

## **Talk Revelations 4-5**

**TODAY WE ARE LOOKING AT THREE THINGS THAT  
MAKE UP CHAPTERS FOUR AND FIVE.**

**THE THRONE**

**THE SCROLL**

**THE LAMB**

**SET THE SEEN**

The church was under severe persecution. Times were hard and brutal! John was being held by the Romans with other Christians on the island of Patmos.

**SHOW FILM CLIP**

**PRAY**

Ask the Lord to place his truth in our hearts and minds with his word, thank the Lord for the revelations he has given us through John his loyal servant.

**CLOSE EYES (Read to the congregation)**

Revelations 4: 1-9

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." At once I was in the spirit, and there before me was a throne in heaven with someone sitting on it. And the one who sat there had the appearance of jasper and carnelian. A rainbow, resembling an emerald, encircled the throne. 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. From the throne came flashes of lightning, rumblings of thunder. Before the throne seven lamps were blazing. These are the seven spirits of God. Also before the throne there was what looked like a sea

of glass, clear as crystal. In the centre, around the throne, were four living creatures, and they were covered with eyes, in front and behind. 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. 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 stopped saying;

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

## **WHAT A CONTRAST**

What John could see in the natural realm to what John could see in the heavenly realm!

God allows John to see heaven in all its glory. It is God himself John sees sitting on the throne in the centre of the throne room.

### **The Throne**

In his vision John found himself in Supreme Headquarters.

The throne is a central theme of the book of Revelation. Everything that happens in the end times we must remember God is in command. He is not a distant leader in our lives or in the vision given to John he is right there in the middle directing operations. Just like in the army on earth there is a general giving orders. It is only the General that is qualified to give the orders just as it is only God that gives the orders. God is the creator of all things that is the only qualification he needs.

## **PRESIOUS STONES**

Johns sees the Lord and compares him to Jasper and Carnelian! I don't think he sees a pile of gems sitting on a throne it's about the beauty of the lord. No one has seen the face of God not even Moses! What John sees is awesome and mind blowing! The colures are so radiant so fantastic. You have to close your eyes if you try looking at the sun it brilliance is to much for us to bare, this is just what it was like for John looking at God! Wow!

## **THE SEA OF GLASS**

Glass was rare in New Testament times, and crystal glass was virtually impossible to find. The "sea of glass" highlights both the magnificence and holiness of God. Glass is transparent and that signifies purity another attribute of God! In fact all that John sees in his vision point to the qualities of Gods character! It is somewhat hard to believe we are made in his image!

## **RAINBOW**

John even says the rainbow resembles an emerald. The rainbow that surrounds the throne recalls the grace and mercy the Lord extended to the world after the flood. More of Gods character!

## **THUNDER AND LIGHTNIG**

In revelation lightning and thunder are connected with significant events in heaven. They remind us of lightning and thunder at Mount Sinai when God gave the people his laws in Exodus 19:16. The Old Testament often uses such imagery to reflect God's power and majesty.

In fact everything in the book of revelation reflects Gods power and majesty.

## **THE SEVEN LAMPS**

The “seven sprits of God” is another name for the Holy Spirit.

The seven lamps represent the sevenfold sprits of God:

Isaiah 11: 2-3 It says:-

The sprit of the lord will rest on him-  
The sprit of wisdom and understanding  
The spirit of counsel and of power  
The sprit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord  
And of delight in fear of the Lord.

## **THE TWENTY FOUR**

The twenty four other thrones with twenty four elders surrounding the Lords throne are not accidentally placed. Just like on a chess board they are surrounding the king. Not to protect him though but to share in his heavenly reign. The white robes and the gold crowns also show that God’s people will share Gods heavenly reign. The twenty four elders represent the twelve tribe of Israel form the Old Testament and the twelve apostles from the New Testament. They symbolise all those – both Jew and Gentiles – who are in Gods family.

## **THE FOUR LIVING CREATURES**

The four living creatures” have the qualities and characteristics of God. The first creature was like a lion, the lion represents majesty and power. The second creature was like an ox representing faithfulness; the third had a face like a man meaning intelligence and the fourth was like a flying eagle representing sovereignty. The four creatures are there to serve the Lord leading others in worship.

## **THE SCROLL**

In John's day, books were written on scrolls. The scroll that he sees contains the full account of what God has in store for this world. The seven seals indicate the importance of its content, as well as being the number that represents perfection.

The seals are located throughout the scroll so that as each one is broken, more of the scroll can be read to reveal another phase of God's plan for the end of this world.

### **The Lamb**

The Lamb, Jesus, proved himself worthy to break the seals and open the scroll by living a perfect life, dying on the cross for the sin of the world, and rising from the dead to show his power and authority over evil and death. Only Christ conquered sin, death, hell and Satan himself; so only he can be trusted with the world's future.

### **The Beauty of Lamb**

That statement about the Lamb is true and good but do we know it in our hearts! John wept when it was thought no one was worthy! Do we know that sorrow of sin and do we know the joy in forgiven!

(Get the people to come up with the words to describe the Lamb)

LOVE      SACRIFICE      SAVE      GENTLE      TRUE

STRONG      PATIENT      KIND      FAITHFUL      ETC

### **To Finish**

I want to go back to the beginning of chapter 4:2 "At once I was in the spirit"

What dose that mean?

I had spent many years of my faith walk worrying what people thought about me and were people looking at me! Being married to a worship leader I have to sit on the front row, not as a prestige thing, it's just much easier for john to get up and down from there. Now me I would imagine the eyes of the rest of the church burning in my back when I was worshiping the Lord. So much so that it would stop me being free to be in the presence of God! In the Sprit!

(MAYBE TALK ABOUT THE TWENTY FOUR ELDERS)

We can't grow, understand any of the word, spend time with the lord or grasp revelation with out the sprit of God guiding us.

We have to submit and ask the sprit to fill us and mean it

**Close in prayer.**