

The Glory of God
Revelation 4
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Part 3 of Revelation

- ▶ This is the third section of the book of Revelation
- ▶ See Revelation 1:19
 - ▶ 1. What you have seen - chapter 1
 - ▶ Things that are - chapters 2-3
 - ▶ Things that shall be - chapters 4-22

Introduction

- ▶ We now begin our journey into the apocalyptic world
 - ▶ Symbolism and imagery
- ▶ Our intent is not to “figure it all out” but to become more acquainted with Jesus

Introduction

- ▶ We are often left with a sense of wonder and awe of God
- ▶ As created beings, we will not be able to fully know God. He is completely other than us and therefore cannot be wholly known until the day of our arrival in heaven

A view of Heaven: v1-2

- ▶ The open door to heaven
- ▶ Did John go into heaven bodily or spiritually?
 - ▶ V.2 suggests that it was not physically
 - ▶ See Ez 11:1-5; 2 Cor 12:1-4
 - ▶ Yet, all of the senses were as if he was in bodily form

A view of Heaven: v1-2

- ▶ A voice, like the sound of a trumpet calls him to come
 - ▶ This is the voice of Jesus. See 1:10
- ▶ Shown what must take place next
- ▶ He sees the throne of God with "someone" sitting on it

Description of God on His throne: v 3-6a

- ▶ Sounds, colors, and movements
- ▶ It is all about the senses to *experience* God
 - ▶ See also Ez 1, Isa 6, and Dan 7:9

Description of God on His throne: v 3-6a

- ▶ Note the brilliance of light as reflected in the precious stones
- ▶ God is often described in terms of light
 - ▶ See Ps 104:2; 1 Tim 6:16; Ez 1:26-28

Description of God on His throne: v 3-6a

- ▶ Three precious jewels
 1. Jasper- a purple hue- see 21:11
 2. Carnelian- aka sardius and ruby.
 1. Blood red stone named for Sardis
 2. transparent

Description of God on His throne: v 3-6a

▶ Three precious jewels

3. Emerald - transparent green stone

▶ Like a rainbow encircling the throne

▶ 3 stones also mentioned in:

▶ Ez 28:13 - description of satan

▶ Ex 28:17 - breastplate of High Priest

Description of God on His throne: v 3-6a

▶ More colors are given with the introduction of the 24 elders

▶ Dressed in white - sparkle as the light hits

▶ Crown of gold - more sparkle and reflection

▶ Sights of flashing lightning

Description of God on His throne: v 3-6a

▶ Sounds are now introduced

▶ Rumbings and peals of thunder

▶ See Ex 19:16ff

Description of God on His throne: v 3-6a

- ▶Thunder and lightning are connected with the temple scene in Revelation
- ▶8:5 - 7th seal
- ▶11:19 - 7th trumpet
- ▶16:18 - 7th bowl of wrath

Description of God on His throne: v 3-6a

- ▶We also see the blazing lights of the lamps of the churches - v5
- ▶Sea of glass, clear as crystal - v6
- ▶The picture of God is one of brilliant lights and colors and overwhelming sounds

The Worship of God -6b-8

- ▶4 living creatures
 - ▶“Zoa”- creatures, not “theria”- beasts
 - ▶Created beings made to worship God
 - ▶Perhaps they are angels, cherubim
 - ▶Representative of all creation

The Worship of God -6b-8

▶4 living creatures

- ▶Lion
- ▶Ox
- ▶Man
- ▶Eagle

The Worship of God -6b-8

▶4 living creatures

- ▶See Ez 1; 10:24
- ▶Note 1: In Ez, cherubim have 4 faces, but in Rev, cherubim have 1 face
- ▶4 is the number of creation

The Worship of God -6b-8

- ▶Note 2: When in the wilderness, the 12 tribes were divided into 4 groups of 3 tribes - Numbers 2
- ▶Judah, Rueben, Dan, Ephraim
- ▶Each group had a standard which they assembled under - lion, man, Eagle, Ox

The Worship of God -6b-8

- ▶ Cherubim were covered with eyes all around
 - ▶ A symbol of seeing all of creation
- ▶ Day and night, not stopping, they proclaim the holiness of God

The Worship of God -6b-8

- ▶ God is completely other than His creation
- ▶ God is eternal, never ending, never beginning, always being

More Worship of God- 9-11

- ▶ The 24 elders join in worshipping God
 - ▶ Saints/people of God?
 - ▶ 24 is twice 12-fullness/completeness
 - ▶ Old and new covenants?
 - ▶ Note - Levitical priests were divided into 24 companies -1 Chronicles

More Worship of God- 9-11

- ▶ Fall down and worship God
 - ▶ See 5:14; 11:16; 19:4
- ▶ Praise and Worship God
 - ▶ See 4:11; 5:9-10; 11:17-18; 19:4
- ▶ Spokesmen/interpreters to John
 - ▶ See 5:5; 7:13

More Worship of God- 9-11

- ▶ Present the prayers of the saints
 - ▶ See 5:8
- ▶ Present their crowns to God
- ▶ Their song/proclamation is different from the Cherubim/living creatures

More Worship of God- 9-11

- ▶ God is clearly God! He is the creator of the universe and is worshipped and praised as such.

Conclusion/Summary

- ▶ There is none greater than the creator God.
- ▶ Nor is there anyone like Him.
- ▶ All creation praises and worships God
- ▶ God is clearly on the throne of the universe to be honored and glorified by all!

Conclusion/Summary

- ▶ This is the point of Revelation!
- ▶ He alone is worthy of glory and honor and power.
- ▶ He is the creator and giver of life to all creation.
- ▶ He is eternal, without beginning and end.
