

# THE BOOK OF REVELATION

## A REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST

REVELATION CHAPTER 4:4-11

MEDIA REFERENCE NUMBER SMX-516 DECEMBER 4, 2003

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

**" HEAVEN " - PART 2**  
**" A PREVIEW OF COMING ATTRACTIONS "**

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

*Glory, The Throne, The Church in Heaven*

**INTRODUCTION to the text:**

**Revelation 4:4-11**

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

**vv. 4**

**1<sup>st</sup> These 24 elders have a unique place before God**

**2<sup>nd</sup> These 24 elders have a unique practice before God**

**3<sup>d</sup> These 24 elders wear a unique protocol before God**

**Part Two Begins:**

### **HEAVEN, A PREVIEW OF COMING ATTRACTIONS**

**II.) Heaven, and what things will be like**

**vv. 5-8**

*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!"*

*Heaven, and what things will be like:*

**1<sup>st</sup> Judgment is near upon the earth**

**v.5-6a**

*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...*

THANK THE LORD THAT THIS APPLICATION IS NOT FOR US  
We do not relate to God in... "lightnings, thunderings, and voices."

**Old Testament Application = The Law and Judgment!**

**Exodus 20:18**

Now all the people witnessed the thunderings, the lightning flashes, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking; and when the people saw it, they trembled and stood afar off.

## This is The Stage of Judgment Being Prepared

### Daniel 7:9

"I watched till thrones were put in place, And the Ancient of Days was seated; His garment was white as snow, And the hair of His head was like pure wool. His throne was a fiery flame, Its wheels a burning fire; **10** A fiery stream issued And came forth from before Him. A thousand thousands ministered to Him; Ten thousand times ten thousand stood before Him. The court was seated..."

## IN CHAPTER 8, DURING THE TRIBULATION PERIOD

### Revelation 8:5

Then the angel took the censer, filled it with fire from the altar, and threw *it* to the earth. And there came forth noises, thunderings, lightnings, and an earthquake.

### Revelation 10:2

He had a little book open in his hand. And he set his right foot on the sea and *his* left *foot* on the land, **3** and cried with a loud voice, as *when* a lion roars. When he cried out, seven thunders uttered their voices.

### Revelation 11:19

Then the temple of God was opened in heaven, and the ark of His covenant was seen in His temple. And there were lightnings, noises, thunderings, an earthquake, and great hail.

### Revelation 16:18

And there were noises and thunderings and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such a mighty and great earthquake as had not occurred since men were on the earth.

*And from the throne proceeded lightnings, thunderings, and voices.*

## This is The Stage of Impending Judgment

### Isaiah 26:21

For behold, the LORD comes out of His place To punish the inhabitants of the earth for their sins...

## THE CHRISTIAN APPEARS BEFORE A DIFFERENT KIND OF THRONE ALTOGETHER

### Hebrew 4:16

Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace,

### 2 Peter 1:11

for so an entrance will be supplied to you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

**5** *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...*

## The Sea of Glass, Like Crystal

The Tabernacle and the Earthly Temple in Jerusalem, Were Patterned After What is In Heaven.

### Exodus 30:19-21

for Aaron and his sons shall wash their hands and their feet in water from it. **20** When they go into the tabernacle of meeting, or when they come near the altar to minister, **21** So they shall wash their hands and their feet, lest they die. And it shall be a statute forever to them—to him and his descendants throughout their generations."

### Exodus 40:30-32

He set the laver between the tabernacle of meeting and the altar, and put water there for washing; **31** and Moses, Aaron, and his sons would wash their hands and their feet *with water* from it. **32** Whenever they went into the tabernacle of meeting, and when they came near the altar, they washed,

### John 13:3-10

Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He had come from God and was going to God, **4** rose from supper and laid aside His garments, took a towel and girded Himself. **5** After that, He poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe *them* with the towel with which He was girded. **6** Then He came to Simon Peter. And *Peter* said to Him, "Lord, are You washing my feet?" **7** Jesus answered and said to him, "What I am doing you do not understand now, but you will know after this." **8** Peter said to Him, "You shall never wash my feet!" Jesus answered him, "If I do not wash you, you have no part with Me." **9** Simon Peter said to Him, "Lord, not my feet only, but also *my hands and my head!*" **10** Jesus said to him, "He who is bathed needs only to wash *his* feet,

## The Joy That's Here for the Careful Reader

"In the Old Testament - The Laver or Sea was Filled with Water for the Cleansing of the Man who was to Approach the Lord.

