



The Glory and Sovereignty of God

By Ken Terry on October 27, 2022

TODAY'S READING: Revelation 4

The phrase, "after this," marks the transition from the previous chapters. Chapter one represents the past--the things seen. Chapters two and three represent the present--the things that are. And chapter four represents the future--the things that are to be thereafter.

When I was a young man, an older, stately gentleman from England shared this next chapter of Revelation with me. We worked together at Publix. One day we talked about UFOs. I was not a fan, but he was. (This was the early 90s.) He told me there is background about UFOs in Bible. I was intrigued. He opened to Revelation 4 and read verse 3-6. He said that such a supernatural display of lights and creatures had to be from another world. I did not follow his logic. I share this with you because there are many people and religions twisting God's Word to fit their own agendas. What we, as followers of Christ Jesus, are to ascertain are the things that are to take place in the not-too-distant future. In our reading today, John was summoned by God Almighty to His Throne Room in heaven.

Revelation 4:1, *"After these things I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven. And the first voice which I heard was like a trumpet speaking with me, saying, "Come up here, and I will show you things which must take place after this."*

John did not just go to heaven in his current state, John was caught up by the Spirit. Specifically surrounded by the manifest presence of the Holy Spirit of God. Such a strong influence placed John on a different level of consciousness. In the supernatural state John beheld the Throne room of the Almighty God! In his writing, John did his best to describe all he observed: the supernatural colors, the Supreme Being and supernatural creatures.

Revelation 4:3-5, *"And He who sat there was like a jasper and a sardius stone in appearance; and there was a rainbow around the throne, in appearance like an emerald. Around the throne were twenty-four thrones, and on the thrones I saw twenty-four elders sitting, clothed in white robes; and they had crowns of gold on their heads. And from the throne proceeded lightnings, thunderings, and voices. Seven lamps of fire were burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God."*

Can you imagine what may have been going through John's mind as he observed all these supernatural occurrences happening at one time? It had to be amazing! Imagine seeing, *"Before the throne there was a sea of glass, like crystal. And in the midst of the throne, and around the throne, were four living creatures full of eyes in front and in back. The first living creature was like a lion, the second living creature like a calf, the third living creature had a face like a man, and the fourth living creature was like a flying eagle"* (Revelation 4:6-7).

My friends, there is much to take in here, these are the divine concepts of heaven, from the viewpoint of John and the leading, guidance and influence of the Holy Spirit of God. What I would like to emphasize is the nature and purpose of all these divine elements of heaven. They praise and worship the Almighty God day and night!

Revelation 4:8, *"The four living creatures, each having six wings, were full of eyes around and within. And they do not rest day or night, saying: 'Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, Who was and is and is to come!'"*

All creatures great and small fall down before Him in a posture of praise, honor, adoration and reverence, then speak one common discourse, *"You are worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power; For You created all things, And by Your will they exist and were created"* (Revelation 4:11).

PRAYER: Father God, thank You for giving us a snapshot of what the Throne Room of heaven looks like. Thank You, Father, for granting us the privilege to know the things that are to come. Father, please help us get our minds around it and share it with others. We ask these things in the precious name of Jesus, amen.

TOMORROW'S READING: Revelation 5

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