



THE END

A STUDY OF REVELATION

Rev. 4:1-11

Rev. 4:1 After this I looked, and, behold, a door *was* opened in heaven: and the first voice which I heard *was* as it were of a trumpet talking with me; which said, Come up hither, and I will shew thee things which must be hereafter.

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.

Scriptural Introduction

Rev. 1:19 Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter;

Part One – THE PAST: REVEALING GOD – “...the things which thou hast seen...” Ch. 1

Introduction: 1:1-3

- A. The Significance of the Book, 1:1a-b
- B. The Signature of the Book, 1:1c-2
- C. The Singularity of the Book, 1:3
- I. THE COURSE OF THE AGE, 1:4-6
 - A. The Blessing, 1:4-5a
 - B. The Benediction, 1:5b-6

II. THE CONSUMMATION OF THE AGE, 1:7-8

A. The Eventual Triumph of Jesus, 1:7

B. The Everlasting Triumph of Jesus, 1:8

III. THE CHARACTER OF THE AGE, 1:9-20

A. It Is an Age of Individual Witness, 1:9

B. It Is an Age of Instinctive Worship, 1:10-18

C. It Is an Age of Intelligent Waiting, 1:19-20

Part Two – THE PRESENT: REVEALING GRACE – “...the things which are...” Ch. 2-3

Introduction: The Full Churches, Ch. 2-3

A. The Churches Viewed Practically

B. The Churches Viewed Perennially

C. The Churches Viewed Prophetically

I. EPHESUS: THE FALLEN CHURCH, 2:1-7 (A.D. 0-200)

- A. The Faithful Works of This Church, 2:1-3
- B. The Fatal Weakness of This Church, 2:4-5a
- C. The Forceful Warning to This Church, 2:5b-7

II. SMYRNA: THE FEARFUL CHURCH, 2:8-11 (A.D. 200-325)

- A. The False Trend at Smyrna, 2:8-9
- B. The Fiery Trial at Smyrna, 2:10a
- C. The Final Triumph at Smyrna, 2:10b-11

III. PERGAMOS: THE FALTERING CHURCH, 2:12-17 (A.D. 325-500)

- A. The Faithful Christians in This Church, 2:12-13
- B. The False Creeds in This Church, 2:14-15
- C. The Fearful Crisis in This Church, 2:16-17

IV. THYATIRA: THE FALSE CHURCH, 2:18-29 (A.D. 500-1000)

- A. What the Lord Detected About This Church, 2:18-19
- B. What the Lord Detested About This Church, 2:20-23
- C. What the Lord Determined About This Church, 2:24-29

V. SARDIS: THE FRUITLESS CHURCH, 3:1-6 (A.D. 1000-1500)

- A. The Notable Reputation of This Church, 3:1-2
- B. The Needed Reformation in This Church, 3:3-6

VI. PHILADELPHIA: THE FEEBLE CHURCH, 3:7-13 (A.D. 1500-1900)

A. The Call to Behold, 3:7-11

B. The Call to Behave, 3:12-13

VII. LAODICEA: THE FASHIONABLE CHURCH, 3:14-22 (A.D. 1900 +)

A. The Dynamic Christ, 3:14

1. He is the All-Conquering One, 3:14a

2. He is the All-Convicting One, 3:14b

3. He is the All-Controlling One, 3:14c

B. The Deluded Church, 3:15-17

1. Its Sickening Compromise, 3:15-16

2. Its Sickening Complacency, 3:17

C. The Definite Choice, 3:18-19

D. The Dual Challenge, 3:20-22

1. To Sinners in the Congregation, 3:20

2. To Saints in the Congregation, 3:21-22

- The *idealist* (or allegorical) approach sees these chapters as containing the story of the conflict between God and Satan in the present age.
- The *preterist* approach sees these chapters as a picture of conflicts that took place in the early history of the church age.
- The *historical* approach interprets these chapters as a history of the church, ranging from Jesus Christ's first advent to His second advent.
- Only the *futuristic* approach has resulted in consistency in the interpretation of the major interpretive problems.

Part Three – THE PROPHECY: REVEALING GOVERNMENTS –

“...the things which shall be hereafter;” Ch. 4-20

I. THE SUPREME SOURCE OF DIVINE GOVERNMENT, 4:1-5:14

A. The Unforgettable Throne, 4:1-6

1. The Mystery of the Throne, 4:1-3a

Rev. 4:1 “After this I looked, and, behold, a door *was* opened in heaven: and the first **voice** which I heard *was* as it were of **a trumpet** talking with me; which said, **Come up hither**, and I will shew thee **things** which **must be** hereafter.

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...”

