# Revelation 4:1 – 5:14 **Throne in Heaven – God & Lamb Worshipped** "Come Up Here"

<sup>1</sup> After these things I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven. And the first voice which I heard was like a trumpet speaking with me, saying, "Come up here, and I will show you things which must take place after this."

#### God – Throne – Rainbow

<sup>2</sup> Immediately I was in the Spirit; and behold, a throne set in heaven, and One sat on the throne. <sup>3</sup> And He who sat there was like a jasper and a sardius stone in appearance; and there was a rainbow around the throne, in appearance like an emerald.

## Twenty-four Elders

<sup>4</sup> Around the throne were twenty-four thrones, and on the thrones I saw twenty-four elders sitting, clothed in white robes; and they had crowns of gold on their heads.

## Seven Spirits of God

<sup>5</sup> And from the throne proceeded lightnings, thunderings, and voices. Seven lamps of fire were burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God.

#### Sea of Glass

<sup>6</sup> Before the throne there was a sea of glass, like crystal.

### Four Living Creatures

And in the midst of the throne, and around the throne, were four living creatures full of eyes in front and in back.

<sup>7</sup> The first living creature was like a lion, the second living creature like a calf, the third living creature had a face like a man, and the fourth living creature was like a flying eagle. <sup>8</sup> The four living creatures, each having six wings, were full of eyes around and within. And they do not rest day or night, saying:

"Holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, Who was and is and is to come!"

#### Worship of God on the Throne

- 9 Whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits on the throne, who lives forever and ever, 10 the twenty-four elders fall down before Him who sits on the throne and worship Him who lives forever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying:
  - 11 "You are worthy, O Lord, To receive glory and honor and power; For You created all things, And by Your will they exist and were created."

#### Scroll

- <sup>5</sup> And I saw in the right hand of Him who sat on the throne a scroll written inside and on the back, sealed with seven seals. <sup>2</sup> Then I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, "Who is worthy to open the scroll and to loose its seals?" <sup>3</sup> And no one in heaven or on the earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll, or to look at it.
- <sup>4</sup> So I wept much, because no one was found worthy to open and read the scroll, or to look at it. <sup>5</sup> But one of the elders said to me, "Do not weep. Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has prevailed to open the scroll and to loose its seven seals."

#### Worthy LAMB

<sup>6</sup> And I looked, and behold, in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as though it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent out into all the earth. <sup>7</sup> Then He came and took the scroll out of the right hand of Him who sat on the throne.

# Four living Creatures and twenty four Elders Worship the LAMB

- 8 Now when He had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each having a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints.
- 9 And they sang a new song, saying:

"You are worthy to take the scroll, And to open its seals; For You were slain, And have redeemed us to God by Your blood Out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation, 10 And have made us kings and priests to our God; And we shall reign on the earth."

## Angels Worship the LAMB

11 Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne, the living creatures, and the elders; and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands, 12 saying with a loud voice:

"Worthy is the Lamb who was slain To receive power and riches and wisdom, And strength and honor and glory and blessing!"

# All created beings Worship GOD & LAMB together

13 And every creature which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, I heard saying:

"Blessing and honor and glory and power Be to Him who sits on the throne, And to the Lamb, forever and ever!"

#### Great AMEN – Worship the Eternal One

14 Then the four living creatures said, "Amen!" And the twenty-four elders fell down and worshiped Him who lives forever and ever.

