

**Throne of God**

**Revelation Chapter 4 – 3/1/2022**

Presented by Clifford Phipps

Review

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**Rev 4:1**

**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."**

What concludes the Church Era? The Rapture.

What does the word church mean?

The word church means “Called out” “Called out ones”

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(Rev 3:7-9)

Matt 25:1-13

1"Then the kingdom of heaven will be comparable to ten virgins, who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom.

2 "Five of them were foolish, and five were prudent.

3 "For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them,

4 but the prudent took oil in flasks along with their lamps.

5 "Now while the bridegroom was delaying, they all got drowsy and began to sleep.

6 "But at midnight there was a shout, 'Behold, the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.'

7 "Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps.

8 "The foolish said to the prudent, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.'

9 "But the prudent answered, 'No, there will not be enough for us and you too; go instead to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.'

10 "And while they were going away to make the purchase, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding feast; and the door was shut.

11 "Later the other virgins also came, saying, 'Lord, lord, open up for us.'

12 "But he answered, 'Truly I say to you, I do not know you.'

13 "Be on the alert then, for you do not know the day nor the hour. NASU

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(Eph 1:13, Rev 1:10,12-13, 1Cor 1:4-8)

**Rapture**. **Jesus promised to return for us.**

John 14:1-3

1 "Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me.

2 "In My Father's house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you.

3 "If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, there you may be also. NASU

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1Thess 4:13-18

13 But we do not want you to be uninformed, brethren, about those who are asleep, so that you will not grieve as do the rest who have no hope.

14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who have fallen asleep in Jesus.

15 For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep.

16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first.

17 Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord.

18 Therefore comfort one another with these words.NASU

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1Cor 15:51-52

51 Behold, I tell you a mystery; we will not all sleep, but we will all be changed,

52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet; for the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. NASU

* **How will we be changed?**

We will all be given glorified bodies.

(1 John 3:2, Phil 3:20-21)

* **When does the Rapture occur?**

Romans 11:25 indicates that the Rapture of the Church will occur when the fullness of the Gentiles has come in.

This means that there is a specific number of Gentiles that must accept Jesus before the church is completed. Only when this number is reached will the rapture occur.

* **What is the reason for the Rapture?**

To protect the bride of Christ from the wrath of the Tribulation Period.

(1Thess 5:9-10, 1Thess 1:10, Rev 3:10-11)

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(John 14:2, Matt 24:15-22, Matt 23:39, Matt 25:31)

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* **The Bema Seat**

2Cor 5:10

10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat (Bema Seat) of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad. NASU

What does “good or bad” mean?

The Greek word “good” is “Agathon” which means “of benefit” or “worthy”.

The Greek word for “bad” is “Faulon” which means “flawed” or “unworthy”.

You and I will be rewarded for deeds that we have done on earth that are either worthy of a reward or unworthy of a reward.

1Cor 3:1-17

1 And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to spiritual men, but as to men of flesh, as to infants in Christ.

2 I gave you milk to drink, not solid food; for you were not yet able to receive it. Indeed, even now you are not yet able,

3 for you are still fleshly. For since there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not fleshly, and are you not walking like mere men?

4 For when one says, "I am of Paul," and another, "I am of Apollos," are you not mere men?

5 What then is Apollos? And what is Paul? Servants through whom you believed, even as the Lord gave opportunity to each one.

6 I planted, Apollos watered, but God was causing the growth.

7 So then neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but God who causes the growth.

8 Now he who plants and he who waters are one; but each will receive his own reward according to his own labor.

9 For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building.

10 According to the grace of God which was given to me, like a wise master builder I laid a foundation, and another is building on it. But each man must be careful how he builds on it.

11 For no man can lay a foundation other than the one which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

12 Now if any man builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw,

13 each man's work will become evident; for the day will show it because it is to be revealed with fire, and the fire itself will test the quality of each man's work.

14 If any man's work which he has built on it remains, he will receive a reward.

15 If any man's work is burned up, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.

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Rev 20:11-15

11 Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat upon it, from whose presence earth and heaven fled away, and no place was found for them.

12 And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and books were opened; and another book was opened, which is the book of life; and the dead were judged (condemned or punished) from the things which were written in the books, according to their deeds.

13 And the sea gave up the dead which were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead which were in them; and they were judged (condemned or punished) , every one of them according to their deeds.

14 Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire.

15 And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

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**Crown of Righteousness.**

For those that love His appearing. (2Tim. 4:8)

**Crown of Life.**

For those that love God and remain faithful until death (James 1:12, Rev. 2:10)

**Crown of Rejoicing**

For those that witness and share their faith (1Thes. 2:10-20)

**Incorruptible Crown**

 For those that live a disciplined life on earth. (1Cor. 9:24-27)

 **Crown of Glory.**

For those that serve God’s people. (1Peter 5:2-4)

1 Peter 5:1-4

1 Therefore, I exhort the elders among you, as your fellow elder and witness of the sufferings of Christ, and a partaker also of the glory that is to be revealed,

2 shepherd the flock of God among you, exercising oversight not under compulsion, but voluntarily, according to the will of God; and not for sordid gain, but with eagerness;

3 nor yet as lording it over those allotted to your charge, but proving to be examples to the flock.

4 And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory.

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**Rev 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.**

**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.**

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(Ezek 1:26-28)

**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 24 elders**.

1) **They are sitting.** This suggests that their work is finished.

2) **They are clothed in white garments**. This speaks of their righteousness in Christ. It also suggests that their resurrection is complete.

1. **They have gold crowns on their heads**. The word used here for crown is stefanous. A stefanous is a crown awarded to someone that has won a contest. This suggests that they have fought a battle and have been judged and then rewarded.
2. **There are 24 of them**. In 1Chronicles 24 we read that the priests of the tabernacle were divided up into 24 groups. Each group was to serve in the tabernacle for 2 weeks per year. These 24 groups of priests represented the entire nation of Israel.

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**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.**

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**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,**

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**What do the 4 Living Creatures do? They appear to be the worship leaders in heaven.**

**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."

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Holy – hagios. sacred, morally blameless or pure. They say it 3times

Lord – kuios. Supreme Authority

God – theos. The Supreme Divinity

Almighty – pantokrator. The All Ruling

**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),**

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**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."**

The 4 Living Creatures worshipped God for **who he is**, now, the 24 Elders worship the Lord for **what He has done**.

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(Rev 7:11, Rev 11:16)