In Heaven, What would have been a basin, laver, or sea of water, is now solid *glass, like crystal.*

*Meaning = No More Cleansing in Heaven.*

*Meaning = No More Battles with Sin.*

Meaning = No More Needing to Confess to the Lord our Wrongs.

Heaven and what things will be like:

**2<sup>nd</sup> Glory is what's in Heaven above**

**v. 6b-8a**

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.

**Before the Throne of God This Morning, and forever, is this scene,**

*And it is Truly Awesome!*

The Description of Cherubim and Seraphim:

**Ezekiel 1:4-11**

Then I looked, and behold, a whirlwind was coming out of the north, a great cloud with raging fire engulfing itself; and brightness was all around it and radiating out of its midst like the color of amber, out of the midst of the fire. **5** Also from within it *came* the likeness of four living creatures. And this *was* their appearance: they had the likeness of a man. **6** Each one had four faces, and each one had four wings. **7** Their legs *were* straight, and the soles of their feet *were* like the soles of calves' feet. They sparkled like the color of burnished bronze. **8** The hands of a man *were* under their wings on their four sides; and each of the four had faces and wings. **9** Their wings touched one another. *The creatures* did not turn when they went, but each one went straight forward. **10** As for the likeness of their faces, *each* had the face of a man; each of the four had the face of a lion on the right side, each of the four had the face of an ox on the left side, and each of the four had the face of an eagle. **11** Thus *were* their faces.

In The Old Testament, In Israel's Wanderings,

The encampments had four sides. Each tribe had its banners.

The four outer tribes had these symbols as their banners.

**Matthew's Gospel**

**Communicates Jesus' Ministry as the King**

*(The Face of a Lion)*

**Mark's Gospel**

**Communicates Jesus' Ministry as the Servant**

*(The Face of an Ox)*

**Luke's Gospel**

**Communicates Jesus' Ministry as the Man**

*(The Face of a Man)*

**John's Gospel**

**Communicates Jesus' Ministry as the Lord**

*(The Face of an Eagle)*

**Ezekiel 1:22-24**

The likeness of the firmament above the heads of the living creatures was like the color of an awesome crystal, stretched out over their heads. **23** And under the firmament their wings *spread out* straight, one toward another. Each one had two which covered one side, and each one had two which covered the other side of the body. **24** When they went, I heard the noise of their wings, like the noise of many waters, like the voice of the Almighty, a tumult like the noise of an army; and when they stood still, they let down their wings.

**Ezekiel 10:14-17**

Each one had four faces: the first face *was* the face of a cherub, the second face the face of a man, the third the face of a lion, and the fourth the face of an eagle. **15** And the cherubim were lifted up. This *was* the living creature I saw by the River Chebar. **16** When the cherubim went, the wheels went beside them; and when the cherubim lifted their wings to mount up from the earth, the same wheels also did not turn from beside them. **17** When *the cherubim* stood still, *the wheels* stood still, and when *one* was lifted up, *the other* lifted itself up, for the spirit of the living creature *was* in them.

**Isaiah 6:2-3**

Above throne stood seraphim; each one had six wings: with two he covered his face, with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. **3** And one cried to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy *is* the LORD of hosts; The whole earth *is* full of His glory!"

