



We Possess Unrelenting Hope because We Are Being Prepared for What Is to Come

A Study of Revelation 4

AN INVITATION to see “the things which must take place”

1. The Setting (v. 1a)

a. A Door Standing Open

- (1.) Ezekiel 1:1 – Ezekiel
- (2.) Matthew 3:16 – Jesus’ Baptism
- (3.) Acts 7:56 – Stephen
- (4.) Acts 10:11 – Peter’s Vision
- (5.) Revelation 19:11 – Christ’s Coming

b. A Voice like a Trumpet

2. The Purpose (v. 1b)

- a. “I will show you”
- b. “what must take place”

3. The Condition (v. 2a with 1 Corinthians 2:6-16)

4. The Source (vv. 2b - 3)

a. The One Seated (v. 2b)

- (1.) “on the throne” (Rev. 4:5, 9-10, Rev. 5:1, 6, 7, 13)
- (2.) Completely Sovereign (Acts 2:2-23)

(3.) The *Throne* indicates His ultimate role as judge (Rev. 20:11)

b. The Beauty of What Is Seen (v. 3)

- (1.) jasper
- (2.) carnelian/sardia
- (3.) rainbow / emerald

5. The Activity: Expressions of Worship (vv. 4 - 11)

- a. 24 Elders (v. 4)
- b. 7 Spirits of God (v. 5)
- c. 4 Living Creatures (v. 6-8a)
- d. Joint Worship (vv. 8b-11)

As with all of history, it is critical that the interpreter of events transpiring upon the earth has access to the perspective of God. For without His perspective, all is chaos and disarray. All the more so at the end of history when events upon the earth become extremely chaotic and destructive—seemingly without purpose or plan. Yet, as is shown [to] John and conveyed to us, the events are carefully orchestrated and initiated by God Himself as He finally moves His hand to take back that which was lost in the Garden and legally regained at the cross. It is from this heavenly perspective that the great events of judgment in the pages to come must be understood.

– Tony Garland, M.D.

Verse by Verse Commentary on Revelation

