



# Logos Class

## *Book of Revelation- Ch 4*

**July 6, 2025**

**Rooms 123/124 New Building**

# Class Schedule for the next few weeks

- ✓ *June 15, 2025 – Revelation Ch 2C & 3A*
- ✓ *June 22, 2025 – Revelation Ch 3B*
- ✓ *June 29, 2025 – Revelation Ch 3C*
- ✓ *July 6, 2025 – Revelation Ch 4 – Heavens Open Door*
- *July 13, 2025. – Revelation Ch 5 – Lion and Lamb*
- *July 20, 2025 – Revelation Ch 6*

# Quick Update ...ICYMI

## ***Middle East***

- *The ceasefire between Iran and Israel seems to be holding. Iran is arresting and killing hundreds of Jews and opposition forces.*
- *It appears that the Iranian Nuclear program has been set back many years, if it is recoverable at all.*
- *Major new additions to the Abraham Accords in the short-term future*
- *Israel continues to eliminate terrorists in Syria, Lebanon, and Gaza, but peace possibilities have made some progress. Negotiations underway. Hopeful for hostage release progress with Hamas*

## ***US/World***

- *Celebration of America's 249<sup>th</sup> birthday, Kickoff for next year 250<sup>th</sup> BD Party*
- *The US is pushing for more peace deals across the World. The Ukraine deal still seems far off*
- *Nato agrees to increase funding for their defense*
- *Big Beautiful Bill has passed and been signed into Law. Now it has to make a positive difference.*

# Revelation – How the Book of Revelation Unfolds- 1

*The book of Revelation presents Jesus Christ in 3 areas:*

*His Person, His Power, His Program*

*This unfolds in **5 Parts:***

## *Part 1: **Rev 1-3 - Jesus and His Church***

- ✓ *Introductions 1:1-8*
- ✓ *Unexpected Meeting 1:9-20*
- ✓ *Introduction to the Church*
- ✓ *Love Letters to the 7 churches (several lessons) **Finish today***

## *Part 2: **Rev 4-5 – Journey to Heaven***

- ✓ ***Heaven's Open Door- Ch 4***
- Lion and Lamb – Ch 5*

# Revelation - How the Book of Revelation Unfolds - 2

## ***Part 3 – The Judgments of the Lamb – Rev 6-18***

*The lamb opens the seals – Ch 6*

*First interlude – Ch 7*

*The Trumpets sound – Chapters 8-9*

*Second Interlude – Part 1 -John eats the book – Ch 10*

*Second Interlude – Part 2 – Two witnesses*

*Third Interlude – Part 1 – The Invisible War – Ch 12*

*Third Interlude – Part 2 – Antichrist comes to power – Ch 13*

*Third Interlude – Part 3 – Preview of things to come – Ch 14*

*A Song for the End – Ch 15*

*The Pouring of the Bowls – Ch 16*

*The Fall of Babylon – Ch 17-18*

# Revelation - How the Book of Revelation Unfolds - 3

*Part 4 – The Reign of the King – Rev 19-20*

*The Return of the King – Ch 19*

*Wrapping Things Up – Ch 20*

*Part 5: Eternity – Rev 21-22*

*All things new – Ch 21-22:5*

*Even So...Come – Ch 22:6-21*

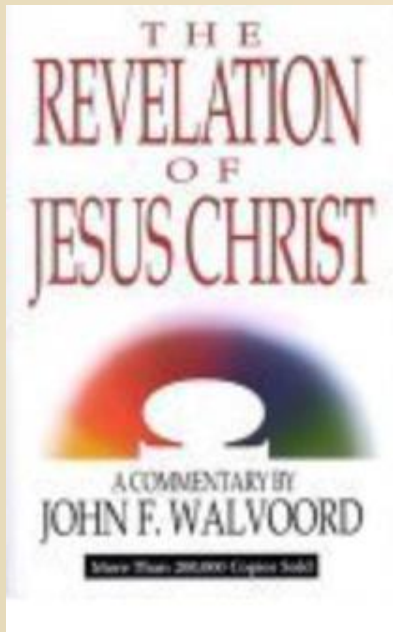
*Maranatha!!*

# Before we discuss the scripture of Rev Ch 4



*John Walvoord in his commentary book “The Revelation of Jesus Christ,” calls this chapter “The Church in Heaven”. This idea comes from the fact that the mention of “Church” is limited to Chapters 1-3, and then again in Chapter 22 of Revelation. This fact makes the supposition that in the intervening chapters, the church is in Heaven and not on Earth. The thinking here is that absence on Earth means presence in Heaven. In the final chapters of Revelation, we are in the eternal state, and all the believers of all time, including the “church,” are there and mentioned.*

*If this is the case, then the Rapture has taken place early in Chapter 4. This is not a universally accepted point because there is no specific verse regarding the rapture in Chapter 4. John may have been reporting on what he saw and was told and did not write everything that he saw. Either way we come out of this decision, we can be sure that the Lord has the time and sequence of the Rapture well in hand.*



