



# **THE TESTIMONY OF JESUS IN THE BOOK OF REVELATION**

**Bereans Adult Bible Fellowship  
Placerita Baptist Church**

[www.canyonministries.com](http://www.canyonministries.com) Aug 18–21

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# Revelation 4:1–11

- 1 After these things I looked, and behold, a door *standing* open in heaven, and the first voice which I had heard, like *the sound* of a trumpet speaking with me, said, “Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after these things.”
- 2 Immediately I was in the Spirit; and behold, a throne was standing in heaven, and One sitting on the throne.

## Revelation 4:1–11

- 3 And He who was sitting *was* like a jasper stone and a sardius in appearance; and *there was* a rainbow around the throne, like an emerald in appearance.
- 4 Around the throne *were* twenty-four thrones; and upon the thrones *I saw* twenty-four elders sitting, clothed in white garments, and golden crowns on their heads.

## Revelation 4:1–11

- 5 Out from the throne come flashes of lightning and sounds and peals of thunder. *And there were seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God;*
- 6 And before the throne *there was something like a sea of glass, like crystal;* and in the center and around the throne, four living creatures full of eyes in front and behind.

## Revelation 4:1–11

- 7 The first creature *was* like a lion, and the second creature like a calf, and the third creature had a face like that of a man, and the fourth creature *was* like a flying eagle.
- 8 And the four living creatures, each one of them having six wings, are full of eyes around and within; and day and night they do not cease to say, “**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY *is* THE LORD GOD, THE ALMIGHTY, WHO WAS AND WHO IS AND WHO IS TO COME.**”

## Revelation 4:1–11

- 9 And when the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits on the throne, to Him who lives forever and ever,
- 10 the twenty-four elders will fall down before Him who sits on the throne, and will worship Him who lives forever and ever, and will cast their crowns before the throne, saying,

## Revelation 4:1–11

11 “Worthy are You, our Lord and our God, to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things, and because of Your will they existed, and were created.”



**PILLARS  
of  
CREATION**





**Planetary  
Nebula  
NGC 6751 in  
constellation  
Aquila**

# Messier 104, Sombrero Galaxy



# Helix Nebula



# Place in the Book of Revelation

- I. What you have seen (Rev 1).
- II. What is now (Rev 2–3)—the seven churches of Asia Minor.
- III. What will take place after these things (Rev 4–22).

# A. The Seven Seals (4:1–8:1)

1. John's Position (4:1–2)
  - a. “a door *standing* open in heaven”
  - b. ““Come up here””
  - c. “Immediately . . . in the Spirit”
  - d. Near “a throne . . . in heaven”

**Peter Olsen, artist**

**<http://www.peterolsenart.com/slide12.html>**

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## **Question for Discussion**

**Why does John spend so much time describing the scene in heaven?**



# A. The Seven Seals (4:1–8:1)

## 2. John's Vision (4:3–8:1)

### a. “behold, a THRONE” (4:3–11; see v. 2)

#### (1) The Persons Involved

- The One on the Throne (vv. 2–3, 8, 11; cf. 5:7)—*the Father*
- The Twenty-four Elders (vv. 4, 10–11)
- The Seven Spirits of God (4:5; cf. 1:4; 5:6)
- The Four Living Creatures (4:6–9; cf. 5:8)

## **A. The Seven Seals (4:1–8:1)**

**The One on the Throne (vv. 2–3, 8, 11; cf. 5:7)**

- **v. 8 – “THE LORD GOD, THE ALMIGHTY”**
- **v. 9 – The Eternal One (Creator?)**
- **Not the Son (5:5, 7; 6:16; 7:10)**
- **Not the Spirit (4:5; cf. 19:4)**

## A. The Seven Seals (4:1–8:1)

### The Twenty-four Elders (vv. 4, 10–11)

- *24 thrones*: cf. Colossians 1:16
- *24 elders*: cf. Exodus 24:1, 9; Psalm 107:32
- “clothed in white garments”: cf. John 20:12; Acts 1:10
- “golden crowns on their heads”: cf. Revelation 9:7
- Their worship: of the Eternal God (Creator?), not Savior

## **A. The Seven Seals (4:1–8:1)**

### **The Twenty-four Elders (vv. 4, 10–11)**

- Their “new song”: cf. 5:8–10
- “each one holding a harp and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints” (5:8)
- Their literal individuality (5:5)
- The 24 elders are distinguished from the “wife” of the Lamb (19:4–7).

## **A. The Seven Seals (4:1–8:1)**

### **The Seven Spirits of God (4:5; cf. 1:4; 5:6)**

- **Each text must be dealt with in its own context.**
- **One Spirit in His seven-fold power or manifestations? See Isaiah 11:2, but only six manifestations.**
- **Last mention is Revelation 5:6 where they are said to be “sent out into all the earth”—cf. Hebrews 1:14.**

# A. The Seven Seals (4:1–8:1)

## The Four Living Creatures (4:6–9; cf. 5:8)

	Revelation 4–5	Ezekiel 1
<b>Number</b>	4	4
<b>Faces</b>	lion, calf, man, eagle	lion, calf, man, eagle
<b>Location</b>	“in the center and around the throne” (4:6)	“above the expanse that was over their heads there was something resembling a throne” (1:26)
<b>Wings</b>	6 (4:8)	4 (1:6)

# A. The Seven Seals (4:1–8:1)

## The Four Living Creatures (4:6–9; cf. 5:8)

Isaiah 6:1–3	<i>(seraphim above the throne)</i>
Genesis 3:24	<i>(cherubim guarding)</i>
Exodus 25:10–22	<i>(cherubim covering)</i>
Ezekiel 10:15	<i>(living creatures = cherubim)</i>

## **Question for Discussion**

**What can we learn about worship and prayer from the two songs/prayers of the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders?**



# Implications Regarding Jesus Christ

## Revelation 4 implies by context:

- Throne room is readied for the entrance of a great King.
- The appearing of Jesus Christ will affect even spirit beings near the throne of God.
- Jesus Christ is so great that only heaven can reveal His greatness.
- Jesus Christ is one with the Father, who receives the praise in this chapter.