

REVELATION SERIES - LESSON 10

REVELATION 4 & 5

Chapters 4 & 5 describe the rapture.

Chapters 4 - 5 deal with events in Heaven.

Chapters 6 - 18 deal with events on Earth.

Beginning in Ch 6 it is events orchestrated by God that will be happening in the world as a final wake up call.

It is my belief that church and christians will be taken before all the devastation comes upon the globe.

Vs 1 - John writes in that verse that there are different phrases that are a parallel of other verses that speak of the rapture.

Remember the evidences I gave you:

- 1) Absence of Church
- 2) “Open door in Heaven”
- 3) “Sound like a trumpet”
- 4) Invitation to “come up here”
- 5) Return of Saints with Christ

At this juncture, the Lord takes John into Heaven and John gives us a description of things going on in Heaven.

In Ch 4 - 5 these are sights and sounds in Heaven.

Vs 2 - "In the Spirit"

Throne = 15 times in chapters 4 & 5

He will use different prepositions (actually 5)

On the Throne

From the Throne

Around the Throne

Before the Throne

Out of the Throne

I'm going to use those prepositional phrases to walk you through this text and vision.

Vs 2 - "One sat on the throne" - it's not Jesus but it's actually God Almighty.

In Ch 5:5-6, Jesus will appear but this is "God Almighty".

Vs 8 - "4 living creatures" - are ascribing worship to the one who is on the throne.

In Hebrew it is "El-Shaddai" - One who is seated on the throne.

Vs 3 - Jasper = Reddish stone
Sardius = Reddish stone as well.

“Around the Throne”

Emerald = hard to imagine this greenish/blue rainbow.

Vs 4 - Who are the 24 Elders? (Lots of debate)

1: Some say 12 Apostles and 12 Patriarchs of Church, probably not likely, because John was an Apostle and doesn't mention himself around the throne.

I Chronicles 24 - 25, when God divided the Levites in the worship in the temple. They were divided into divisions of 24.

So 24 was a significant number in the way that the priests and musicians were divided.

2: Some say this represents nation of Israel in general.

3: I believe the 24 Elders represent the “Saints”.

They are seated and they are all wearing crowns.

Crowns = “stephanos” - It’s a Laurel Reef kind of crown.

But Jesus in Rev. 19:12, when it speaks of Jesus, He is wearing a crown.

The word “Crown” in that case is a “Diadem”.

“Diadem” = “Royal Crown”

However, these 24 Elders Crowns = “Stephanos”.
It would be a crown like an athlete would receive.

Vs 5 - “From the Throne”

John senses are being bombarded with all sorts of sights, colors and sounds.

“7 Lamps burning before the throne.”

7 = completion and perfection.

“Sea of Glass”

In Revelation “Sea” almost never refers to a body of water, but in a more figurative sense.

It’s like a Sea of Humanity.

Why like “Glass”? It speaks of being at rest in the Lord.

Vs 6 - “4 Living Creatures” - “Full of eyes in front and back”.

Vs 7 - Like a “Lion”

Like a “Calf”

Like a “Man”

Like a “Flying Eagle”

Vs 8 - The word “HOLY” is the only word used in triplet to describe the Lord.

What are these 4 Living Creatures?

If you were to look in book of Ezekiel, he also sees 4 creatures around the throne of God.

Ezekiel 1:10 - He says they have:

Face of a man

Feet of a calf

Hands of a man

4 Faces

So these creatures have a face pointing in every direction, (North, South, East, West).

He describes these 4 faces as Man, Lion, Ox & Eagle.

It's actually very similar language to what John is saying about the creatures.

The only difference is in Ezekiel, they have 4 wings and Rev they have 6 wings.

In Ezekiel the description of these creatures is actually a reference to cherubim (Angelic Beings).

In Isaiah we are introduced to another order of Angelic Beings known as "Seraphim".

In Isaiah 11, the Seraphim do have 6 wings.

2 wings to cover eyes

2 wings to cover feet

2 wings they flew with

They are constantly moving and declaring HOLY, HOLY, HOLY, is the Lord!

Vs 9

Vs 10 - 11

It's a spectacular scene of worship and adoration with God on the throne and all sorts of color and sound and angels, 24 elders bowing and casting crowns.

I believe this is what will be going on in Heaven while God unleashes all sorts of tribulation on earth.

Ch 5:1 - A scroll = Even though God is Spirit, there is some representation of a physical presence.

He describes a “Right Hand”.

“Sealed with Seven Seals” - Ancient scroll rolled up and would put wax seals to keep it rolled up.

I believe the scroll is the title deed to the earth. Because God the Father is about to give title of earth to Jesus. So Jesus can do to the earth what He needs to do in order to wake up the final inhabitants one last opportunity.

Don't think because we are looking forward to the rapture, there will still be people saved during this time.

Vs 2 - One angel is asking this question?

Vs 3 - No one

Vs 4 -

Vs 5 - Who is the Lion of Tribe of Judah? Gen 49:9-10

Here Jacob is blessing his sons and when he comes to Judah, he makes a prophecy. He basically says that Tribe of Judah is symbolized by a “Lion” and out of Judah will come one whom “scepter will never depart”.

He is saying Jesus will come from tribe of Judah.

Also in Rev. 5:5 “Root of David”.

Isaiah 11:10 - Jesse is the father of King David.

From the line of David and Jesse, one would come who the Gentiles would see.

Vs 6 - "Midst of the Throne"

It's here we are presented with Jesus. He is the Lamb!

Throughout the rest of the book of Revelation, it is the only title used to reference Jesus.

19 times in Revelation from this point forward Jesus is referred to as the Lamb.

Jesus prefers His redemptive description above all others.

Why is that important? Remember in the O T the only way for sin to be atoned for was by the sacrifice of a Lamb.

God basically said an innocent animal for a guilty life.

The blood of the Lamb would temporarily be accepted until such time a perfect Lamb could die for all people, for all time and for all sins.

That Lamb is Jesus!

John said “Behold the Lamb of God who came to take away the sins of the world”

Paul will write to the Corinthians, He is our “PASSOVER LAMB”.

So in all the titles He could have chose . . . He chose Lamb.

“Seven Eyes” = Describe perfect wisdom & knowledge.

“Seven Horns” = Picture of Power in O T.

“Seven Horns” = “Omnipotent”

Seven Eyes = “Omniscient”

Vs 7 - took the scroll

Vs 8

There will be musical instruments in Heaven and worship.

“Golden Bowls with incense which are the prayers of the Saints”.

Ps 141:2

What’s beautiful is that it reminds us that prayers of saints are preserved in Heaven.

They are held in Golden bowls with incense.

In O T Priest would lite the incense, the aroma would arise and it's picture of our prayers arising up to heaven.

Vs 9 - Tribe, tongue, people and nation.

Heaven is not going to only look like you. Diverse body of believers.

Vs 10 - When Jesus returns and establishes His kingdom, the Saints will rule and reign with Him.

VS 11 - In addition there are multitudes of angels. $10k \times 10k = 100,000,000$

Vs 12 - 14 - Every creature = Animal's singing and praising Him.

Vs 14

EVEN SO COME LORD JESUS