

## 20220320 A VISIT TO THE THRONE IN HEAVEN

The time is near – Part 10

Revelation 4:1-11

1 After this I looked, and there before me was a door standing open in heaven. And the voice I had first heard speaking to me like a trumpet said, “Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this.”

2 At once I was in the Spirit, and there before me was a throne in heaven with someone sitting on it.

3 And the one who sat there had the appearance of jasper and carnelian. A rainbow, resembling an emerald, encircled the throne.

4 Surrounding the throne were twenty-four other thrones, and seated on them were twenty-four elders. They were dressed in white and had crowns of gold on their heads.

5 From the throne came flashes of lightning, rumblings and peals of thunder. Before the throne, seven lamps were blazing. These are the seven spirits of God.

6 Also before the throne there was what looked like a sea of glass, clear as crystal. In the center, around the throne, were four living creatures, and they were covered with eyes, in front and in back.

7 The first living creature was like a lion, the second was like an ox, the third had a face like a man, the fourth was like a flying eagle.

8 Each of the four living creatures had six wings and was covered with eyes all around, even under his wings. Day and night they never stop saying:

“Holy, holy, holy  
is the Lord God Almighty,  
who was, and is, and is to come.”

9 Whenever the living creatures give glory, honor and thanks to him who sits on the throne and who lives for ever and ever,

10 the twenty-four elders fall down before him who sits on the throne, and worship him who lives for ever and ever. They lay their crowns before the throne and say:

11 “You are worthy, our Lord and God,

to receive glory and honor and power,  
for you created all things,  
and by your will they were created  
and have their being.”

## THE GOSPEL

### 1 Corinthians 1:17-24

17 For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel—not with words of human wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

18 For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

19 For it is written:

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise;  
the intelligence of the intelligent I will frustrate.”

20 Where is the wise man? Where is the scholar? Where is the philosopher of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?

21 For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know him, God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe.

22 Jews demand miraculous signs and Greeks look for wisdom,

23 but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles,

24 but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

## GOD CALLS US THROUGH THE GOSPEL

### 2 Thessalonians 2:13-14

13 But we ought always to thank God for you, brothers loved by the Lord, because from the beginning God chose you to be saved through the sanctifying work of the Spirit and through belief in the truth.

14 He called you to this through our gospel, that you might share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

## **BEFORE THE WRATH BEGINS, GOD TAKES THE CHURCH OUT FROM THE WORLD**

### **1 Thessalonians 1:9-10**

9 ...They tell how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God,  
10 and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead - Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.

## **A GLIMPSE OF THE THRONE IN HEAVEN**

### **v1**

1 After this I looked, and there before me was a door standing open in heaven. And the voice I had first heard speaking to me like a trumpet said, "Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this."

**Come up here. I will show you what must take place after this!**

## **HEAVENLY SCENES**

### **Heavenly scene number 1: The throne with someone sitting on it**

#### **v2**

2 At once I was in the Spirit, and there before me was a throne in heaven with someone sitting on it.

### **Heavenly scene number 2: The glory of the throne**

#### **v3**

3 And the one who sat there had the appearance of **jasper** and **carnelian**. A rainbow, resembling an **emerald**, encircled the throne.

### **Ezekiel 1:26-28**

26 Above the expanse over their (talking about the living beings near the throne of God in heaven) heads was what looked like a throne of sapphire, and high above on the throne was **a figure like that of a man.**

27 I saw that from what appeared to be his waist up **he looked like glowing metal, as if full of fire, and that from there down he looked like fire;** and brilliant light surrounded him.

28 Like the appearance of a rainbow in the clouds on a rainy day, so was the radiance around him. This was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the Lord. When I saw it, I fell facedown, and I heard the voice of one speaking.

### **Heavenly scene number 3: 24 elders and worship!**

#### **vv 4, 9-11**

4 Surrounding the throne were twenty-four other thrones, and seated on them were twenty-four elders. They were dressed in white and had crowns of gold on their heads.

9 Whenever the living creatures give glory, honor and thanks to him who sits on the throne and who lives for ever and ever,

10 the twenty-four elders fall down before him who sits on the throne, and worship him who lives for ever and ever. They lay their crowns before the throne and say:

11 "You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being."

### **Isaiah 6:1-3**

1 In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord seated on a throne, high and exalted, and the train of his robe filled the temple.

2 Above him were seraphs, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying.

3 And they were calling to one another:

“Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty;  
the whole earth is full of his glory.”

## THE IDENTITY OF 24 ELDERS

### Clue #1

**First of all, there are others thrones surrounding the throne of God. And these elders are sitting on these thrones.**

### Revelation 1:6

6 and (Jesus) has made us kings and priests to His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Ephesians 2:4-6

4 But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us,

5 even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved),

**6 and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,**

### Clue #2

**They are dressed in white.**

Revelation 3:5

5 He who overcomes shall be clothed in white garments, and I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life; but I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels.

### 1 John 5:5

5 Who is it that overcomes the world? Only he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.

### Clue #3

**They have crowns of gold on their heads.**

### James 1:12

12 Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive **the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him.**

### 1 Timothy 4:7-8

7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

8 Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

### A few more clues on the identity of these 24 elders

- They worship the God on THE Throne as they fall down before Him.
- And they lay their crowns before the throne.
- And they sing a song of praise.

**Conclusion: The 24 elders represent the church.**