

Dear

Contemporary Comments

Subscriber:



Thirty years ago, we started the Center for Creative Ministry. We called it Adventist Baby Boomer Awareness then because the majority of my generation was like me; we were young adults. Of course, we didn't have a website then because the internet was in its infancy, but we've had one for decades now.

You may have noticed that our Center website is down at the moment. Please accept our apologies. We had been working on it when our service provider took this opportunity to discontinue support to the software version we were using. So we have a splash page up at www.creativeministry.org, and are providing updates on Facebook regularly. We continue to email Contemporary Comments, and our phone is still available to you: 800.272.4664. Thank you for hanging in there with us. Our new website will be so much easier to view on your mobile phone, and we are simplifying what we offer so you can navigate around it more easily. Thank you for your patience, and come back to our website in the New Year. We think you'll like the improvements!

Happy New Year,

Paul Richardson
Executive Director

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"Worthy is the Lamb"

January 26, 2019

Texts: Revelation 4; Ezekiel 1:5-14; Revelation 5; Ephesians 1:20-23; Hebrews 10:12; Acts 2:32-36.

The 2019 Golden Globes honored iconic comedian Carol Burnett with a standing ovation, as she "won" the first ever Carol Burnett Award. "My first love growing up was the movies. I would see six to eight movies every week with my grandmother," Burnett reflected. "When we got our first television set, I got a new love. But what fascinated me was how the stars on the screen could make people laugh, or cry, or maybe both."

Her dream to elicit those same responses from audiences ultimately came true. At 85 years old, she looks back on those early years of her career "daydreaming about being young and doing it all over," she shared. "And then I realize how incredibly fortunate I was to be there

at the right time. Because what we did then couldn't be done today." The cost of her show alone would be prohibitive, Burnett explained. "Today's audiences might never know what they're missing," she added, "So here's to reruns and YouTube."

Burnett spoke directly to other entertainers, to "all those out there who share the love I have for television and yearn to be part of this unique medium that has been so good to me." Her charge: "We've been granted a gift, a canvas to paint with our talent-to make people laugh, or cry, or maybe both. I'm just happy our show happened when it did, and I can look back and say once more I'm so glad we had this time together." Burnett accepted the honor with a tug on her ear, just as she famously did at the end of every episode of *The Carol Burnett Show*, in tribute to her beloved grandmother. [1]

It's our privilege to give honor where honor is due. Our lesson this week looks at a heavenly worship event-where God's creation declares "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain." Our word "worship" is a derivation of "worth-ship." We worship Jesus because He is worthy of our honor and praise. John has the unique privilege of entering in vision into God's very throne room, the universal center of our heavenly government. There he joins some of the most interesting characters in scripture: 24 elders and 4 living creatures, along with a myriad of angels.

The joy of worship turns to despair when the celestial congregation sees the sealed scroll that no one can open. The dilemma actually moved John to tears, but his tears turn to joy again when it's revealed that Jesus, the Lamb of God, is "worthy to take the scroll, and to open its seals," because He was slain. He is now worthy "to receive power and riches and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and blessing!" Because of Jesus' sacrifice, one day we will lift our voices with these incredible creatures in this heavenly praise and worship service.

~cb

[1] <https://www.sheknows.com/entertainment/articles/1983386/carol-burnett-golden-globe-2019-award-speech/>

About Us

Since 1988, the Center for Creative Ministry has been serving local church leaders and individuals around the world. Formerly known as the publishers of ABBA Newsletter and the Baby Boomer Ministries Resource Center, we have now broadened our generational/ministry focus to include our children. The Center for Creative Ministry took on its new name on June 1, 1996.

The Center for Creative Ministry, formerly Baby Boomer Ministries, is a privately funded and managed para-church ministry fully recognized by the Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America. We are dedicated to supporting the local church in outreach and nurture ministries by providing resources, information, training, and consulting.

