

“The Throne Room of God” Revelation 4:1-11

Last Sunday: The Study of Laodicea, the Church of the Lukewarm

Today: The second vision begins: the Throne Room of God (Chapters 4 and 5).

Outline:

- John in the Throne Room of God (4:1-7)
- Worship in the Throne Room of God (4:8-11)

Worship – To ascribe *worth* to something. The term is used in two ways for believers:

1. **Generally:** All of life is worship.
 - a. “Using all I am and all I have to praise God for all He is and all He does.”
 - b. Ps. 115:1, “Not to us O LORD, not to us, but to your name give glory...”
2. **Specifically:** “Active, verbal, and most times done with music” –James MacDonald. (The Psalms)
 - a. *I don’t have a good voice...*
 - b. *I don’t like to sing...*
 - c. *That worship doesn’t do much for me...*

4:2/ “...behold, a throne stood in heaven, with one seated on the throne.”

1. God is sovereign.

- Greg Beale, “Regardless of how rampant evil seems to run and to cause God’s people to suffer, they can know that His hand superintends everything for their good and His glory.”
- David Guzik, “The believer *glories* in the sovereignty of God, because he knows that God’s sovereignty is *on his side*. It means that no good purpose of God relating to the believer will ever be left undone.”

4:3/ “And he who sat there had the appearance of jasper and carnelian,...”

2. God is incomprehensible

- Rom. 11:33, “Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and how *inscrutable* His ways!”
(*Not able to trace the steps of)

4:4/ “...and seated on the thrones were twenty-four elders,...” – Symbolism?

- Angels. Col. 1:16 speaks of angels and the first type are called “thrones.”
- Humans. Representative of redeemed mankind: twelve tribes and twelve apostles

4:5/ “From the throne came flashes of lightning, and rumblings and peals of thunder,...”

3. God is awesome

4:6-7/ “Four living creatures” – Which is the correct symbolism?

1. Four attributes of God:
 - a. A lion: King of the beasts, denoting God’s strength.
 - b. An ox (or calf): Domesticated animal. God serves His creation.
 - c. A face like a man: A picture of God’s intellect.
 - d. An eagle in flight: God’s sovereignty (the symbol of Rome; for the Jews? Is. 40:31.)
2. Four orders of created beings worshipping God and under God’s sovereignty:
Lion (wild animals), ox (tame animals), eagle (free animals), man (master of the animals).

3. Four accounts of the gospels:
 - a. Matthew: King of the Jews (lion)
 - b. Mark: Servant (ox)
 - c. Luke: Son of Man (face like a man)
 - d. John: Son of God (an eagle in flight)

4:8/ “Holy, holy, holy,…”

4. God is holy

4:11/ “Worthy are you, our Lord and God,…”

5. God is worthy

God the Creator is sovereign, incomprehensible, awesome, holy, worthy.
Man the Created is a...worshipper.