

# The Book of Revelation



## *The Throne Room in Heaven*

*By Prophetess Davis*

***A Life Changing Experience***



# Revelation 4:1-11

- <sup>1</sup>After this I looked, and, behold, a door was opened in heaven: and the first voice which I heard was as it were of a trumpet talking with me; which said, Come up hither, and I will shew thee things which must be hereafter.
- <sup>2</sup>And immediately I was in the spirit: and, behold, a throne was set in heaven, and one sat on the throne.
- <sup>3</sup>And he that sat was to look upon like a jasper and a sardine stone: and there was a rainbow round about the throne, in sight like unto an emerald.
- <sup>4</sup>And round about the throne were four and twenty seats: and upon the seats I saw four and twenty elders sitting, clothed in white raiment; and they had on their heads crowns of gold.



# Revelation 4:1-11 (cont.)

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- <sup>5</sup>And out of the throne proceeded lightning's and thunderings and voices: and there were seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God.
- <sup>6</sup>And before the throne there was a sea of glass like unto crystal: and in the midst of the throne, and round about the throne, were four beasts full of eyes before and behind.
- <sup>7</sup>And the first beast was like a lion, and the second beast like a calf, and the third beast had a face as a man, and the fourth beast was like a flying eagle.
- <sup>8</sup>And the four beasts had each of them six wings about him; and they were full of eyes within: and they rest not day and night, saying, Holy, holy, holy, LORD God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come.



# Revelation 4:1-11 (cont.)

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- <sup>9</sup>And when those beasts give glory and honour and thanks to him that sat on the throne, who liveth for ever and ever,
- <sup>10</sup>The four and twenty elders fall down before him that sat on the throne, and worship him that liveth for ever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying,
- <sup>11</sup>Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.



# Outline

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## THE THRONE ROOM IN HEAVEN

### I. THE THRONE SCENE (1-8)

#### A. JOHN TAKEN TO HEAVEN (1)

1. After seeing the Lord and hearing the letters addressed to the seven churches
2. Upon seeing a door standing open in heaven, and hearing a trumpet-like voice

#### B. HE DESCRIBES THE THRONE SCENE (2-8)

1. The One on the throne
2. The twenty-four elders
3. Other elements around the throne
4. The four living creatures
  - a. Unique characteristics
  - b. Similar characteristics



# Outline cont'd

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- II. GOD PRAISED AS THE CREATOR (9-11)

- A. PROMPTED BY THE LIVING CREATURES (9)

- B. OFFERED BY THE TWENTY-FOUR ELDERS (10-11)



# Background

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- After the Lord Jesus had instructed John to write to the churches "the things that are," there was another vision he had described by some as the throne-room scene. First, he focuses on the One seated on the throne. Second, he focuses on what is around the throne. Third, he indicates what flows out from the throne. Fourth, he points out what's before the throne.
- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CjAmZjqmkEQ>



