

REVELATION

The Throne Room of Heaven

(Revelation 4:1~7)

Job 1:7-8: The LORD said to Satan, "From where have you come?" Satan answered the LORD and said, "From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking up and down on it." And the LORD said to Satan, "Have you considered my servant Job, that there is none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, who fears God and turns away from evil?"

- ❖ The Lord gives us as readers the big picture of the book of Job.
- ❖ Revelation 4-5 helps give us the big picture of Revelation by showing us the throne room of heaven.
- ❖ This throne room reminds us that God is authoritative over the whole universe.

1. Revelation 4 begins a new section in the book of Revelation.

- ❖ Revelation 4:1: After this I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven! And the first voice, which I had heard speaking to me like a trumpet, said, “Come up here, and I will show you what must take place **after this.**”

1. Revelation 4 begins a new section in the book of Revelation.

A. The Lord gave John a chronological outline of Revelation (Revelation 1:19).

1. The things that you have seen (Rev 1)
2. The things that are (Rev 2-3)
3. The things that are to take place after this (Rev 4-22)

1. Revelation 4 begins a new section in the book of Revelation.

B. Why does the Lord tell us of future events?

1. The Lord tells us of these things in order to reveal Himself to us (Rev 1:1).

❖ The climax of the revelation of Jesus Christ is His Second Coming in Revelation 19. Revelation 4-18 builds up to that climax.

2. Ultimately we are told these things so we will turn to Christ and depend on Him.

2. The scene in heaven

- ❖ Chapters 4-5 provide one scene in heaven.
- ❖ Chapter 4 sets the scene and tells us what's there.
- ❖ Chapter 5 sets the stage for the beginning of the Tribulation on earth.
- ❖ What word dominates chapter 4?

2. The scene in heaven

- A. The emphasis is on the throne of God.
- ❖ Throughout Revelation and throughout Scripture the throne of God often points to His authority and dominion (Psalm 103:19).

2. The scene in heaven

B. Descriptions of God's throne (Rev 4:3).

1. The manifestation of God's glory is described as jasper and carnelian/sardius.

2. Around the throne is an emerald rainbow.

❖ Where else in Scripture do we see the rainbow?

2. The scene in heaven

B. Descriptions of God's throne (Rev 4:3).

❖ Ezekiel 1:28: Like the appearance of the bow that is in the cloud on the day of rain, so was the appearance of the brightness all around. Such was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the LORD. And when I saw it, I fell on my face, and I heard the voice of one speaking.

2. The scene in heaven

C. Around God's throne are twenty-four elders (Rev 4:4).

- ❖ Some conclude that they are a special rank of angels.
- ❖ Some conclude that they are believers, perhaps with twelve representing OT believers and twelve representing NT believers.
 - ❖ In Revelation 2-3, crowns, white garments, and a throne are promised to the faithful.

2. The scene in heaven

C. Around God's throne are twenty-four elders (Rev 4:4).

- ❖ Whoever they are, they submit to God's authority and worship Him (Rev 4:10).

2. The scene in heaven

D. Near the throne of God, four living creatures worship God (Rev 4:6-8).

- ❖ Their description is similar to the descriptions of cherubs and seraphs throughout Scripture.
 - ❖ Ezekiel 1-Ezekiel sees cherubs holding up the throne of God.
 - ❖ Ezekiel 10-Ezekiel sees cherubs when the glory of God departs the temple.

3. God's throne room reminds us of God's authority over the universe.

A. God will complete the things that He deems necessary.

- ❖ Revelation will reveal judgments of the Tribulation, but those judgments come by the will and decree of God.

3. God's throne room reminds us of God's authority over the universe.

A. God will complete the things that He deems necessary.

- ❖ Revelation 4:1: After this I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven! And the first voice, which I had heard speaking to me like a trumpet, said, "Come up here, and I will show you **what must take place** after this."

DEI = IT IS NECESSARY

3. God's throne room reminds us of God's authority over the universe.

A. God will complete the things that He deems necessary.

1. No one and nothing can stop God from accomplishing His purposes (Isa 46:9-10).

3. God's throne room reminds us of God's authority over the universe.

A. God will complete the things that He deems necessary.

2. Reminding of God's authority is why we have the scene in heaven.

❖ Job didn't have the big picture of his life that we have. Sometimes God gives us the big picture to remind us of His authority and sovereignty.

3. God's throne room reminds us of God's authority over the universe.

B. Seeing God's authority reminds us to trust in Him (Isa 6:1-3).

- ❖ Even when Judah faced uncertainty, God is still on His throne.
- ❖ God is still all-knowing, all-powerful, and good, so we can trust Him.

Conclusion: What do we do with what God has revealed?

- God has revealed Himself as King of the universe.
- We should trust Him, even in difficult times.
- We must also submit *ourselves* to His authority.

- Matthew 6:10: Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
- 1 Thessalonians 4:3: For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you abstain from sexual immorality.
- 1 Thessalonians 4:7-8: For God has not called us for impurity, but in holiness. Therefore whoever disregards this, disregards not man but God, who gives his Holy Spirit to you.

NEXT TIME:
REVELATION 4:8-11

- Worship in the
Throne Room