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#### Facts Revealed:

"Come Up Here" [Revelation 4:1]

- After these things I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven. And the first voice which I heard was like a trumpet speaking with me, saying, "Come up here, and I will show you things which must take place after this." [Revelation 4:1]
  - ♦ The rest of Revelation is observed from the viewpoint of Heaven.
  - ♦ The open door in Heaven indicates that God has opened the way for understanding the secret that lies ahead for the last days.
  - ♦ The voice John heard was like the sound of a trumpet. [Revelation 1:10]
  - ♦ This is the same voice the Children of Israel heard at Mount Sinai. [Exodus 19:19]
  - → John was told to write the things he saw, the things which are, and the things that will take place after this. [Revelation 1:19]
  - → Things he saw; was the vision of the glorified Christ with seven lampstands and seven stars. [Revelation 1:1-20]

- → Things that are; is reference to the letters to the seven Churches revealing the characteristics of Churches through the entire time of the Church. [Revelation 2:2 - 3:22]
- ❖ Things that will take place after this; is a reference to the time God the Father authorizes Jesus to bring to pass the end of man's rule over creation and the beginning of the eternal reign of Christ starting with the Wrath of God and the judgment of mankind.
- ♦ It begins in Heaven as God hands Jesus the End Time Scroll to be opened. [Revelation 1:19, 4:6]

## God – Throne – Rainbow [Revelation 4:2-3]

- The Immediately I was in the Spirit; and behold, a throne set in heaven, and One sat on the throne. [Revelation 4:2]
  - ♦ John was **in the Spirit** on the Lord's Day, indicating a special spiritual focus and state of meditation as he indicated when he introduced the book of Revelation. [Revelation 1:10]
  - ♦ When John heard the voice He was transported in the Spirit through the door in Heaven to the throne of God. [Revelation 4:2]
  - → Paul speaking of a very similar experience said that he did not know if he was in the body or not when he was caught up to the third Heaven into Paradise where he heard words unlawful to utter. [2 Corinthians 12:1-4]
  - ♦ We know that Ezekiel had been transported by the Spirit from Chaldea to Jerusalem and back to Chaldea when God showed him the offenses of the priests in Jerusalem and His reason for its fall. [Ezekiel 3:12-14, 8:1-18, 11:1-25, 37:1-14, 43:1-11, 44:1]
  - ♦ Philip the Evangelist was caught up and transported from the road between Jerusalem and Gaza to Azotus. [Acts 38:39-40]
- And **He who sat on the Throne** there was like a jasper and a sardius stone in appearance; and there was a **rainbow** around the throne, in appearance like an **emerald**. [Revelation 4:3]
  - ♦ Description is similar to the vision of God Ezekiel saw. [Ezekiel 1:26-28]
  - ♦ The radiance of Divinity is seen in the appearance of Jasper and Sardius speaking of the One who is the Source of our redemption and glorification.
  - ❖ The emerald Rainbow represents God's constant reminder of life on the earth and His promises of Eternal Life to mankind.

# Twenty-four Elders [Revelation 4:4]

- Around the throne were **twenty-four thrones**, and on the thrones I saw **twenty-four elders** sitting, clothed in white robes; and they had crowns of gold on their heads. [Revelation 4:4]
  - ❖ The twenty-four elders represent the Old Covenant heads of the twelve tribes of Israel and the twelve Apostles of the Lamb bringing both the Old Covenant and New Covenant together.
  - ♦ These twenty-four are seen again in the gates and foundations of the New Jerusalem.
    [Revelation 21:12, 14]
  - ♦ God's program of redemption is complete only when understood in light of the full revelation of God concerning mankind.

#### Seven Spirits of God [Revelation 4:5]

- ♣ And from the **Throne** proceeded **lightnings**, **thunderings**, and **voices**. [Revelation 4:5]
  - ❖ Lightning, thunderings, and voices proceeding from the throne demonstrate the fact that the God seated on the Throne is the Same God Who Spoke from Heaven when the Law was given to the Children of Israel at Mount Horeb (Sinai). [Exodus 19:16-19]
- **Seven lamps of fire** were burning before the throne, which are the **seven Spirits of God**.
  - ❖ Seven Spirits of God represent seven Characteristics of the Holy Spirit. [Revelation 4:5, 5:6, Hebrews 1:14, <u>Truth</u> John 16:13, <u>Holiness</u> Romans 1:3-4, <u>Faith</u> 2 Corinthians 4:13, <u>Wisdom</u> Ephesians 1:17, <u>Power</u> 2 Timothy 1:7, <u>Grace</u> Hebrews 10:29, <u>Glory</u> 1 Peter 4:14]

