

The Lion and The Lamb

Revelation 4:1-11

- In Revelation **1:19** John is told “to write the things which he has seen and the things which are, and the things which will take place after this”. By the time we reach chapter four we have completed the first two charges > **1**. The things which you have seen points to “**The glorified Christ**” and **2**. The things which are “is the condition of the seven churches” so all that’s left is “**the things which take place after this**”.
- After what? This is where many commentators agree that this will occur after the age of the church, meaning when the church has been taken from the earth and raptured into heaven. This makes sense because the same Greek phrase “**Meta Tauta**” which means “**after these things**”, occurs in both **1:19** and here in **4:1**. So after the age of the church on earth, the attention now shifts to heaven.

V1-11

- **V1** after the church is taken away John looked and behold a door standing open in heaven, and he hears a voice sounding like a trumpet speaking with him saying > “**come up here and I will show you things which must take place after this**”.
- Just as John was called up to heaven by a voice that sounds like a trumpet, so is the church called up similarly in > **1Thess 4:16-17**- as we the church also will hear a voice that is loud and clear, as if gathering an army together that sounds like a trumpet, saying “come up here”, like Jesus will do when calling for His Church.
- **V2-3** John immediately is “**in the Spirit**” he has been caught up his body still on the island of Patmos while his spirit is in heave with Jesus. Again this is how it will be when we leave this earth, our physical bodies will be left here, at the place where our spirits are called up into glory, but then it will be forever and not temporary.
- John sees an occupied throne, and he fixates on it and everything around it. I love how this is the first thing that is described because man loves to say how do you know there is a God, he likes declaring himself an atheist or agnostic. For in atheism there is no throne, or seat of authority, there is no power that the entire universe must answer to, for in their way of thinking, the only throne is where man sits upon it

- But here there is a throne and its occupied by One Who is Sovereign, and His appearance was nothing like John had ever seen before. He sees no clear form only colors of Jasper which is white like a diamond and sardius or red. This is what the first and last gems in the high priests breastplate looked like in **Ex 39:10-13**.
- Also, there is a green hued rainbow surrounding the throne, remember the rainbow is a reminder of God's commitment to His covenant with man that He will never destroy the earth by flood again in **Gen 9:11-17**, amazingly we will see this throughout eternity how God keeps His Word to man whether were faithful or not.
- **V4-8** next John sees elders and living creatures, and the elders had on white robes and crowns of gold on their heads. The creatures, most believe are the "**Cherubim**" spectacular angels surrounding the throne of God, with a multitude of eyes shows they are not some blind instruments or robots, but beings who are aware and understand with a greater insight and perception than any man ever could.
- Coming forth from the throne flashing is lightning, thunder, voices, lamps of fire, with a sea of glass like crystal, we can't imagine anything like this folks. Notice each Cherubim has a different face > **1.** A Lion, **2.** A Calf, **3.** A Man, **4.** A Flying Eagle, this represents the gospels that are written to us > Mathew represents the Lion, Mark the Ox, Luke Man, and John the Eagle, also lion is the mightiest of wild animals, Ox the strongest of domesticated animals, Eagle is king of birds, man highest of all creation
- Finally John describes what happens at the throne of God > worship, the living creatures constantly worship, they do not stop in their glorying, admiring, and recognizing, Who The Lord is. Saying Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty, Who was and is to come, there is none like Him, and He alone deserves to be worshipped.
- **V9-11** once they finish then the twenty four elders fall down before Him, casting their crowns saying You are worthy, O'Lord, to receive glory and honor and power. When reading this it seems so silly for us to give any man glory, power, obeisance, only God deserves our complete surrender, as He alone is worthy, not man amen!
- **Rom 9:20-21** were told how the clay doesn't have the authority to tell the potter who makes and forms it what he should do with it, He alone deserves the right to decide. Man thinks that He decides his fate, that he is the captain of his ship, and yet John writes "**for You created all things and by Your will they exist, and were created**".

- **Col 1:16** says the same thing concerning Jesus, as we will soon see everywhere that the Father was, and everything that The Father did, Jesus was there also. As **Gen 1:26** says “**Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our Likeness**”, man has a body, soul and spirit, and God is The Father, The Son, and The Spirit, three in One.