# Rev Ch 4:1-3 Heaven's Door is Open

*4 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.”***

After the discussion of **what was**, and **what is...**in Ch 1-3, and the letters to the 7 churches, John looked (UP) and he saw Heaven, and a door standing open. Remember in the church in Philadelphia? God told them **8 I know your deeds. See, I have placed before you an open door that no one can shut.**

*In these first verses, John sees a door into Heaven that is standing wide open. No one but God can shut this door. As he looks, he hears the same voice that spoke to him earlier giving him a command to **“come up here.”** God then tells John that he is going to show him what **must take place...in the future.** Q:Are **“Come up Here”** the words from the Lord that trigger the Rapture? It is an interesting idea and indicates a strong command, not a wish.*

# Revelation 4:2-3

## Beyond the Door...

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

***<sup>3</sup> And the one who sat there had the appearance of jasper and ruby. A rainbow that shone like an emerald encircled the throne.***

- So, John **immediately** was “in the Spirit”. We understand this to mean that while he was physically in the cave in Patmos, his mind and his spirit were taken to Heaven, and he was **taken through this open door. What he sees is a throne in Heaven, and someone sitting on it.**
- **Q:** Can you imagine John, who was banished to Patmos, being taken in the Spirit to Heaven? What he sees is clearly an amazing scene.
- The one on the throne looks like gemstones. Jasper is a clear stone like a diamond, and Sardis (or Ruby) is a bright red. I can't imagine how this appeared to John, but the main impression is gemstones with colors reflecting a diamond and ruby. Around him was a rainbow like an emerald that encircled the throne. I'll show you an artist's rendition of what this might have looked like in a moment, but let's finish describing what was in front of John.

# A little deeper look at what John sees

- *Not just the color of the Gemstones is important, but they also have other relevance as well. Each of the 12 tribes of Judah was represented by a gemstone. The high priest had a breastplate with all 12 of these stones mounted in it. This was to represent that this priest operated with all the tribes in mind as he ruled the land before God.*
- *The **Jasper or Diamond** was the stone that represented **Reuben**, the oldest of Jacob's sons, and the **Sardis or Ruby** represented the **youngest Benjamin**. Not only does the diamond represent purity of God, and the ruby the redemptive purpose in His Blood, but they are the first and last of the stones in the breastplate. As the Lord is the First and Last, the Alpha and Omega, these colors represent that all the others are included symbolically.*
  - *Reuben means, **Behold, a Son***
  - *Benjamin means, **Son of my Right Hand***
- *Both of these refer to Christ, who was human, born of a woman, but also, He is the Son of Power and Presence of God.*
- *These colors represent that He is not only the First and Last, but He is the God who represents the whole house of Israel.*

# Revelation 4:4 More Thrones and Elders...

<sup>4</sup> *Surrounding the throne were **twenty-four other (seats) thrones**, and seated on them were **twenty-four elders**. They were dressed in white and had crowns of gold on their heads.*

- Around this magnificent image are 24 other thrones, but the people sitting on these thrones were not like the other. They were 24 elders, dressed in white, and with gold crowns on their heads.
- Let's dissect this a little more. **Q:** *Who are these elders, and what do they represent?*
- As you might imagine, there are plenty of ideas about them. Some say they are another order of angels. Some say they are representatives of the 12 tribes of Israel, and 12 Saints from the Church Age. Others think they are all elders (biblical definition) of great saints of the Church. Let's see if we can make some decisions based on scripture.
- **Appearance** – they appear as human forms with heads, bodies, and a crown of gold, and clothes of white. This indicates to me that they are not angels, but some form of human representatives. Another key is..
- **Crowns of Gold** – There are 2 words for crown in the Bible. One is the royal crown of a king, which is a **Diadem**, and the other is the victor's crown or **Stephanos**. The crown mentioned here is the earned victor's crown, Stephanos. Angels do not earn crowns; only humans do. A Golden Victor's crown indicates to me that it is refined gold, refined in the fires of life, with persecution and hardship. All through the 7 letters, Christ tells the churches that those who are victorious will earn a special blessing. This seems to make sense based on what has come before.
- **24 Elders** – Elder is the Greek word **presbuteros**, which is defined as an older, wiser person to lead the churches. The number 24 is harder to pin down, but of course there were 12 tribes of Jews, and if indeed these elders are from the whole spectrum of "believers", then it is quite possible, even most likely, that these represents the saved of all ages who God selects as "elders". The fact that they are sitting also implies that they will be ruling from the chair in some fashion. Another verse makes this the likely purpose for them.

So, it is most likely that they are not angels but human representatives to a Godly council where some portion of God's rule takes place, that represent the saved of all generations.

