

God's Throne Room

Revelation 4:1-5

"It seems that the church as the Body of Christ is out of the picture, and saints who come to know the Lord in this period are described as saved Israelites or saved Gentiles, never by terms which are characteristic of the church, the Body of Christ. Saints mentioned from this point on do not lose their racial background as is commonly done in referring to the church where Jew and Gentile are one in Christ. At the beginning of chapter 4, then, the church may be considered as in heaven and not related to events which will take place on the earth in preparation for Christ's return in power and glory." Walvoord

- I. The events that transpire in Revelation chapters 4-19 do not concern the church because she will be in heaven, spared from God's judgment and wrath upon a sinful world. What should concern us, before the rapture occurs, is how well we are living for Him as salt and light before the ungodly. This must have been Peter's concern when he wrote, *But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything done in it will be laid bare. Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives (2 Peter 3:10-11)*. Living holy and godly lives doesn't mean living an obscure safe life as we wait for the rapture, for what good is salt if it loses its saltiness or light if it is hidden. Instead, we must be willing to take a stand for righteousness no matter what the cost knowing that it is our God given responsibility to do so.

Rev. 4:1

1 Jn. 4:3-5

Rev. 1:3,9

1 Thess 4:16-17

1 Cor 15:51-53

Roman 11:25-26

2 Thess. 2:5-7

Rev. 3:12

Isa 59:20-21

1 Cor. 16:13-14 *13 Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong. 14 Do everything in love.*

- II. God sitting on his throne depicts his **sovereignty**, i.e., his rule, power, and authority over all creation. It is emphasized so that we realize that as King, God is **just** in bringing judgment upon the whole world and its wicked ways. It is important to the health of our state of mind, which could be consumed with worry, despair, and anxiety over the blatant disregard for morality, sanctity of life, the erosion of family, marriage, and the safety of our children to know that the Lord, the King of kings, will deal with it in his perfect justice. Meanwhile, it is our God given responsibility to do everything we can to remain stable in our relationship with Him knowing that He is in control.

Rev 4:2-3

2 Cor. 12:2

Isa 6:1

Ezek. 1:25-28

Col. 1:18

2 Thess. 1:6-7 *6 God is just: He will pay back trouble to those who trouble you 7 and give relief to you who are troubled, and to us as well. This will happen when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven in blazing fire with his powerful angels.*

- III. The precious stones that describe God's appearance symbolize His **glory**. His glory is emphasized to give us an understanding of His magnificence, dignity, and splendor. The twenty-four elders represent God's honor toward the redeemed Old and the New Testament saints who will share in His glory for ever and ever. The magnificent display of power coming forth from God's throne shows us that there is no power, force, spiritual entity, or person more powerful than He. As the Psalmist says, *I love you, Lord, my strength. The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold (Ps. 18:1).*

Rev 4:3-5

Ezekiel 1:28

John 12:26

Rev. 3:18