

REVELATION

How To Read Revelation Responsibly?

THE BLESSING

Revelation 1:3

Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear the words of this prophecy and keep what is written in it, because the time is near.

THE 4 VIEWS

- **PRETERIST - MOST PROPHECIES IN THE BOOK OF REVELATION WERE FULFILLED DURING THE TIME OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE.**
- **HISTORICIST. THE PROPHECIES HAVE BEEN FULFILLED THROUGHOUT HISTORY AND ARE STILL BEING FULFILLED TODAY.**
- **FUTURIST. MOST PROPHECIES BEYOND REVELATION 3 ARE YET TO BE FULFILLED.**
- **SPIRITUAL (OR SYMBOLIC OR IDEALIST). MOST PROPHECIES PORTRAY THE ONGOING COSMIC CONFLICT OF SPIRITUAL REALITIES AND MAY HAVE MANY FULFILLMENTS THROUGHOUT HISTORY.**

CH. 4 THRONE

1 After this I looked, and there in heaven was an open door. The first voice that I had heard speaking to me like a trumpet said, “Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this.”

2 Immediately I was in the Spirit, and there was a throne in heaven and someone was seated on it. **3** The one seated there had the appearance of jasper and carnelian stone. A rainbow that had the appearance of an emerald surrounded the throne.

4 Around the throne were twenty-four thrones (Rev 21:12-14), and on the thrones sat twenty-four elders dressed in white clothes, with golden crowns on their heads.

CH. 4 CREATURES

5 Flashes of lightning and rumblings and peals of thunder came from the throne. Seven fiery torches were burning before the throne, which are the seven spirits of God. **6** Something like a sea of glass, similar to crystal, was also before the throne.

Four living creatures covered with eyes in front and in back were around the throne on each side. **7** The first living creature was like a lion; the second living creature was like an ox; the third living creature had a face like a man; and the fourth living creature was like a flying eagle. **8** Each of the four living creatures had six wings; they were covered with eyes around and inside. Day and night they never stop, saying,

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God, the Almighty, who was, who is, and who is to come.

(Isaiah 6, Ezekiel 1, Daniel 7)

HEAVENLY HOST

The expressions "principalities" and "powers" seem to be used of all angels whether fallen or holy (Luke 21:26; Romans 8:38; Ephesians 1:21; 3:10; Colossians 1:16; 2:10, 15; 1 Peter 3:22).

Cherubim, which are living creatures who defend God's holiness from any defilement of sin (Genesis 3:24; Exodus 25:18, 20).

Seraphim are another class of angels, mentioned only once in Scripture in Isaiah 6:2-7, and are described as having three pairs of wings. They apparently have the function of praising God, being God's messengers to earth, and are especially concerned with the holiness of God.

CH. 4 WORSHIP

9 Whenever the living creatures give glory, honor, and thanks to the one seated on the throne, the one who lives forever and ever, **10** the twenty-four elders fall down before the one seated on the throne and worship the one who lives forever and ever. They cast their crowns before the throne and say,
11 Our Lord and God,
you are worthy to receive
glory and honor and power,
because you have created all things,
and by your will they exist and were created.

CH. 5 WHO IS WORTHY?

1 Then I saw in the right hand of the one seated on the throne a scroll with writing on both sides, sealed with seven seals. **2** I also saw a mighty angel proclaiming with a loud voice, “Who is worthy to open the scroll and break its seals?” **3** But no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll or even to look in it. **4** I wept and wept because no one was found worthy to open the scroll or even to look in it.

5 Then one of the elders said to me, “Do not weep. Look, the Lion from the tribe of Judah (Gen.49:9), the Root of David (Isa 11:1), has conquered so that he is able to open the scroll and its seven seals.”

6 Then I saw one like a slaughtered lamb standing in the midst of the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders. He had seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent into all the earth. **7** He went and took the scroll out of the right hand of the one seated on the throne.

THE LAMB

John 1:29 - The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"

Genesis 22:7 - And Isaac said to his father Abraham, "My father!" And he said, "Here am I, my son." He said, "Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?"

Exodus 12:5 - Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male a year old. You may take it from the sheep or from the goats,



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