# THE THRONE SCENE



# THE THRONE SCENE (v1)

## JOHN TAKEN TO HEAVEN



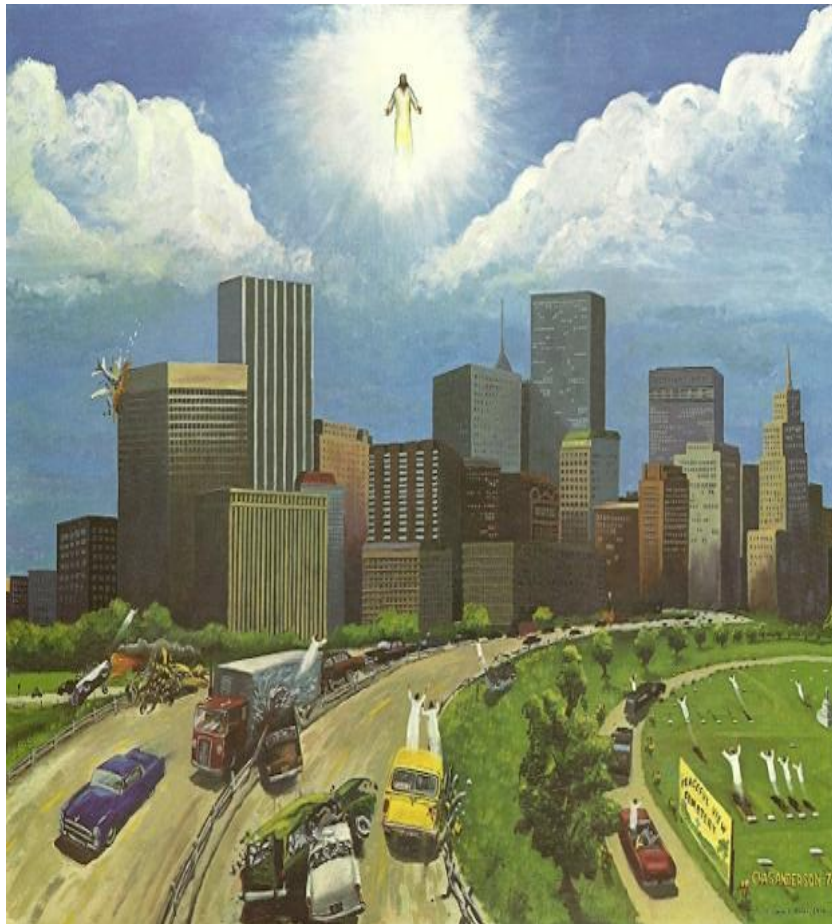
1. After this I looked, and, behold, a door was opened in heaven: and the first voice which I heard was as it were of a trumpet talking with me; which said, Come up hither, and I will shew thee things which must be hereafter.
- To prepare John for the vision, a trumpet was sounded, and he was called up into heaven, to have a sight there of the things which were to be hereafter. He was called into the third heavens.
  - Scripture talks about 3 heavens (terrestrial, telectual, and celestial) however there are levels of heavens within the heavens. We tend to focus on the existence of only three (2 Cor 12:2) However when we look at our universe it is based upon distance. heavens, however we do not know how many levels are in each level.
  - He was in a rapture, as before ch 1:10, whether in the body or out of the body we cannot tell; perhaps he himself could not; however all bodily actions and sensations were for a time suspended, and his spirit was possessed with the spirit of prophecy, and wholly under a divine influence. (This is when the great “Rapture” of the church will take place, which means “the gathering away”):

# THE THRONE SCENE (v1)

## JOHN TAKEN TO HEAVEN



Rapture



*Emmanuel Temple Church of the Apostolic Faith...A Life Changing Experience*

# THE THRONE SCENE (v1)

## JOHN TAKEN TO HEAVEN



### The important differences between the rapture and second coming:

- 1) At the rapture, believers meet the Lord in the air (1 Thessalonians 4:17). At the second coming, believers return with the Lord to the earth (Revelation 19:14).
- 2) The second coming occurs after the great and terrible tribulation (Revelation chapters 6–19). The rapture occurs before the tribulation (1 Thessalonians 5:9; Revelation 3:10).
- 3) The rapture is the removal of believers from the earth as an act of deliverance (1 Thessalonians 4:13–17, 5:9). The second coming includes the removal of unbelievers as an act of judgment (Matthew 24:40–41).
- 4) The rapture will be secret and instant (1 Corinthians 15:50–54). The second coming will be visible to all (Revelation 1:7; Matthew 24:29–30).
- 5) The second coming of Christ will not occur until after certain other end-times events take place (2 Thessalonians 2:4; Matthew 24:15–30; Revelation chapters 6–18). The rapture is imminent; it could take place at any moment (Titus 2:13; 1 Thessalonians 4:13–18; 1 Corinthians 15:50–54).

<http://www.gotquestions.org/difference-Rapture-Second-Coming.html>



# THE THRONE SCENE (v2)

## HE DESCRIBES THE THRONE SCENE

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- 2 And immediately I was in the spirit: and, behold, a throne was set in heaven, and one sat on the throne.
- He saw *a throne set in heaven*, the seat of honour, and authority, and judgment. Heaven is the throne of God.
  - He saw a glorious One upon the throne who is described next by those things that are most pleasant and precious in our world:



# THE THRONE SCENE (v3)

## The One on the throne

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<sup>3</sup> And he that sat was to look upon like a jasper and a sardine stone: and there was a rainbow round about the throne, in sight like unto an emerald.

- The one who sits on the throne is described as having the appearance of **Jasper**. In the Old Testament, the High Priest would wear a breastplate with 12 stones. Each of the 12 stones represented one of the 12 tribes of Israel. The priest would bear Israel on his chest as he ministered before God in the Temple. (Exodus 28:15-20) Jasper was the last stone of the 12, and took on shades of different color. The Jasper stone referenced here is clear like crystal. (Rev 21;11) Jasper would represent the tribe of Benjamin. The crystal clear represent the purity and holiness of God.



