

#### 4:1-4 EVENTS WHICH FOLLOW THE RAPTURE

4:1, **After this I looked** - Μετὰ ταῦτα εἶδον, -

**And behold, a door was opened in heaven** - καὶ ἰδοῦ, θύρα ἀνεωγμένη ἐν τῷ οὐρανῷ - A door for passing from one place to another / John 10:9 / It is time for the final call of the redeemed - the Church.

There are three doors in the revelation:

3:8, The Gospel witness

3:20, Opportunity for salvation

4:1, Removal of the saved

**And the first voice which I heard was as it were of a trumpet talking with me** - καὶ ἡ φωνὴ ἡ πρώτη ἣν ἤκουσα ὡς σάλπιγγος λαλούσης μετ' ἐμοῦ -

I Cor. 15:51-53,

**Which said, Come up hither** - ἐγὼν, Ἀνάβα ὧδε -

**And I will shew thee things which must be hereafter** - καὶ δεῖξω σοι ἃ δεῖ γενέσθαι μετὰ ταῦτα. -

4:2, **and immediately I was in the spirit** - Καὶ εὐθέως ἐγενόμην ἐν πνεύματι -

**and, behold, a throne was set in heaven** - καὶ ἰδοῦ, θρόνος ἔκειτο ἐν τῷ οὐρανῷ -

**and one sat on the throne** - καὶ ἐπὶ τὸν θρόνον καθήμενος -

4:3, **And he that sat was to look upon** - καὶ ὁ καθήμενος ἦν ὅμοιος ὀράσει -

**like a jasper and sardine stone.** - λίθῳ ἰάσπιδι καὶ σαρδίῳ - brilliance and glory

**and there was a rainbow round about the throne** - καὶ ἴρις κυκλόθεν τοῦ θρόνου - we see a semi-circle, a reminder of the promise of Noah. In Heaven it is a complete circle about the throne, a pledge of God's faithfulness

**in sight like unto an emerald** - ὁμοίως ὄρασις σμαραγδίνων. -

4:4, **and round about the throne were four and twenty seats** - Καὶ κυκλόθεν τοῦ θρόνου θρόνοι εἴκοσι τέσσαρες -

**And upon the seats I saw four and twenty elders sitting** - και ἐπὶ τοὺς θρόνους τοὺς εἴκοσι τέσσαρας πρεσβυτέρους καθημένους, -

**clothed in white raiment;** - περιβεβλημένους ἐν ἱματίοις λευκοῖς -

**and they had on their heads crowns of gold** - και ἐπὶ τὰς κεφαλὰς αὐτῶν στεφάνους χρυσοῦς - *Who are they? cf. 4:9-10 / It may be a picture of all believers who are kings and priests before their God: I Pet. 2:4-5; Rev. 1:5-6*

4:5, **And out of the throne proceeded lightnings and thunderings and voices:** - Καὶ ἐκ τοῦ θρόνου ἐκπορεύονται ἀστραπαὶ καὶ φωναὶ καὶ βρονταί. -

**and there were seven lamps of fire burning before the throne,** - Καὶ ἑπτὰ λαμπάδες πυρὸς καίόμεναι ἐνώπιον τοῦ θρόνου αὐτοῦ -

**which are the seven Spirits of God.** - αἱ εἰσὶν ἑπτὰ πνεύματα τοῦ θεοῦ· - God is preparing to bring righteous judgment on a sinful world / *lightning* / Ps. 29:3-5; Ex. 19:16-18 / God does not judge the world today in the same way for He on a throne of grace / at the beginning of the tribulation He is on a throne of judgment and it is “justice day” on earth.

“seven lamps of fire burning before the throne”/ the seven spirits of God / characteristic of perfection - these lamps show the righteous character of God to search out sins which are upon the earth and to judge. Seven lamps is characteristic of the Holy Spirit: Rev. 1:4; 3:1; 5:6 / seven fold fullness or completeness: omniscience and omnipotence; also shows His judicial character: fire - 2 Thess. 1:7-8. Holy Spirit: A dove at Christ’s baptism, cloven tongues of fire at Pentecost, and seven lamps in the Revelation. All these are a means of informing men of His presence, normally invisible.

4:6, **And before the throne there was a sea of glass like unto crystal:** - καὶ ἐνώπιον τοῦ θρόνου ὡς θάλασσα ὑαλίνη, ὁμοία κρυστάλλῳ. - Fixed state of purity and holiness, no need for the redeemed to be cleansed as in O.T. days

**and in the midst of the throne, and round about the throne,** - Καὶ ἐν μέσῳ τοῦ θρόνου καὶ κύκλῳ τοῦ θρόνου -

**were four beasts full of eyes before and behind.** - τέσσαρα ζῶα γέμοντα ὀφθαλμῶν ἔμπροσθεν καὶ ὀπίσθεν. “four beasts” - living ones / in the midst and surrounding the throne / 20X in Revelation, created being standing ready to serve God. Full of eyes to seeing all things with accuracy.

4:7, **and the first beast was like a lion** - Lion, Matthew, King – Judah

**And the second beast was like a calf** - Mark, Servant – Ephraim

*And the third beast had a face as a man* - Luke, Son of God - Reuben  
*And the fourth beast was like a flying eagle* - John, God the Son, Deity - Dan

4:8, *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,* - Ἅγιος, ἅγιος, ἅγιος, κύριος ὁ θεὸς ὁ παντοκράτωρ - Trinity - Isa. 6:3 / Sound praise and execute judgment before God's wrath is poured out, His holiness is magnified - because of His holiness sin must be judged

LORD	GOD	ALMIGHTY
<i>holiness</i>	<i>deity</i>	<i>eternality</i>
κύριος	ὁ θεὸς	ὁ παντοκράτωρ

*which was, and is, and is to come.* - ὁ ἦν καὶ ὁ ὢν καὶ ὁ ἐρχόμενος. –  
Pres Ptc. Impf. Pres Ptc. Literally: *He who is, and was, and is coming.*

4:10, The 24 elders fall before the Him that is on throne and worship Him, that liveth forever and ever; then cast their crowns before the throne. They laying aside their glory and rewards, to give Him glory that He alone is worthy to receive.

4:11, *Thou art worthy, O Lord,* - Ἄξιός εἰ, κύριε -

*to receive glory and honour and power:* - λαβεῖν τὴν δόξαν καὶ τὴν τιμὴν καὶ τὴν δύναμιν·

*for thou hast created all things,* - ὅτι σὺ ἔκτισας τὰ πάντα -

*and for thy pleasure they are and were created.* - καὶ διὰ τὸ θέλημά σου εἰσι καὶ ἐκτίσθησαν. - Worship is not confined to praise, which is an emphasis on His attributes, but it is absolute surrender of all that we have, in order to get a vision of the greatness of God.