

Revelation Study ~ Chapter 4 Part 2

Revelation 4:6b-11 ~ Before the Throne of Heaven (Part 2)

In this second section of chapter four, we encounter one more group of creatures that present an interesting picture. The imagery is startling and many have concluded that this is still metaphorical in nature, that is, the account is meant to convey John's impression of these creatures rather than a visual description.

What impressions can be made from each of the descriptions?

1. Like a lion -
2. Like an ox -
3. Like a man -
4. Like an eagle -

For further reading of these creatures, read Ezekiel chapters 1 and 10.

Another description is given of all four of the living creatures - that they had six wings and also were covered with eyes.

Speculate: what is the significance of their wings?

And also, the meaning of them being "full of eyes?"

The living creatures have a perpetual ministry of declaring the praise of God Almighty. In their proclamation they make two distinct statements.

What can be understood from these two pronouncements?

1. Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty -
2. Who was and is and is to come -

Why is the term "holy" mentioned three times?

The next activity that happens around the throne of God Almighty is the worship of the twenty-four elders. Whenever the living creatures give glory, honor and thanks to the One who lives forever and ever, the elders fall down before the Lord and offer their crowns before the throne.

Three actions are taken by the elders. Speculate their importance.

1. **Fall down -**
2. **Worship -**
3. **Cast their Crowns -**

The closing of chapter four is the proclamation of praise from the twenty-four elders around the throne of God. Their statement of praise for God Almighty will be viewed with two different considerations: their **recognition** and their **reason**.

1. **Their Recognition: "Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power."**

What does it mean to be "worthy?"

How do you define:

- **Glory**
- **Honor**
- **Power**

2. **Their Reason: "For you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created."**

Why is it significant that God is recognized as "creator?"

What is the importance of knowing that God created all things by His "will?"

Key Words:

Living Creature - (Greek: "zoa/zoon") meaning: "an animal or living creature"

Worship - (Greek: "proskunesousin") meaning: "to prostrate or to kiss in homage"

Worthy - (Greek: "axios") meaning: "deserving, suitable, praise-worthy"