

YOUR JOURNEY TO JESUS Bible Study Notes

Revelation 4: The Throne Room of Heaven

Good evening, welcome to our Tuesday Night Bible Study. Tonight, we begin our study of Revelation 4. In this chapter, John sees a vision of the throne room of heaven as well as what worship in heaven actually looks like. In this study we will soon come to realize that the earthly temple and worship we see here on the earth is different from the heavenly temple and worship John saw in the vision shown to him, although it should be. The topics we will be discussing are as follows:

- John Sees the One Seated on the Throne
- John See the Twenty-Four Elders
- John Sees the Four Living Creatures

In the Word of God, He tells us that those who worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth. God is seeking such worship from His people, but this is not what is being given (<u>John 4:23-24</u>; <u>Psalm 24:1-10</u>). We have read that a door was opened in heaven, a door that no man can shut; but do we truly understand the meaning of the door that was opened that no man can shut (<u>John 10:7-30</u>). This chapter emphasizes God's supreme authority, and the authority He gave our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ (<u>Colossians 1:9-18</u>); it also serves as a transition to the events that will unfold in the rest of the Book of Revelation.

John sees the glory of the Father upon the throne; but he was unable to distinguish a definitive description of the One who sat upon the throne; he likened Him unto a jasper and a sardius stone, and the rainbow around the throne as an emerald. Mention of these stones are written in scripture and are representative of the stones in the Breast Plate of judgment in <u>Exodus 28:15-21</u>, 29-30.

The Sardius stone represents the tribe of Reuben, the first born son of Jacob born to Leah; and the Jasper stone represents the tribe of Benjamin, the twelfth born son of Jacob, born to Rachel. Then of course the Emerald stone represents the tribe of Judah, the forth born son of Jacob born to Leah; which confirms once again that God's chosen were of the Tribe of Jacob and the Tribe of Judah (Genesis 17:9-22; Genesis 49:8-12; Isaiah 48:1-2).

The twenty-four could be representative of both the Old Testament and New Testament saints. In the Old Testament, Daniel saw a vision of these thrones being set up, but they were not occupied in his day (<u>Daniel 7:9-10</u>); in the New Testament, John sees the thrones occupied by the twenty-four elders (Revelation 4:4; Revelation 21:9-27).

In verse 5, it reads that from the throne proceeded lightnings, thunderings, and voices; we can also recall in the Old Testament at Mount Sinai, the people witnessed thunderings and lightnings, and a thick cloud on the mountain when God descended down on it; and the sound of the trumpet was heard. Additionally, whenever the Lord came to Moses at the tabernacle, the pillar of cloud descended and stood at the door of the tabernacle, and the Lord talked with Moses (Exodus 19:16-20; Exodus 33:9-11; Exodus 33:12-23).

When the Lord had Moses fashion the two silver trumpets, God commanded Moses on when the trumpets were to be blown; the fact that trumpets are sounded in heaven is not as big of a mystery as some may think (Numbers 10:1-10). Point being that the presence of God is always made known. He's not hiding, and He is by no means silent. The things we are witnessing today are things that were foretold from long ago. In Habakkuk 1:5, the Lord said it like this; I will work a work in your days which you would not believe, though it were told you. You could say it like this, do not be shocked and amazed at the things you see in the latter days; for the Lord Himself told us through His prophets and through His own Son Jesus Christ our Lord that these things were coming (Isaiah 48:3-11; Matthew 24:3-31).

Those Who Do Not Believe in Christ Are Condemned Already

- <u>Ezekiel 8:1-18</u> (The Abomination in the temple)
- <u>Matthew 10:32-33</u> (Whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven)
- <u>John 3:16-21</u> (He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God)
- <u>John 14:6</u> (I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me)
- Matthew 3:1-12 (Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!)
- 2 Corinthians 6:14-18 (Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers)
- <u>2 Timothy 3:1-7</u> (They will have a form of godliness, but they deny the power thereof; from such people turn away)
- <u>1 Peter 2:4-10</u> (The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone)
- Matthew 25:1-13 (The parable of the ten virgins)
- Matthew 25:14-30 (The parable of the talents)

Matthew 25:31-46 (The Son of Man will judge the nations)

Christ, the Last and Final Sacrifice

- Amos 5:21-25; Psalm 51:15-17; Psalm 34:15-22 (The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, a broken and a contrite heart; these, O God, You will not despise)
- Hebrews 10:5-18 (When He came into the world, He said: sacrifice and offering You did not desire, but a body You have prepared for Me)
- Hebrews 9:1-10 (The earthly sanctuary)
- <u>Hebrews 9:11-15</u> (The heavenly sanctuary)
- Hebrews 9:23-28 (The greatness of Christs sacrifice)

We Belong to Jesus Christ

- <u>1 Corinthians 3:16-17</u> (Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you)
- <u>1 Corinthians 6:17-21</u> (He who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him)
- <u>2 Corinthians 5:14-21</u> (If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new)
- Romans 8:1-11 (There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus)
- John 1:10-14 (As many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God)
- <u>Colossians 1:19-29</u> (For it pleased the Father that in Him all the fullness should dwell, and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross)
- <u>John 6:29</u> (This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He sent)

A Vision of Heaven and the Voice of God

- <u>Isaiah 30:20-21</u> (Your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, this is the way, walk in it)
- Psalm 29:1-11 (The voice of the Lord is over the waters)
- <u>Ezekiel 43:1-5</u> (His voice was like the sound of many waters)
- <u>Isaiah 6:1-10</u> (I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His robe filled the temple)
- Revelation 1:10-11 (I was in the Spirit on the Lord's Day, and I heard behind me a loud voice, as of a trumpet)
- Ezekiel 1:1 (The heavens were opened, and I saw visions of God)
- Revelation 19:11-16 (Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war)
- <u>Daniel 10:5-9</u> (I lifted my eyes and looked, and behold, a certain man clothed in linen,

whose waist was girded with gold of Uphaz! His body was like beryl, his face like the appearance of lightning, his eyes like torches of fire, his arms and feet like burnished bronze in color, and the sound of his words like the voice of a multitude

What God Has Established No One Can Change

- Revelation 3:7-8 (I have set before you an open door, and no one can shut it)
- <u>Matthew 16:15-18</u> (On this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it)
- <u>1 Thessalonians 4:13-18</u> (I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope)
- <u>1 Corinthians</u>. <u>15:50-58</u> (I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed)
- <u>1 Corinthians 10:13</u> (No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man)
- I<u>saiah 43:19-21; 2 Corinthians 3:4-6</u> (This people I have formed for Myself; they shall declare My praise)
- Romans 10:8-13 (If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved)
- <u>Hebrews 11:1-40</u> (Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen)