



John's Vision: Seven Churches
Revelation 4:2-11 & 5:1-14

SCRIPTURE

Chapter 4

² And immediately I was in the spirit: and, behold, a throne was set in heaven, and One sat on the throne. ³ 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. ⁴ 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. ⁵ And out of the throne proceeded lightnings and thunderings and

voices: and there were seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God.

⁶ 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. ⁷ 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. ⁸ 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.”

⁹ And when those beasts give glory and honour and thanks to Him that sat on the throne, who liveth for ever and ever, ¹⁰ 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,

¹¹ “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.”

Chapter 5

¹ And I saw in the right hand of Him that sat on the throne a book written within and on the backside, sealed with seven seals. ² And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, “Who is worthy to open the book, and to loose the seals thereof?” ³ And no man in heaven, nor in earth, neither under the earth, was able to open the book, neither to look thereon.

⁴ And I wept much, because no man was found worthy to open and to read the book, neither to look thereon. ⁵ And one of the elders saith unto me, “Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof.”

⁶ And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth. ⁷ And He came and took the book out of the right hand of Him that sat upon the throne.

⁸ And when He had taken the book, the four beasts and four and twenty elders fell down before the Lamb, having every one of them harps, and golden vials full of odours, which are the prayers of saints. ⁹ And they sung a new song, saying,

“Thou art worthy to take the book,
And to open the seals thereof:

For Thou wast slain,
And hast redeemed us to God by Thy blood
Out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation;
¹⁰ and hast made us unto our God kings and priests:
And we shall reign on the earth.”

¹¹ And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the beasts 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.”

¹⁴ And the four beasts said, “Amen.” And the four and twenty elders fell down and worshipped Him that liveth for ever and ever.

COMMENTARY

Immediately after the sound of the trumpet we find ourselves in the throne room of God. The four and twenty elders speak of the complete church being there. The elders speak of the Elders of the church, and the white robes are worn by the church as declared in [Revelation 19:7-8](#).

The last time we see the church on earth is in Chapter 3 and she does not appear on earth again until we come back from heaven with our Lord in [Revelation 19:11-16](#).

Clearly the church does not go through the tribulation period on earth.

What an awesome word picture we see as John describes this Throne room in heaven.

The four beasts in Chapter 4 are pictures of Our Lord Jesus Christ as He is seen in the four Gospels. These same wondrous creatures were described by Ezekiel in [Ezekiel 1:5-14](#).

The first creature has a face like a lion, king of the beasts. This is our Lord in the

book of Matthew in which he is declared to be Israel's King.

The second creature has a face like a calf, or in Ezekiel, an Ox. This is our Lord in the book of Mark in which He is declared to be the perfect servant.

The third creature has the face of a man. This is our Lord in the book of Luke, as Doctor Luke describes Him as the perfect man.

The fourth creature was like a flying eagle, or in Ezekiel, the face of an eagle. This is our Lord in the book of John as John declares Him to be God.

In Chapter 5, the Lamb slain is our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us in our place on a cross at Calvary. John the Baptist, in John 1:29, described Him saying: "Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world."

The church sings a new song to the Lamb, and 100 million angels, plus thousands of thousands more, join the heavenly chorus to sing praises to the One who is able to open the scroll and loose the seven seals. What a choir that will be!!