

# After These Things

Rev 4: 1-11

# After These Things

- You will notice the title our our message is...
  - “After these things”
  - This is a phrase or a variation of it that is used throughout the book of Revelation
    - Note....Rev 7: 1; 14: 1; 15: 1; 16: 1; 19: 1; 20: 1; 21: 1
  - The reason for this phrase is to introduce another series of events
- It is important for us to remember chapters 4 & 5 describe what John saw in heaven
- Chapters 6-18 show the wrath of God being poured out

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- If you will remember John is not the only author of Scripture to view heaven
  - II Cor 12: 2-4.. I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago—whether in the body I do not know, or out of the body I do not know, God knows—such a man was caught up to the third heaven. And I know how such a man—whether in the body or apart from the body I do not know, God knows—was caught up into Paradise, and heard inexpressible words, which a man is not permitted to speak.
  - You will note that Paul was not permitted to speak

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- However, John is told to write about 3 things
  - Rev 1: 19....
    - The things which you have seen (Rev 1: 9-18)
      - Risen Christ and (Vs 11) letters to the churches
  - Rev 1: 19....
    - Things which are....
      - Chapters 4 & 5 things which are in heaven
  - Rev 1: 19....
    - Things which will take place after these things
    - Rev 6-22.....things in the future
      - Tribulation, Millennium, new Heaven and Earth

# After These Things

- Rev 4: 1....”looked and behold an open door”
  - This is the opposite of the church of Laodicea
    - Rev 3: 20....the door is closed to Christ
  - This open door tells us two things
  - First....Heb 4: 16..... “Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.”
  - Second....the open door allows us to see a throne
    - The word throne or thrones is used 13 times in 11 verses
- Why?
  - This is to show Who is in control of all things
  - Note it is ”standing in heaven”.....unmovable

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- Not only was the throne stupendous but....
  - There was One sitting on the throne....
  - It is vital for us to know that He who sits on the throne is steadfast and unmovable
  - Why?
    - Because the things which are to take place are by His design and will be carried out by His authority.....
    - Rev 5: 1; 7; 13; 7: 10
    - It is important for us to know this today as well
    - Isa 6: 1-7...."In the year King Uzziah died".....

# After These Things

- Rev 4: 3-8....the scene unfolds.....
- What we see now in Vs 3-8 is also found in Ezek 1: 4-28
  - Vs 28...."I fell on my face" (Ezekiel)
  - Rev 1: 17...."I fell at His feet like a dead man" (John)
- "Like a jasper stone and sardius in appearance"
  - Jasper stone (Rev 21: 10-11) crystal clear..."diamond"
    - First stone in the breastplate of the High Priest
  - Sardius....a blood red ruby stone found near Sardis (the dead church)....the last stone in the breastplate
  - This speaks to us of perfect blazing wrath of God.....
  - And it also speaks to us of the cost of perfect salvation

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- However, there is a rainbow around the throne
  - Gen 9: 9-16
    - Vs 16...."an everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh"
  - This rainbow is a reminder of the promises of God...
    - II Cor 1: 20.... For as many as may be the promises of God, in Him they are yes; wherefore also by Him is our Amen to the glory of God through us.
  - However, this rainbow is emerald in color???
    - A very deep green in color.....
    - Wrath still tempered in mercy (Matt 24: 21-22)



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- Vs 5....out from the throne
  - Flashes of lightning and peals of thunder
  - This throne does not introduce a time of tranquility.....
    - Daniel 7: 9.... I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit, whose garment *was* white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne *was like* the fiery flame, *and* his wheels *as* burning fire. A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him: thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him: the judgment was set, and the books were opened.
  - Rev 16: 18...And there were voices, and thunders, and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such as was not since men were upon the earth, so mighty an earthquake, *and* so great.

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- Why is this important for us to know?
  - Because the church is not mentioned again in this book until the marriage supper of the Lamb.
  - Some erroneously equate the Tribulation saints with the church....they are not the same.
- Consider with me the grace of God.
  - It is only His grace (unmerited favor) that stands between us the wrath of God
  - Should we not then praise Him????
  - Should we not then worship Him in spirit and in truth?