

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

A REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST

REVELATION CHAPTER 4:4-11

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:
"HEAVEN" — PART 1
"A PREVIEW OF COMING ATTRACTIONS"

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:
Glory, The Throne, The Church in Heaven

INTRODUCTION to the text Revelation 4:4-11

What Do You Say, To a Dying Man?

I can tell you what not to say...

- you will not be talking about his wealth at that moment.
- you won't even be talking about his possessions.
- You won't be discussing Wall Streets highs and lows. --
- you may not even talk about his family and friends...

At that critical moment, his soul will be in the grip !!!

If I Have But One Opportunity to Comfort Those Who are Nearing Eternity,
You Give Them Jesus Christ, His Gospel, and the Assurance of Heaven!

Revelation 4:4-11

Around the throne were twenty-four thrones, and on the thrones I saw twenty-four elders sitting, clothed in white raiment; and they had crowns of gold on their heads. :5 And from the throne proceeded lightnings, thunderings, and voices. Seven lamps of fire were burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God. :6 Before the throne there was a sea of glass, like crystal. And in the midst of the throne, and around the throne, were four living creatures full of eyes in front and in back. :7 The first living creature was like a lion, the second living creature like a calf, the third living creature had a face like a man, and the fourth living creature was like a flying eagle. :8 The four living creatures, each having six wings, were full of eyes around and within. And they do not rest day or night, saying: "Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, Who was and is and is to come!" :9 Whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits on the throne, who lives forever and ever, :10 the twenty-four elders fall down before Him who sits on the throne and worship Him who lives forever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying: :11 "You are worthy, O Lord, To receive glory and honor and power; For You created all things, And by Your will they exist and were created."

I Love a Good Tour

I Think one of the Great Reasons Why I so Enjoy our Tours to Israel
Is Because of the "Hands On Nature" of Being There at the Sites

And I Really Enjoy a Good Museum

Monet's / Rembrandt / Cézanne
(there is a sense of being there, in the mind of the painter...)

10 TIMES IN JUST 8 VERSES IS THE WORD
"THRONE" OR "THRONES"

Have You Ever Seen a Throne?

As Americans, we have a difficult time imagining a throne.
Our Governmental Leaders Do Not Have Thrones

At The Tower of London

"The Crown Jewels" are there, as well as The Thrones of the Kings of England"

HEAVEN, A PREVIEW OF COMING ATTRACTIONS

I) Heaven, and what we're going to see

vv. 4

Now, around the throne were **twenty-four thrones**, and on the thrones I saw **twenty-four elders** sitting, clothed in white raiment; and they had crowns of gold on their heads. :5 And from the throne proceeded lightnings, thunderings, and voices. **Seven lamps** of fire were burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God.

Heaven, and what we're going to see

1st These 24 elders have a unique place before God v.4

Now, around the throne were twenty-four thrones, and on the thrones I saw twenty-four elders...

1/4

The 24 Elders Have a Unique Place before God

Who are these Elders and Why the Thrones? It is that they represent the entire body of believers in heaven. 24 would represent the entire body of believers
Their Unique Place = Heaven !

Heaven is a Reality

Heaven, and what we're going to see

2nd These 24 elders have a unique practice before God v.4b

Sitting...

2/4

The 24 Elders Have a Unique Practice before God

They are Resting

No Longer Laboring, No Longer Warring, No Longer in the World

In The Earthly Temple, In Jerusalem, There was no Seat or Chair...

Elders, nor Priests were Allowed to Sit because the work had not be completed.

Romans 8:1

There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus

Hebrews 1:3

who being the brightness of *His* glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, **sat down** at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

John 17:3-5

And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent. :4 I have glorified You on the earth. I have **finished the work** which You have given Me to do. :5 And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was.

John 19:30

And from the cross, He said, "**It is finished!**" And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit.

3rd These 24 elders wear a unique protocol before God v.4b

...clothed in white raiment;

3/4

The 24 Elders Wear a Unique Garment of God

The garment of the redeemed

Revelation 19:7-9

Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. :8 And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.

Revelation 5:8-9

And the four beasts and four and twenty elders fell down before the Lamb, having every one of them harps, and golden vials full of odours, which are the prayers of saints. :9 And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every race, and tongue, and people, and nation;

they are the new testament believers

...clothed in white raiment;

1 Corinthians 6:19-20

Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit *who is* in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? :20 For you were bought at a price; **therefore glorify God** in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.

4th These 24 elders have a unique possession before God v.4b

and they had crowns of gold on their heads

There are Two Words in the Bible for "Crowns"

#1 – is the Diadem = Reserved only for a King

#2 – is the Stephanos = it's given to a conquering soldier or winning athlete

1 Corinthians 9:24-25

Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it. :25 And everyone who competes *for the prize* is temperate in all things. Now they *do it* to obtain a perishable crown, but we *for an imperishable crown.*

This Crown is The Crown of Completion

Given to every believer in heaven as a Reward

4/4

The 24 Elders Have a Unique Possession from God

The Believers Crowns

1 Thessalonians 2:19

For what is our hope, or joy, or **crown of rejoicing**?

2 Timothy 4:8

Henceforth there is laid up for me a **crown of righteousness**,

James 1:12

Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the **crown of life**, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.

The Believers Crowns

1 Peter 5:4

And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a **crown of glory** that fadeth not away.

Revelation 2:10

Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a **crown of life**.

Crowns are Rewards Given in Heaven

Revelation 4:10

And the twenty-four elders fall down before Him who sits on the throne and worship Him who lives forever and ever, and they cast their crowns before His throne, saying...

Pastor Jack, I Don't Need a Crown in Heaven

1 Corinthians 3:8

Now he who plants and he who waters are one, and each one will receive his own reward according to his own labor. :9 For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, *you are God's building*.

1 Corinthians 3:14

If anyone's work which he has built on *it* endures, he will receive a reward.

Colossians 3:23

And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, :24 knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ.

end