♦ The seven branch Lampstand in the Tabernacle in the Wilderness was a representation of these seven Lamps before the Throne in Heaven. [Exodus 25:31-40]

### Sea of Glass [Revelation 4:6]

- ♣ Before the throne there was a sea of glass, like crystal. [Revelation 4:6]
  - ♦ Sea of Glass represents the calm untroubled peace in the presence of God.
  - ♦ A sea of water is blown by the wind and troubled, which represents mankind being blown about by every wind of doctrine and tossed to and fro according to the trickery of men in the cunning craftiness of deceitful teaching. [Ephesians 4:14]
  - ❖ In the presence of God there is safety and rest with peace by the power of truth to keep the Saints steadfast and untroubled because they hear directly from God Himself.

# Four Living Creatures [Revelation 4:6-8]

- And in the midst of the throne, and around the throne, were **four living creatures** full of eyes in front and in back. [Revelation 4:6]
  - ♦ These beings are the very closest to God Most High, the many eyes speak of the omniscience of God who knows all. [Psalm 15:3]
  - ♦ Their similarity was first seen in the vision of God by Ezekiel. [Ezekiel 1:4, 10]
- The first living creature was like a **lion**, the second living creature like a **calf**, the third living creature had a face like a **man**, and the fourth living creature was like a flying **eagle**.

  [Revelation 4:7]
  - ♦ The four faces represent the four accounts of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
    - ☐ Lion speaks of Matthew who shows Jesus as the Lion of the tribe of Judah fulfilling the royal aspects of the life of Christ.
    - ☐ Calf speaks of Mark who shows Jesus as the **humble Servant** sent to save us from sin being the sacrifice for our atonement.
    - Man − speaks of Luke who shows Jesus as the son of man to share in our humanity and understand our weaknesses, our Great High Priest.
    - ☐ **Eagle** speaks of John who shows Jesus as God in human form speaking of His divine nature and preeminent standing.
- The four living creatures, each having six wings, were full of eyes around and within. And they do not rest day or night, saying:

# "Holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, Who was and is and is to come!" [Revelation 4:8]

- ♦ By these four creatures, the **throne of God** is continually surrounded by praise and worship from beings with full knowledge and understanding.
- ❖ Their praise recognizing a threefold holiness of God speaks of the Godhead including the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- ❖ Their worship includes acknowledgment of Yahweh Elohiym Shadday the Omnipotence of creator God.
- ♦ And acknowledgment of the **Eternal** nature of God past, present, and future, no beginning or ending.

### Worship of God on the Throne [Revelation 4:9-11]

Whenever the **living creatures give glory and honor and thanks** to Him who sits on the throne, who lives forever and ever, the twenty-four elders fall down before Him who sits on the throne and worship Him who lives forever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying:

"You are worthy, O Lord, To receive glory and honor and power; For You created all things, And by Your will they exist and were created." [Revelation 4:9-11]

❖ The twenty four Elders join in humble worship and praise to God on the throne by Whose Will all creation was accomplished and sustained.

# Scroll [Revelation 5:1-5]

- And I saw in the right hand of Him who sat on the throne a **scroll** written inside and on the back, sealed with seven seals. [Revelation 5:1]
  - ❖ The introduction of the Scroll is the beginning of the revelation of the "Things that will take place after this."
- Then I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, "Who is worthy to open the scroll and to loose its seals?" And no one in heaven or on the earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll, or to look at it. [Revelation 5:2-3]
- ❖ So I wept much, because no one was found worthy to open and read the scroll, or to look at it. But one of the elders said to me,

"Do not weep. **Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David**, has prevailed to open the scroll and to loose its seven seals." [Revelation 5:4-5]

❖ It is interesting to see that the Lamb of God is introduced as the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the root of David.

