

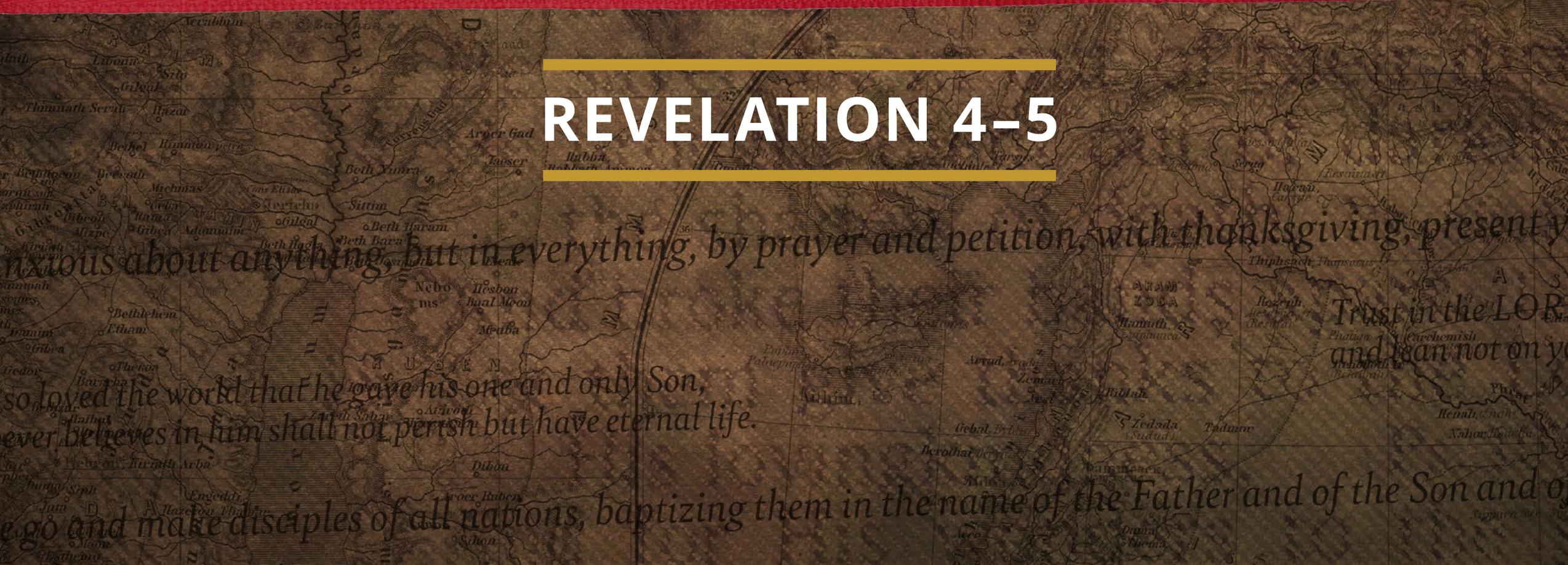
God created the heavens and the earth.

For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD
"plans to prosper you and not to harm you,
plans to give you hope and a future.

He took up our pain and bore our suffering,
considered him punished by God,
by him, and afflicted.

in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make you

HEAVENLY PORTRAITS



REVELATION 4-5

anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son,
whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

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." At once I was in the Spirit, and behold, a throne stood in heaven, with one seated on the throne. And he who sat there had the appearance of jasper and carnelian, and around the throne was a rainbow that had the appearance of an emerald.

REVELATION 4:1-3

Around the throne were twenty-four thrones, and seated on the thrones were twenty-four elders, clothed in white garments, with golden crowns on their heads. From the throne came flashes of lightning, and rumblings and peals of thunder, and before the throne were burning seven torches of fire, which are the seven spirits of God, and before the throne there was as it were a sea of glass, like crystal.

And around the throne, on each side of the throne, are four living creatures, full of eyes in front and behind:

REVELATION 4:4-6

the first living creature like a lion, the second living creature like an ox, the third living creature with the face of a man, and the fourth living creature like an eagle in flight. And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and within, and day and night they never cease to say,

“Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!”

REVELATION 4:7-8

And whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to him who is seated on the throne, who lives forever and ever, the twenty-four elders fall down before him who is seated on the throne and worship him who lives forever and ever. They cast their crowns before the throne, saying,

“Worthy are you, our Lord and God,
to receive glory and honor and power,
for you created all things,
and by your will they existed and were created.”

REVELATION 4:9-11

We need to tune our **eyes** to who God is.

“We need to see God as He is, because God has shown His glory in the creation and in His work.”

— **Timothy George**

The heavens declare the glory of God,
and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.
Day to day pours out speech,
and night to night reveals knowledge.
There is no speech, nor are there words,
whose voice is not heard.
Their voice goes out through all the earth,
and their words to the end of the world.

PSALM 19:1-4a

In them he has set a tent for the sun,
which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his
chamber, and, like a strong man, runs its course
with joy. Its rising is from the end of the heavens,
and its circuit to the end of them, and there is
nothing hidden from its heat.

PSALM 19:4b-6

The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple; the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes; the fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever; the rules of the Lord are true, and righteous altogether.

PSALM 19:7-9

More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb. Moreover, by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.

PSALM 19:10-11

We need to tune our **hearts** to who God is.

*Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised,
and his greatness is unsearchable.*

— ***Psalm 145:3***

Then I saw in the right hand of him who was seated on the throne a scroll written within and on the back, sealed with seven seals. And I saw a mighty angel proclaiming with a loud voice, "Who is worthy to open the scroll and break its seals?" And no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll or to look into it, and I began to weep loudly because no one was found worthy to open the scroll or to look into it. And one of the elders said to me, "Weep no more; behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals.

REVELATION 5:1-5

And between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders I saw a Lamb standing, as though it had been slain, with seven horns and with seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. And he went and took the scroll from the right hand of him who was seated on the throne. And when he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each holding a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints.

REVELATION 5:6-8

And they sang a new song, saying,

“Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth.”

Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands,

REVELATION 5:9-11

saying with a loud voice,

“Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!”

And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, saying,

“To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!”

And the four living creatures said, “Amen!” and the elders fell down and worshiped.

REVELATION 5:12-14

THE LAMB

Will be in the stead of someone.

*Abraham said, "God will provide for himself
the lamb for a burnt offering, my son."*

So they went both of them together.

— **Genesis 22:8**

THE LAMB

Will be spotless, without blemish.

*Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male
a year old. You may take it from the sheep
or from the goats,*

— **Exodus 12:5**

THE LAMB

Will take away sins.

The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"

— **John 1:29**

so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

— **Philippians 2:10–11**

Am I joining in on that song today?

THE ULTIMATE PORTRAIT: FATHER, SON AND HOLY SPIRIT

Where's the Holy Spirit?

From the throne came flashes of lightning, and rumblings and peals of thunder, and before the throne were burning seven torches of fire, which are the seven spirits of God, — **Revelation 4:5**

And between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders I saw a Lamb standing, as though it had been slain, with seven horns and with seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. — **Revelation 5:6**

Because God is Triune,
the Father, Son, and Spirit
are inseparable in their work.

***Praise the Father,
Praise the Son,
Praise the Holy Spirit.***