# THE THRONE SCENE (v3) The One on the throne

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- Sardine stone was the first stone on the breastplate and represented the tribe of Reuben. Sardius was a red stone, like a ruby or carnelian. This would have represented the redemption of humanity by the blood of Christ. Here we see the last stone and the first stone of the Jewish Priesthood pictured on the throne of God.
- **Rainbow**, likened to that of an Emerald, was the fourth stone on the breastplate. The emerald represented the fourth son, Judah. John describes a rainbow around the throne with the appearance of an Emerald. Through Judah, the Messiah came and took away the sins of humanity. In Noah's day, God established the rainbow as a symbol of his agreement to not destroy the earth with a flood. Here the rainbow with an emerald appearance represents the peace between man and God, the result of the Jesus the Messiah's death, who came from the tribe of Judah.



# Birthstones vs 12 Gemstones



January  
Garnet



February  
Amethyst Spinel



March  
Aquamarine



April  
White Spinel



May  
Shamrock Spinel



June  
Alexandrite



July  
Ruby



August  
Peridot



September  
Fire Blue Spinel



October  
Rose Zircon



November  
Topaz



December  
Blue Zircon





# Birthstones vs 12 Gemstones

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- Most gem scholars agree that the tradition of birthstones arose from the Breastplate of Aaron: a ceremonial religious garment set with twelve gemstones that represented the twelve tribes of Israel and also corresponded with the twelve signs of the zodiac and the twelve months. of the year, Exodus 28:17-20
- The precise list of birthstones however can be found in Revelation 21:19-20 where the foundation stones of the new Jerusalem are listed, in the order of the Roman calendar.
- Note the placement of stones in the breastplate differ - as do the names of each. This was because there were no specific names given to gemstones as there are today. Many were named regionally. Some carried the name of the city or country of origin such as Chalcedony (Turkey).



# THE THRONE SCENE (v4)

## The twenty-four elders

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<sup>4</sup> And round about the throne were four and twenty seats: and upon the seats I saw four and twenty elders sitting, clothed in white raiment; and they had on their heads crowns of gold.

- Twenty four elders are also known as presbyters, representing the whole church of God, both in the Old-Testament and in the New-Testament state; not the ministers of the church, but rather the representatives of the people. *They are clothed in white raiment*, the righteousness of the saints, both imputed and inherent; *they had on their heads crowns of gold*, signifying the honour and authority given them of God, and the glory they have with him.

# THE THRONE SCENE (v4)

## The twenty-four elders



- a. They form the first circle around the throne of God, 4:4a
- b. They are called elders, 4:4b
- c. They are twenty-four seated on twenty-four thrones, 4:4c
- d. They wear white garments and gold crowns, 4:4d
- e. They fall down and worship God, 4:10
- f. They sing hymns to God, 4:11
- g. They make comments to John, 5:5
- h. They have harps and censers full of incense that are said to represent the prayers of the saints, 5:8
- i. They explain things to John, 7:14-17



# THE THRONE SCENE (v5)

## Other elements around the throne

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<sup>5</sup> And out of the throne proceeded lightning's and thunderings and voices: and there were seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God.

- The *thunder and lightning* from the throne also demonstrate the coming judgment about to fall on the earth in the coming chapters.
- The *seven lamps* are different from the seven lampstands which Jesus Christ stood in the midst in chapter one. These seven lamps of fire represented the seven spirits of God or the seven-fold ministry of the Holy Spirit.



# THE THRONE SCENE (v5)

## Other elements around the throne

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Isaiah 11:2 lists the sevenfold characteristic of the Holy Spirit.

- 1. The Spirit of the Lord
- 2. The Spirit of wisdom
- 3. The Spirit of understanding
- 4. The Spirit of counsel
- 5. The Spirit of power
- 6. The Spirit of knowledge
- 7. The Spirit of the fear of the Lord