## Worthy LAMB [Revelation 5:6-7]

- ♥ And I looked, and behold, in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures, and in the midst of the elders, stood a **Lamb as though it had been slain**, having **seven horns** and **seven eyes**, which are the **seven Spirits of God sent out into all the earth**. [Revelation 5:6]
  - ❖ The Lamb comes from the midst of the Throne indicating that He is part of the Godhead.
  - ♦ The Lamb had been slain speaking of the Sacrifice of Christ on the cross.
  - ❖ The Seven Horns and Seven Eyes are identified as the Seven Spirits of God, pictures the control of the Holy Spirit has passed from the Father on the Throne to the Son Jesus
  - ♦ Sent into all the earth indicates the omnipresence of the Holy Spirit over the earth.
- † Then **He**, **Jesus the Lamb**, came and took the scroll out of the right hand of **Him** (**the Father**) who sat on the throne. [Revelation 5:7]
  - ♦ Jesus accepts the responsibility to dispatch the various aspects of the Wrath of Almighty
    God on the world, to purge the world of evil, and to set up His Kingdom.

Four living Creatures and twenty four Elders Worship the LAMB [Revelation 5:8-10]

- Now when He had taken the scroll, the <u>four living creatures</u> and the <u>twenty-four elders</u> fell down before the **Lamb**, each having a **harp**, and **golden bowls full of incense**, which are the prayers of the saints. [Revelation 5:8]
  - ♦ Prayers of the Saints are represented as incense before the Throne of God.
  - ♦ Here they are presented before the Lamb because Jesus is the mediator between God and man. [1 Timothy 2:5-6]
  - ♦ The four living creatures and the twenty four Elders who continually express worship and adoration before God Himself, now in front of the One on the Throne are openly expressing worship toward the Lamb with the approval of God the Father.
- ♣ And they sang a new song, saying:

"You are worthy to take the scroll, And to open its seals; For You were slain, And have redeemed us to God by Your blood Out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation, And have made us kings and priests to our God; And we shall reign on the earth." [Revelation 5:9-10]

- ♦ By His sacrifice on the cross of Calvary, Jesus prevailed in triumph over Satan.
- ♦ By His blood Jesus redeemed us to God out of every tribe, tongue, people, and nation.

- ❖ In Christ there is no distinction between Jew and Gentile, we were all redeemed by His blood.
- ♦ Jesus has made us to be **kings and priests to God**. [Revelation 7:9-17, 20:4-6]
- ❖ We shall reign on the earth. This is a clear declaration that the thousand year reign is on the present earth called the Kingdom of Heaven and Kingdom of God in various texts of the Gospel records and the Epistles, too numerous to list.

Angels Worship the LAMB [Revelation 5:11-12]

Then I looked, and I heard the voice of **many angels** around the throne, the living creatures, and the elders; and the number of them was **ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands**, saying with a loud voice:

"Worthy is the Lamb who was slain To receive power and riches and wisdom, And strength and honor and glory and blessing!" [Revelation 5:11-12]

♦ Angels of Heaven worship Jesus the Lamb with adoration very similar to the adoration first expressed to God on the Throne. [Revelation 4:9-11]

All created beings Worship GOD & LAMB together [Revelation 5:13]

And every creature which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, I heard saying:

"Blessing and honor and glory and power Be to Him who sits on the throne, And to the Lamb, forever and ever!"

- ♦ Here is the greatest chorus of all time as every created being expresses joint worship toward both the Father God on the Throne and to the Lamb together, clearly demonstrating that Jesus the Lamb is equal with God the Father on the Throne.
- ♦ El Yahweh said He would not give His glory to another, [Isaiah 42:8]
- ♦ Jesus prayed that God would restore His glory with the Father that He had before creation began. [John 17:5]
- ♦ This prayer is here fulfilled in the fullest.

Great AMEN – Worship the Eternal One [Revelation 5:14]

- Then the **four living creatures** said, "**Amen**!" And the **twenty-four elders** fell down and **worshiped Him who lives forever and ever**. [Revelation 5:14]
  - ♦ All praise goes to the Father directly or through Jesus the Lamb of God. [1 Corinthians 15:24-28]