

# Revelation

Lesson 5

Chapter 4

# Visions

- ◆ In Jewish and Christian apocalyptic literature, revelations are mediated to the human recipient in one of two ways.
  1. The first way is through dreams, visions, or direct discourse with otherworldly beings.
  2. The second way in which revelations are disclosed is through otherworldly journeys, sometimes called “rapture” experiences.

# Revelations 4:4

24 Seated Elders with White Raiment & Crowns of Gold



# Transition

- ◆ This section deals with revelation that is not targeted to one geographic location like the first that was targeted to Asia Minor.
- ◆ Multiple Visions - Throne Room, the Seven Seals, the Seven Trumpets, the Great Red Dragon, the Two Beasts, the Seven Bowl Plagues, the Fall of Babylon, the Triumphant Christ and the New Jerusalem.

# Painting

- ◆ In the same way that focusing on the detail of a painting can obscure the whole picture we must be careful.

# Heavenly Throne

- ◆ 4-5
- ◆ 7:9-17
- ◆ 11:15-19
- ◆ 19:4-8
- ◆ 20:11-15
- ◆ 22:3)

# Assurance

- ◆ The Throne of Heaven is not empty.

# Crisis that Confronted Audience

- ◆ “[The] experience of harassment, persecution, and hostility challenged Christians’ faith in Christ as Lord. Their experience of hunger, deprivation, pestilence, and war undermined their belief in God’s good creation and providence. Christians experienced painfully that their situation in no way substantiated their faith conviction that they already participated in Christ’s kingship and power.”



# Revelation Chapter 4:1

- ◆ <sup>1</sup> After these things I looked, and behold and there in heaven was a door that had been opened, and the first voice which I heard speaking as a trumpet to me, saying; "Come up here, and I will show you what must happen after these things."

# Revelation 4:2-3

- ◆ <sup>2</sup> Immediately, I came to be in the spirit, and behold a throne stood in heaven and upon the throne someone was seated, <sup>3</sup> and the one seated was like in appearance to a jasper stone and carnelian, and a rainbow all around the throne looking like it is made of emerald.

# Ezekiel 1

- ◆ <sup>1:4</sup> As I looked, a stormy wind came out of the north: a great cloud with brightness around it and fire flashing forth continually, and in the middle of the fire, something like gleaming amber. <sup>5</sup> In the middle of it was something like four living creatures. This was their appearance: they were of human form. <sup>6</sup> Each had four faces, and each of them had four wings. <sup>7</sup> Their legs were straight, and the soles of their feet were like the sole of a calf's foot; and they sparkled like burnished bronze. <sup>8</sup> Under their wings on their four sides they had human hands. And the four had their faces and their wings thus: <sup>9</sup> their wings touched one another; each of them moved straight ahead, without turning as they moved. <sup>10</sup> As for the appearance of their faces: the four had the face of a human being, the face of a lion on the right side, the face of an ox on the left side, and the face of an eagle; <sup>11</sup> such were their faces. Their wings were spread out above; each creature had two wings, each of which touched the wing of another, while two covered their bodies. <sup>12</sup> Each moved straight ahead; wherever the spirit would go, they went, without turning as they went. <sup>13</sup> In the middle of the living creatures there was something that looked like burning coals of fire, like torches moving to and fro among the living creatures; the fire was bright, and lightning issued from the fire. <sup>14</sup> The living creatures darted to and fro, like a flash of lightning.

# Revelation 4:4-5

- ◆ <sup>4</sup> And around the throne are twenty-four thrones, and upon the thrones twenty-four elders were seated having been clothed in white cloaks and upon their heads golden crowns. <sup>5</sup> And lightening coming out of the throne and sounds and thunder, and seven lamps of fire burn before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God.

# Revelation 4:6-7

- ◆ <sup>6</sup> And before the throne was a sea made of glass like crystal (κρυστάλλω ice). And in the midst of the throne and around the throne were four living beings full of eyes in front and in back. <sup>7</sup> And the first living being was like a lion and the second living being was like a calf and the third living being having the face as of man and the fourth living being like a flying eagle.

# Revelation 4:8-9

- ◆ <sup>8</sup> And the four living beings, each one had six wings, they are full of eyes all around and inside, and they never rest day or night saying: "Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord God, the almighty, who was and who is and who is coming. <sup>9</sup> And whenever the four living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to the one seated upon the throne, the living one, who lives for ever and ever,

# Revelation 4:10

- ◆ <sup>10</sup> the twenty four elders will fall before the one sitting upon the throne and they will worship the one living forever and ever and they will cast their crowns before the throne saying: <sup>11</sup>  
“Worthy are you, the Lord and our God, to receive the glory and the honor and the power, because you created all things and by your will they existed and were created.”