalms 72:19 (Glory): And blessed be his glorious name for ever: and let the whole earth be filled with his glory; Amen, and Amen.

Psalms 41:13 (Blessing): Blessed be the LORD God of Israel from everlasting, and to everlasting. Amen, and Amen.

Psalms 89:52 (Blessing): Blessed be the LORD for evermore. Amen, and Amen.