

The TRANSFORMING POWER of the Cross

The background features a panoramic view of a city skyline at dusk or dawn. The sky is a gradient from blue to orange. A prominent feature is a large, stylized cross silhouette in the upper right corner, with light rays emanating from behind it. The city below has numerous buildings, some with lights on, and a few tall structures that look like minarets or skyscrapers.

WHY HEAVEN IS A PLACE OF CELEBRATION

Introduction:

Heaven is a place of celebration,
because the cross of Jesus Christ
has made it one!

Text: Revelation 5:1-14

**Then I saw in the right hand of him
who sat on the throne a scroll with
writing on both sides and sealed with
seven seals. And I saw a mighty angel
proclaiming in a loud voice, “Who is
worthy to break the seals and open
the scroll?”**

But no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth could open the scroll or even look inside it.

I wept and wept because no one was found who was worthy to open the scroll or look inside.

**Then one of the elders said to me,
“Do not weep! See, the Lion of the
tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has
triumphed. He is able to open the
scroll and its seven seals.”**

Then I saw a Lamb, looking as if it had been slain, standing in the center of the throne, encircled by the four living creatures and the elders.

He had seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth.

He came and took the scroll from the right hand of him who sat on the throne.

And when he had taken it, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb.

Each one had a harp and they were holding golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints.

**And they sang a new song:
“You are worthy to take the scroll
and to open its seals, because you
were slain,**

**and with your blood you purchased
men for God from every tribe and
language and people and nation.**

**You have made them to be a
kingdom and priests to serve our
God, and they will reign on the
earth.”**

Then I looked and heard the voice of many angels, numbering thousands upon thousands, and ten thousand times ten thousand.

They encircled the throne and the living creatures and the elders.

**In a loud voice they sang:
“Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain,
to receive power and wealth and
wisdom and strength and honor and
glory and praise!”**

**Then I heard every creature in
heaven and on earth and under the
earth and on the sea, and all that is in
them, singing:**

**“To him who sits on the throne and
to the Lamb be praise and honor and
glory and power, for ever and ever!”**

**The four living creatures said,
“Amen,” and the elders fell down and
worshiped.**

Revelation 5:1-14

Heaven is a place where we will experience:

RESURRECTION LIFE in all of

its fullness.

LOVE.

JOY.

PEACE.

Heaven is a place where we will experience:

PATIENCE.

KINDNESS.

GOODNESS.

FAITHFULNESS.

Heaven is a place where we will experience:

GENTLENESS.

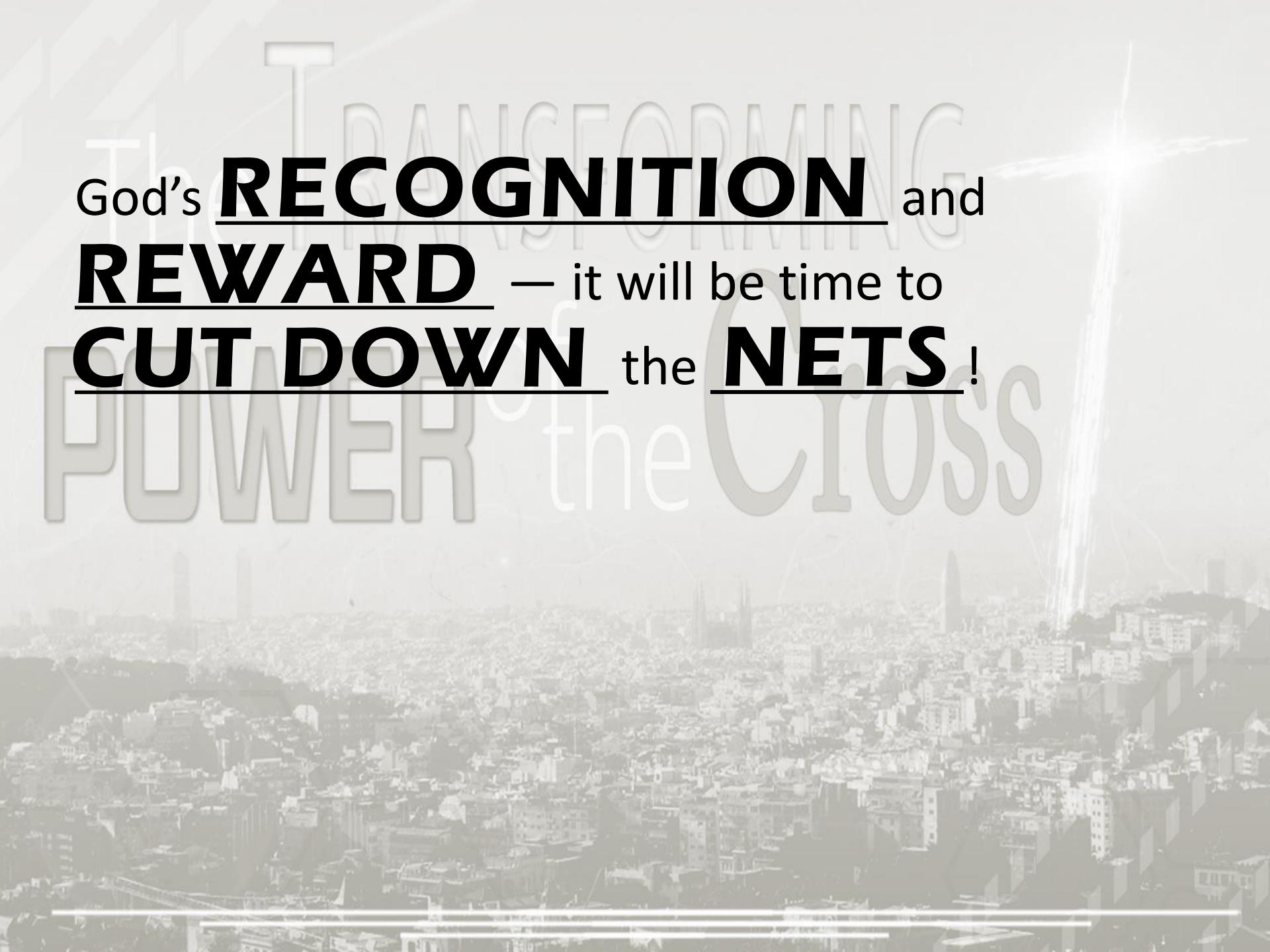
SELF-CONTROL.

The TRANSFORMING
POWER of the Cross

Joyful **REUNIONS**.

Restored **RELATIONSHIP** — we
won't carry all of the limitations of our flawed
humanity.

God's **RECOGNITION** and
REWARD — it will be time to
CUT DOWN the **NETS**!



The

TRANSFORMING

Conclusion:

When we start celebrating in Heaven we may be surprised at how much we actually have longed for all of these things!

The TRANSFORMING POWER of the Cross

The background features a photograph of a dense city skyline at sunset or sunrise. The sky is a gradient from blue to orange. A prominent feature is a large, stylized cross silhouette in the upper right corner, with light rays emanating from behind it. The city buildings are silhouetted against the bright sky.

WHY HEAVEN IS A PLACE OF CELEBRATION