# THE THRONE SCENE (v6-8)

## Other elements around the throne



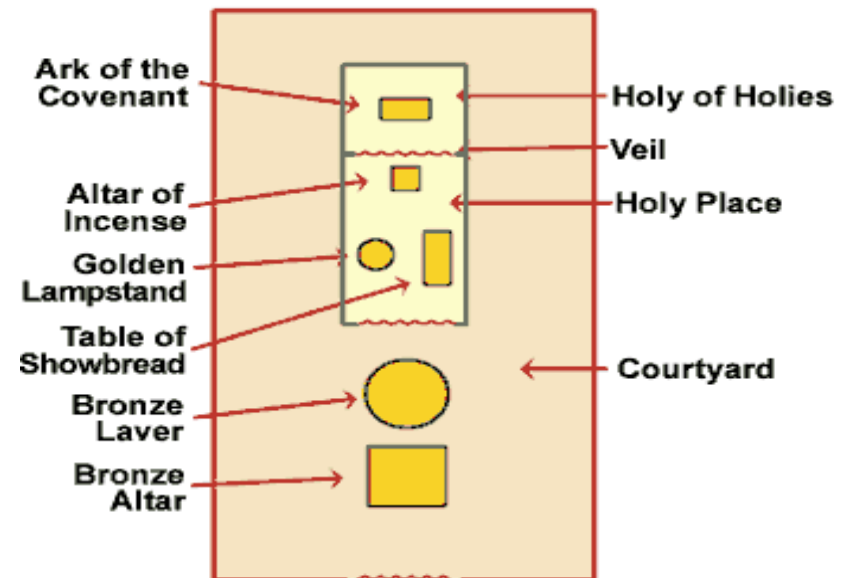
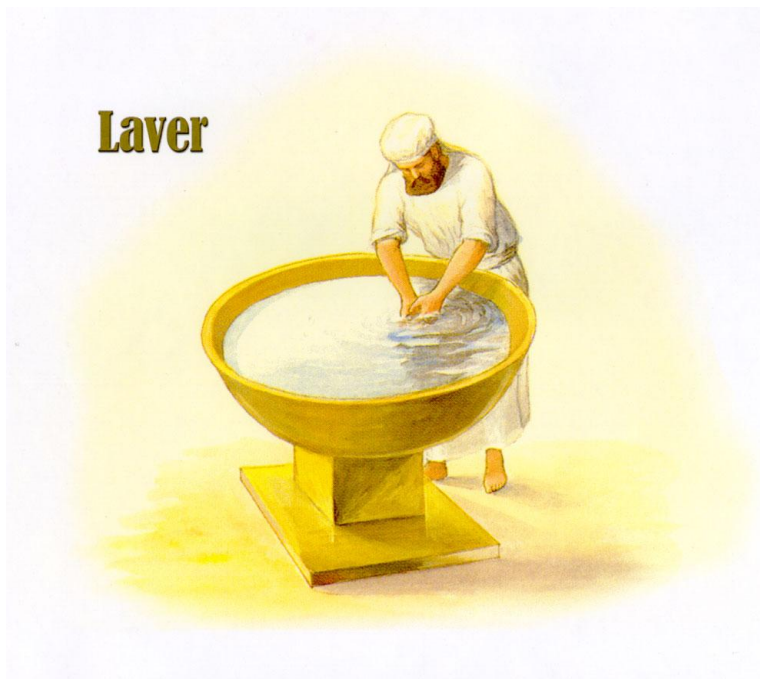
- <sup>6</sup>And before the throne there was a sea of glass like unto crystal: and in the midst of the throne, and round about the throne, were four beasts full of eyes before and behind.
- <sup>7</sup>And the first beast was like a lion, and the second beast like a calf, and the third beast had a face as a man, and the fourth beast was like a flying eagle.
- <sup>8</sup>And the four beasts had each of them six wings about him; and they were full of eyes within: and they rest not day and night, saying, Holy, holy, holy, LORD God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come.



# THE THRONE SCENE (v6)

## Other elements around the throne

- John also reports on a sea of glass like crystal before the throne of God, those familiar with the Temple would immediately recognize this as the antitype for the Bronze Laver before the Tabernacle and Temple. (Exodus 30:17-21, I Kings 7;23-26).
- The laver was placed between the altar and the tabernacle and the priests of the Lord were to wash their hands and feet before they minister in the tabernacle or at the altar.



