

“Then I fell down at his feet to worship him, but he said, “No, don’t worship me. I am a servant of God, just like you and your brothers and sisters who testify about their faith in Jesus. Worship only God. For the essence of prophecy is to give a clear witness for Jesus.” Revelation 19:10 NLT

lectio // Revelations 18:21-19:10

But the “city” has been gone for centuries? Babylon must truly be more than just a city. It is a type of philosophy, a belief a system that lived on past the city itself. It is described as a “spirit” and ethos that drove the leaders and the city itself. But here at the end of verse 10, there is a short correction and admonishment by the angel, the messenger that I wanted to highlight. The angel denies worship and equates themselves with servants just like John. Then the angel gives this incredible insight to the gift of prophecy that captures the purpose of the gift so perfectly. He says, “the essence” is to give “clear witness for Jesus.” There it is, simple and powerful. It’s not just forth telling or urgent delivery of truth. It’s not a future prediction that makes people’s hair stand up on their arm. It’s to give a CLEAR WITNESS of and for Jesus. All the attention, all the focus, all the declarations of truth, power and clarity is to REMOVE barriers to Christ and give supremacy and recognition to his will, his plans. There is no “i” in prophecy only “he.”

oratio

pray as responding to the words, phrase, sentence that God has stirred within you

Dad,

Oh, if we could only get this right! Even one of your lead angels acknowledges themselves as servants and then redirects ALL attention to Jesus. We must get this right, Father. In the gifts you’ve given and the responsibilities we manage, we are just servants and bring focus and clarity to Christ and not ourselves. Help us Oh God in laying down our humanity, and need for attention and self promotion to get this in our heads.

contemplatio

rest in the presence of God, allowing the words revealed to take root