1 Thess. 4:15 For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive *and* remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep.

16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with **the voice** of the archangel, and with **the trump of God**: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

17 Then we which are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

18 Wherefore **comfort one another with these words**.

1 Cor. 15:49 And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly.

50 Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption.

51 Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,

52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at **the last trump**: for **the trumpet** shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

- Compare three references, stating “Come up hither.”

Prov. 25:7 For better *it is* that it be said unto thee, **Come up hither**; than that thou shouldest be put lower in the presence of the prince whom thine eyes have seen.

Rev. 4:1 After this I looked, and, behold, a door *was* opened in heaven: and the first voice which I heard *was* as it were of a trumpet talking with me; which said, **Come up hither**, and I will shew thee things which must be hereafter.

Rev. 11:12 And they heard a great voice from heaven saying unto them, **Come up hither**. And they ascended up to heaven in a cloud; and their enemies beheld them.

- Prov. 25:7 with Mt. 27:50-54, Eph. 4:8-12 = Rapture of the Old Testament Saints
- Rev. 4:1 with 1 Cor. 15:49-53, 1 Thess. 4:13-18 = Rapture of New Testament Saints
- Rev. 11:12 with Mt. 24 and Rev. 11 = Rapture of Tribulation Saints

1 Cor. 15:22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

23 But every man in his own order: **Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming.**

24 **Then cometh the end**, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power.

- All harvests have three parts: (1) Firstfruits; (2) Harvest; (3) Gleanings.
- Like the harvest, the Resurrection has three parts:
 - (1) Firstfruits = the Resurrection of the Old Testament Saints
 - (2) Harvest = the Resurrection of New Testament Saints
 - (3) Gleanings = the Resurrection of Tribulation Saints

Deut. 16:16 Three times in a year shall all thy males appear before the LORD thy God in the place which he shall choose; in **the feast of unleavened bread**, and in **the feast of weeks**, and in **the feast of tabernacles**: and they shall not appear before the LORD empty:

<https://www.biblestudytools.com/commentaries/revelation/revelation-4/revelation-4-3.html>

Ex. 28:20 And the fourth row a beryl, and an onyx, and **a jasper**: they shall be set in gold in their inclosings.

Ex. 39:13 And the fourth row, a beryl, an onyx, and **a jasper**: *they were* inclosed in ouches of gold in their inclosings.



<https://www.gemselect.com/jasper/jasper-447424.php>

THE GEMSTONE JASPER

Jasper is an opaque variety of **Chalcedony**, and is usually associated with brown, yellow, or reddish colors, but may be used to describe other opaque colors of Chalcedony such as dark or mottled green, orange, and black. Jasper is almost always multicolored, with unique color patterns and habits.

https://www.mindat.org/gemstone/jasper_gemstone.aspx



www.shutterstock.com • 523751359

2. The Majesty of the Throne, 4:3b-6 “...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.”*



<http://aharvestofmiracles.blogspot.com/2010/11/worship-before-throne.html>

<http://www.preciousstonesofthebible.com/stonegallery.html>

Isa. 11:1 And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots:

2 And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD;

3 And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the LORD: and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears:

B. The Unforgettable Throng, 4:7-11

1. The Cherubim Acknowledge Him as the Holiest One in the Universe, 4:7-8

Rev. 4:7 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.**

Ezek. 1:10 As for the likeness of their faces, they four had the face of **a man**, and the face of **a lion**, on the right side: and they four had the face of **an ox** on the left side; they four also had the face of **an eagle**.

Ezek. 10:14 And every one had four faces: the first face *was* the face of **a cherub**, and the second face *was* the face of **a man**, and the third the face of **a lion**, and the fourth the face of **an eagle**.

Ezek. 28:13 Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God; every precious stone *was* thy covering, the sardius, topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper, the sapphire, the emerald, and the carbuncle, and gold: the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created.

14 Thou *art* **the anointed cherub that covereth**; and I have set thee *so*: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire.

2. The Elders Acknowledge Him as the Highest One in the Universe, 4:9-11

Rev. 4:9 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.**

Conclusion

1 Pet. 4:12 Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you:

13 But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, **when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy.**

14 If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy *are ye*; for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of, but **on your part he is glorified.**

15 But let none of you suffer as a murderer, or *as* a thief, or *as* an evildoer, or as a busybody in other men's matters.

16 Yet if *any man suffer* as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but **let him glorify God on this behalf.**

17 For the time *is come* that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if *it first begin* at us, what shall the end *be* of them that obey not the gospel of God?

18 And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear?

19 Wherefore **let them that suffer according to the will of God commit the keeping of their souls *to him* in well doing, as unto a faithful Creator.**