These Angels are Ministers of Judgment To a Christ-Rejecting World

**Revelation 5:14-6:1-8**

Then the four living creatures said, "Amen!" And the twenty-four elders fell down and worshiped Him who lives forever and ever. **1** Now I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals; and I heard one of the four living creatures saying with a voice like thunder, "Come and see." **2** And I looked, and behold, a white horse. He who sat on it had a bow; and a crown was given to him, and he went out conquering and to conquer. **3** When He opened the second seal, I heard the second living creature saying, "Come and see." **4** Another horse, fiery red, went out. And it was granted to the one who sat on it to take peace from the earth, and that *people* should kill one another; and there was given to him a great sword. **5** When He opened the third seal, I heard the third living creature say, "Come and see." So I looked, and behold, a black horse, and he who sat on it had a pair of scales in his hand. **6** And I heard a voice in the midst of the four living creatures saying, "A quart of wheat for a denarius, and three quarts of barley for a denarius; and do not harm the oil and the wine." **7** When He opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature saying, "Come and see." **8** So I looked, and behold, a pale horse. And the name of him who sat on it was Death, and Hades followed with him. And power was given to them over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword, with hunger, with death, and by the beasts of the earth.

*Heaven, and what things will be like:*

**3<sup>rd</sup>** *Worship is for all time and eternity*

**v. 8b**

**8b** *And they do not rest day or night, saying: "Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, Who was and is and is to come!"*

**They Never Stop Because They Cannot.**

**So awesome and holy and beautiful and wonderful is the Lord,  
That Those Beings Closest To God and His Throne,  
THEY MUST WORSHIP!**

**How Can You Tell If Someone is Near To The Lord?**

There is an awesome, holy, beautiful, and wonderful thing about them.

**Notice with Me,**

It's the Angels of Heaven Worshipping The Almighty God,  
*The One "Who was and is and is to come!"*

**Revelation 1:8**

Jesus said: "I am the Alpha and the Omega, *the Beginning and the End,*" says the Lord, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty."

**THEY MUST WORSHIP**

**Revelation 5:8**

Now when He had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb,

**Revelation 5:11-3**

And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the living creatures and the elders: and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands; **12** Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is **the Lamb** that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing. **13** And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, be unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto **the Lamb** for ever and ever.

**Revelation 7:9-12**

After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before **the Lamb**, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands; **10** And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto **the Lamb**. **11** And all the angels stood round about the throne, and about the elders and the four beasts, and fell before the throne on their faces, and worshipped God, **12** Saying, Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, be unto our God for ever and ever. Amen.

**Angels Cannot Worship Like You and I Can**

**1 Peter 1:12**

To them it was revealed that, not to themselves, but to us they were ministering the things which now have been reported to you through those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven—things which angels desire to look into.

**HEAVEN, A PREVIEW OF COMING ATTRACTIONS**

**III.)** *Heaven, and what we'll be doing there*

**vv. 9-11**

Heaven, and what we'll be doing there

**1<sup>st</sup> We will be "entering into" heavenly worship**

**vv. 9-10a**

**9** Whenever the living creatures give **glory** and **honor** and **thanks** to Him who sits on the throne, who lives forever and ever, **10a** the twenty-four elders fall down...

Entering Into Worship

1. Here, Now = *we must prepare ourselves = before we begin*
2. Here, Now = *we have to make the time = a daily worship habit*
3. Here, Now = *we need to be careful about priorities = attending services*

Elders Worship, and then all fall down

Entering Into His Presence...

Heaven, and what we'll be doing there:

**2<sup>nd</sup> We will be "honoring" Him with our earthly victories**

**v. 10b**

**10b** the twenty-four elders...cast their crowns before the throne...

**1 Corinthians 3:11**

For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. **12** Now if anyone builds on this foundation *with* gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, **13** each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is. **14** If anyone's work which he has built on *it* endures, he will receive a reward. **15** If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.

**2 Corinthians 5:10**

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things *done* in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

Rewards will be Given, that shall be given back!

Heaven, and what we'll be doing there

**3<sup>rd</sup> We will be "giving" Him complete acknowledgement**

**vv. 10b-11**

**10b** 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."

Acknowledging "The" Creator God

**Psalm 14:1**

The fool has said in his heart, "There is no God."

**Romans 1:18-24**

For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, **19** because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown *it* to them. **20** For since the creation of the world His invisible *attributes* are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, *even* His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, **21** because, although they knew God, they did not glorify *Him* as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. **22** Professing to be wise, they became fools, **23** and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man—and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things. **24** Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves,

The Application Is This:

That You and I Were Created to Worship God and We Have an Opportunity to Decide to Do That in This Life!

There Are Only Worshipers in Heaven, Here, We Practice!

END OF STUDY