**Diagram of the Tabernacle**

Not to scale

# THE THRONE SCENE (v6)

## The four living creatures

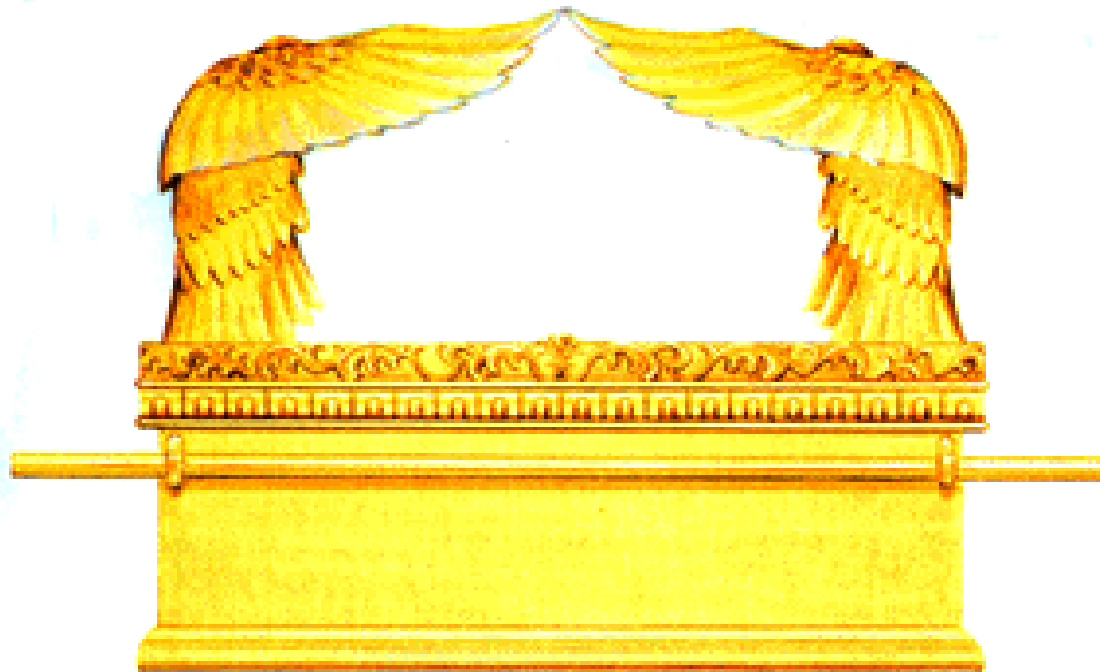
- John now focuses his attention to the four living creatures. The Greek word used here, ζω/ον Zoon means a living being. Ezekiel and Isaiah give similar descriptions of the living creatures at the throne of God. The "living creatures" are identical with the (two) Cherubim which are pictured on the "Arc of the Covenant" covering the "Mercy seat". (Exodus 25;17-24) The "Mercy Seat" is a picture of God's throne, there the "Glory of the Lord" would appear to the priest ministering before the Temple. The Arc was a picture of what was taking place in Heaven. (Hebrews 9:23) The living creatures are the reality while the image on the arc was only a type to represent the reality.



# THE THRONE SCENE (v6)

## The four living creatures

Ark of the Covenant



# THE THRONE SCENE (v6)

## The four living creatures



### Ark of the Covenant

\* Also known as the **Ark of the Testimony**, is a chest described in Book of Exodus as solely containing the Tablets of Stone on which the Ten Commandments were inscribed. *Exodus25:16*

Remember that God had made a covenant with Israel, but the people had broken it. In grace God renewed it and ordered that its enduring record (the unbroken tablets) should be deposited in the holy ark. The Book of the Covenant, which dealt at length with other aspects of law and procedure, was deposited alongside the ark. But the 10 commandments were stored within the ark itself.

- A jar of manna , *Exodus16:32-33*. A jar containing an omer (24 liters) of manna (Heb. 9:4) as a memorial of God's provision:
- Aaron's rod, *Num 17:7-8*. The third item which would be added was Aaron's rod that sprouted buds and blossoms and bore ripe almonds in a single night, authenticating God's choice of Aaron for the priesthood (Heb. 9:4).

[http://www.bible-history.com/tabernacle/TAB4The\\_Ark\\_of\\_the\\_Covenant.htm](http://www.bible-history.com/tabernacle/TAB4The_Ark_of_the_Covenant.htm)

# THE THRONE SCENE (v7-8)

## The four living creatures



- The **four living creatures** located between the throne and the circle of the elders, standing between God and the people. They signify the true ministers of the gospel, because of their place between God and the people.
- First, Lion - represents authority
- Second, Ox – represents power/strength
- Third, face like a man – represents God's embodied presence
- Fourth, flying eagle – represents soaring/moving ability
- Their eyes represent their ability to see everything that happens.
- The living creatures lead heaven in giving praise to the Lord God and his work.





# GOD PRAISED AS THE CREATOR(v9-11)

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- <sup>9</sup>And when those beasts give glory and honour and thanks to him that sat on the throne, who liveth for ever and ever,
- <sup>10</sup>The four and twenty elders fall down before him that sat on the throne, and worship him that liveth for ever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying,
- <sup>11</sup>Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.
  
- With the “Living creatures” leading praise, the 24 elders representing all of saved humanity at that point, cast their “Stephanos” or victors crown before the throne. The saints in heaven acknowledge the one on the throne is worthy of all the praise.
- The scene in chapter 4 continues in 5 where the saints the saints along with angels praise the Lamb, Jesus Christ who died for the sins of humanity.



# Other References

- <http://www.biblestudytools.com/commentaries/matthew-henry-complete/revelation/4.html?p=2>
- <http://bible.somd.com/henry/H66C004.shtml>
- [http://www.revelationcommentary.org/04\\_chapter.html](http://www.revelationcommentary.org/04_chapter.html)
- <http://www.windsorroad.org/literature/revelation4.pdf>