

May 14, 2023

The Throne Room Revelation 4 Pastor Kirk Gambrell

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Using This Study

❶ EXAMINE His Word

What does God SAY? Open your time with prayer. The words God uses to communicate matters, so go back and pay close attention to the details that are emphasized or repeated in the passage.

❷ EXPLORE His Word

What does God MEAN? Asking questions of the text helps surface how the details relate to the message God wants to communicate.

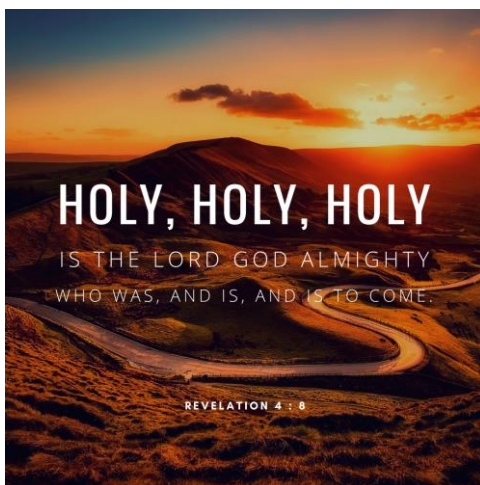
❸ EMBRACE His Word

Why does it MATTER to me? Embrace God by responding to what you discover in His word in faith and obedience.



Artwork by Pat Marvenko Smith 01982, 1992
www.revelationillustrated.com

This week we will look at the 4th chapter of the book of Revelation. Chapter 4 moves from the instruction to the churches to a description of the throne room of God. The description includes many valuable stones in a very elaborate scene. There are also a number of other beings present in the throne room. There is a significant debate about the identity of the 24 elders and the identity of the 4 living creatures. One thing that is not debated is the worship of God in His throne room. Both the elders and the living creatures give all glory and honor to God in worshipping Him. Join us this week as we look at the worship of God in the throne room and seek to understand how it should impact our worship here.



REVELATION 4 NASB

Scene in Heaven

4 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. **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.

The Throne and Worship of the Creator

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. **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."

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,

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."

o EXAMINE His Word (Observation) (For personal preparation)

What does God SAY? Prayerfully note significant details from this passage.

Make 10 of your own observations from this passage. Avoid jumping to make interpretive decisions or drawing applications. Save those for the sections that follow. At this point just observe this passage and what it says. Look for things that are emphasized, repeated, and what stands out to you. Look at the verbs, what actions are in the text? Who is involved in the text? There is no right or wrong answer, just list 10 things you see in the text.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

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9.

10.

2 EXPLORE His Word (Interpretation) (For Community Group discussion)
What does God MEAN?

1. What area is John describing?
2. In verse 1 John says he describes a scene that will take place after these things. After what?
3. Who is sitting on the throne?
4. Why is the one on the throne worshiped?
5. How do they worship the one on the throne?
6. Who worships the one on the throne?

③ EMBRACE His Word (Application) (For Community Group discussion)
Why does this MATTER to me?

7. Why do you think the scene of the throne room is shown to John?
8. In what way does the worship described honor the one who sits on the throne? Should our worship honor God in the same way?
9. Are there things we could do in our worship to be more honoring to God? What?

Summarize your thoughts on the passage

Write about what God wants you to KNOW, to FEEL, and to DO...

Sermon Notes