# Revelation 4:5-6 Thunder and Lightning

<sup>5</sup> *From the throne came flashes of lightning, rumblings, and peals of thunder. In front of the throne, **seven lamps were blazing. These are the seven spirits (the sevenfold spirit) of God.***

<sup>6</sup> *Also in front of the throne, there was what looked like a **sea of glass, clear as crystal.***

- *To add to this picture, the sounds of thunder and flashes of lightning are present. We see 7 lamps also blazing, and the floor is like a sea of glass or crystal. The 7 lamps we are told are the 7 spirits/attributes of God. We covered these earlier in Revelation. This depiction of the 7 blazing lamps tells us that the Holy Spirit was also there among it all. Remember that John is writing down what he sees in terms that were familiar to him.*
- *Now we move into more difficult passages to visualize, even though John does a wonderful job of describing what he sees.*

# Revelation 4:6-8 The Living Creatures

*In the center, around the throne, were **four living creatures**, and they were covered with eyes, in front and in back.*

*<sup>7</sup> 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.***

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

*“Holy, holy, holy  
is the Lord God Almighty,<sup>[see Isa 6:3]</sup>  
who was, and is, and is to come.”*

# What do these 4 living creatures represent?

*Four living creatures, covered with eyes in front and back. These are creatures with a purpose for God, and eyes everywhere give the idea that they see everything. Picturing what John actually saw is very imprecise. We find out later in Revelation that these four living creatures are the **Cherubim** in the Angel hierarchy. Similar beings called Seraphim are in Isa 6:3*

*First was like a lion, second like an Ox, third like a Man, and the fourth like a flying eagle. Many ideas have been offered to explain these faces. The most common is that they represent the 4 Gospels (and writers). Churches like the Lutheran church many times have these faces on their walls in their sanctuaries. There is disagreement about which Gospel represents each animal, but normally Matthew and John are fixed.*

- **Matthew – The Lion**, because the purpose of this gospel was to convince Jews that Jesus was the anointed one, the messiah, the Lion of Judah
- **Luke – The Man**, who wrote by interviewing everyone, presented the human side of Christ, and the most complete narrative of His life.
- **Mark - the Ox**, because He is the servant of Jehovah, the faithful one of Mark, written from Peter's notes.
- **John - the Eagle**, because this Gospel soars above the others in its language and spiritual insight into the life of Christ, but also in his ability to see the deeper spiritual meaning in the life and works of Christ
- **Six Wings** – Two to cover their faces (humility), two to cover their feet, and two to presumably fly and move around (see Isa 6:3)
- **What was the purpose of these Living Creatures?** Worship and praise God's worthiness and holiness, and to proclaim his eternal nature ( was, is, is to come)

# Revelation 4:9-11    Worshipping the Lord God

*<sup>9</sup> Whenever the living creatures give glory, honor, and thanks to him who sits on the throne and who lives forever and ever,*

*<sup>10</sup> the twenty-four elders fall down before him who sits on the throne and worship him, who lives forever and ever. They **lay their crowns before the throne** and say:*

*<sup>11</sup> “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.”*

# Some additional detail...

*The Elders proclaim the worthiness of God for glory, honor, and power*

*Again, the praise and worship of these **Elders who call God their Lord and God indicate they are some form of human worshippers**. They lay their earned crowns before Him*

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- *Jesus promised various rewards for those who faithfully serve Him on earth ([Matthew 5:12](#); [1 Corinthians 3:14](#); [Revelation 22:12](#)). Some of those rewards are [crowns](#) ([James 1:12](#); [1 Peter 5:4](#); [Revelation 3:11](#)). These may be the crowns that John saw the elders lay at the feet of Jesus. In their words of worship, they indicate that, despite what they may have done on earth to earn these crowns, only Jesus is truly worthy of glory and honor. In the presence of the Lord Jesus Himself, all good deeds we have done will pale in comparison. A crown will seem but an insignificant gift to present to the One who gave His life for us ([Galatians 2:20](#)).*

*John has been transported in mind and spirit from Earth and Patmos to see and hear what is going on in Heaven. He has entered the OPEN DOOR, and sees this scene in front of him.*

# Revelation Ch 4. *Image of it all*



*Of course, this represents one artist's view. Note the crowns on the 24 elders are mimics of high church attire, and the clouds of Witnesses we have not discussed yet*

*This concludes Chapter 4 – The Door to Heaven is Open*

*What an unbelievable sight played out before John. But that's not all...*

*Next week we will see the  
"Lamb/Lion and the Sealed Book"*

# Next week

*Next week, read Chapter 5*

- ***Pray for our country and our leaders***
- ***Pray for Georgia, and our Leaders***
- ***Pray for our church and leaders, and that our new facilities will be the lampstand that holds the light of Christ high for all to see.***
- ***Pray for Israel and the Peace of Jerusalem***
- ***Pray for each other and encourage each other***
- ***Pray for a **great awakening** to continue across the world and in the US in preparation for the things to come***
- ***Pray for the Nations, as the world closes in on the prophetic movement of the end times, as it marches to God's timetable***
- ***Be thankful and grateful for all the Lord has done and is doing.***