

THE SCENE IN HEAVEN, PART 2
(Revelation 4:5-11)

- I. The SETTING (Rev. 4:1-4)
 - A. Viewed by John “in the SPIRIT” (cf. 2 Cor. 12:3)
 - B. Reveals the GLORY and AUTHORITY of God
 - C. Shows representatives of the GLORIFIED and REWARDED church gathered around the THRONE
- II. The PRESENCE of God (Rev. 4:5)
 - A. From the throne come LIGHTNINGS, SOUNDS and THUNDER
 - 1. A REMINDER of the righteous LAW of God
 - 2. A PREVIEW of the righteous WRATH of God
 - B. Before the throne are seven BURNING LAMPS
 - 1. Identified as the “seven SPIRITS of GOD” (cf. 1:4; 3:1)
 - 2. A VISIBLE representation of the HOLY SPIRIT
- III. The SEA Surrounding the Throne (Rev. 4:6a)
 - A. A MIRROR finish REFLECTING God’s glory
 - B. Like CRYSTAL in MOTIONLESS beauty
 - C. Antitype of the OT laver in the TABERNACLE and TEMPLE
- IV. The “LIVING CREATURES” Surrounding the Throne (Rev. 4:6b-8a)
 - A. Embody the principle of CREATED LIFE (cf. 13:1)
 - B. Described in AMAZING terms
 - 1. Each was FULL of EYES, even UNDER their wings
 - a. Depicting PROFOUND PERCEPTION

- b. Depicting CONSTANT VIGILANCE
- 2. Resembled the CHERUBIM of Ezekiel 1
 - a. There, each had ALL FOUR FACES; here John sees a DIFFERENT FACE on each one
 - b. In Gen. 3 they GUARD EDEN
 - c. In Ex. 26:1, 31, they adorn the veil surrounding the HOLY PLACE
 - d. In Ex. 25:18-20, they surround the MERCY SEAT
 - e. In Ezek. 1:25-26 they support the THRONE (cf. Ps. 80:1; 99:1)
- 3. Resembled the SERAPHIM of Isaiah 6:1-7
 - a. Each has SIX WINGS
 - b. They NEVER REST
 - c. They constantly proclaim God's ETERNAL HOLINESS

IV. The WORSHIP around the Throne (Rev. 4:8b-11)

- A. The hymn of the "LIVING CREATURES" (4:8b-9)
 - 1. Declare God's pre-eminent HOLINESS
 - 2. Proclaim God's glory (MAJESTY) and honor (WORTHINESS)
 - 3. Express GRATITUDE for God's eternal SOVEREIGNTY over ALL THINGS
- B. The hymn of the TWENTY-FOUR ELDERS (4:10-11)
 - 1. Leave THEIR thrones to fall before HIS
 - 2. Return their VICTOR'S CROWNS to the One who ENABLED their VICTORY
 - 3. Worship God as the CREATOR
 - a. All things EXIST at His PLEASURE
 - b. All things WERE MADE by His WILL (cf. Mt. 6:10)

c. Therefore, He ALONE is worthy of ALL PRAISE