Why we bless the name of Christ

Revelation 1:1-6

A title like this deserves more than a hundred sermons! However, we are approaching the book of Revelation in a series of messages. So, it is appropriate to limit ourselves to just a few things stated in this book that glorify Christ and express His dearness to us. The proper title of the book of Revelation is found in verse one: "The Revelation of Jesus Christ..." This is not the revelation of John – though he is the writer. It is not just a book of revelations – the whole Bible is that. It is not a mere book of prophecy – even though it is full of prophecy. It is specifically the Revelation of Jesus Christ. What you learn about Jesus Christ in this book is of utmost importance. Revelation 19:10 states "...the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy." It is possible for Christians to be incorrect on prophetic teachings, yet benefit greatly from the book of Revelation because they are able to gain insight and encouragement concerning Christ's victory over sin, death, Satan and the world.

Now, let's look at some reasons to bless the name of Jesus Christ! We will note Revelation 1:5-6.

He is the faithful witness.

Jesus is the truth and He has revealed the truth to us (John 14:6; 5:24; 8:30-32; 17:1-8,13-17).

• He is the first begotten of the dead.

Jesus is the resurrection and the life. He gives resurrection power / eternal life to us. (John 11:25-26; 14:19; 10:15-18; I Corinthians 15:20-23; Ephesians 1:15 – 2:7; Revelation 1:18)

He is the prince of the kings of the earth.

Jesus has a kingdom now, which is spiritual, but will also become physical on this Earth. He is coming to claim the Kingdom which His Father has given him. All other kings will submit to Him (Isaiah 9:6-7 cp. Daniel 2:44; Psalm 2; Isaiah 11 - 12; Philippians 2:5-11; Revelation 19:11-16).

He loved us.

Jesus came to die for us; to purchase us; to save us because of his love and grace. (John 13:1,34-35; 15:12-13; Luke 9:54-56; Il Corinthians 5:14-15; 8:7-9; I John 3:16)

He washed us from our sins in His own blood.

Jesus' love caused him to do something. He did not just feel sorry for us. He supplied our need. Now we are acceptable to God because of Him (Romans 5:1-2,5-11; II Corinthians 5: 14-21; Ephesians 1:3-7; Revelation 5:1-9 ~ verse 10 leads us to our next point).

He made us kings and priest unto God and His Father.

Jesus did more than just make us acceptable. We are not only made members of God's family, but also members of Christ's kingdom (I Samuel 2:8-10; Ephesians 2:4-6; I Peter 2:5,9-10; Revelation 2:26-28; 3:12,21; $5:10 \sim$ note 5:8-14).

"...To him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen! (Revelation 5:12)