

Revelation 4
The Throne of God

Invitation (vs. 1) – “Come up here!” (Revelation 11:12 / John 11:43) **What does He shout?**

Timing: after this – the end of the church age (Daniel 9:26-27) **the gap in the 70 weeks**

The Door is open (Revelation 3:7b-8) – open to all?? **Those who keep His Word**

Trumpet like voice (Revelation 1:10 / I Thessalonians 4:16) **very loud**

In the Spirit (vs. 2) – to enter into His Presence

The only way into His presence – the Spirit not the flesh (I Corinthians 15:50/Romans 8:8-9)

The Throne in Heaven – not the shadow (Hebrews 9:23-24)

The Person on the Throne – whose glory and brightness are above all (I Timothy 6:16/ Ex. 33:20)

Indescribable (vs. 3) – His appearance

Jasper and carnelian – opaque stones like diamonds and rubies

Emerald shaped rainbow encircling the Throne (Ezekiel 1:28)

Sea of glass (Ezekiel 1:22)

Improbable leadership (vs. 4) – Twenty-four elders (I Chronicles 24 & 25 – priestly divisions)

They were seated on thrones (Revelation 3:21)

They were dressed in white (Revelation 3:4-5; 19:8)

They wore crowns of gold (Revelation 2:10)

Inspiring Awe (vs. 5-6a) – Seven blazing lamps

The demonstration of power

The seven-fold Spirit of God (Isaiah 11:2)

The light that points us to the truth (John 15:26; 16:13-14)

Inner Circle (vs. 6b-7) – Four living creatures

Full of eyes – He sees all

Like a Lion – majestic and omnipotent (Matthew – The Lion of the Tribe of Judah)

Like an ox – faithful and patient (Mark – The Servant of the Lord)

Like a man – intelligence (Luke – The Son of Man) **when we fear God (Psalm 111:10)**

Like an eagle – sovereign (John – The Son of God)

Involuntary response (8-11)

The Four living creatures – HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

The 24 elders – prostrate before Him

Crowns at His feet **it was all done by Him**

Creator is praised **He alone is worthy!**

Discussion questions for Revelations 4

What is required to enter the presence of God? (Psalm 15 / Hebrews 12:14)

Those who live in righteousness, seeking to honor God by walking in obedience. Those who are made holy. (note: we are only made holy by the blood of the Lamb – II Corinthians 5:21) We cannot expect to have fellowship with God if we walk in darkness (I John 1:5-7)

How can we meet these requirements? (Romans 13:14 / Colossians 3:12-17)

We must be clothed with the Lord Jesus Christ, having been saved by Him and walking with Him by the power of His indwelling Spirit. His life must be seen in us as we live humble, compassionate and forgiving lives. We are to be clothed with His love, His light, and His truth.

What emotions does the description of His throne and His presence arouse? (see Ezekiel 1:28; 3:15 & Isaiah 6:5-8) ***We should be drawn to worship – overwhelmed by His presence. We become aware of our own unworthiness, grateful for His saving touch on our lives. We desire to follow Him, willing to do whatever He asks of us.***

When and how do we experience His presence today? (Matthew 18:20 / Hebrews 10:24-25 / Mark 1:35 / I Corinthians 5:4) ***As we gather in His name, encouraging one another on toward love and good deeds. As we find solitude with Him – seeking to commune with Him through prayer and His Word. As we open our eyes (Ephesians 1:17-18) to see Him working in our everyday lives. As we enjoy the wonder of His creation and the working of His Spirit in the lives of people.***

What should be our response? (Titus 2:11-14) ***Thankful for His grace in our lives. Responding in obedience to Him – saying ‘No’ to ungodliness. Longing for His return – desiring to see Him face to face (I John 3:1-3). Recognizing that we belong to Him – a people set apart to do His will.***

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