

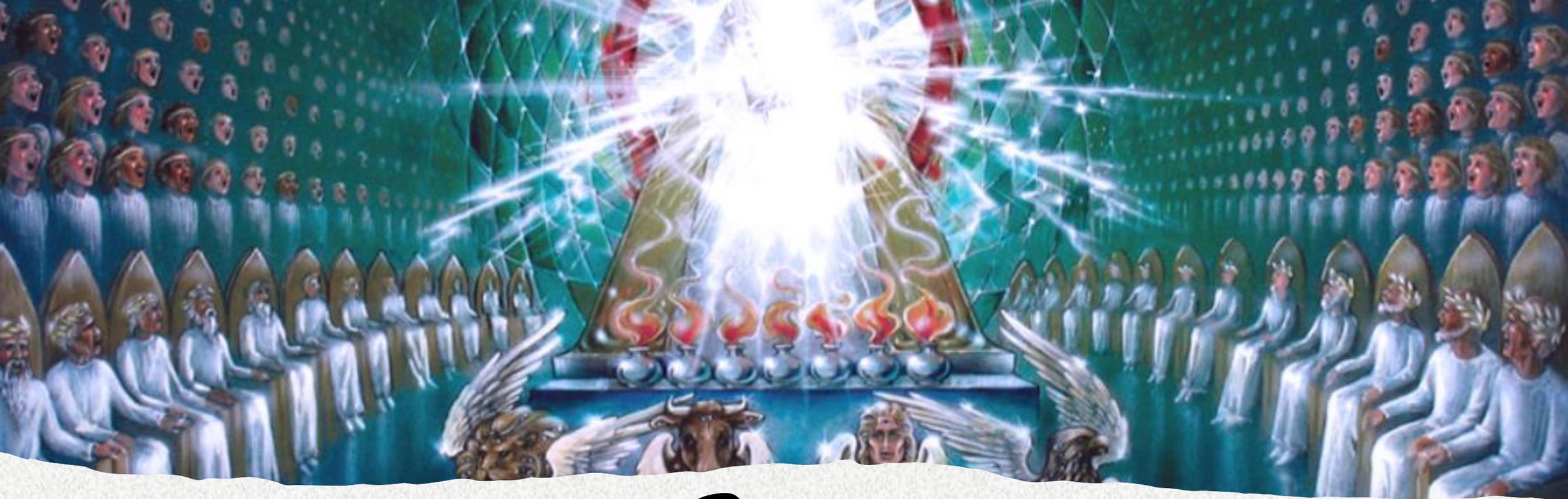
# Revelation 4

The Things That Will Be  
— The Christian's Unbelievable Destination —



# Opening Questions

- In your own words, what is heaven like?
- What are some common misperceptions about heaven?
- Does the thought of heaven scare you, or excite you?



- Does this match your thoughts?

1 After this I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven! And the first voice, which 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 At once I was in the Spirit, and behold, a throne stood in heaven, with one seated on the throne.

3 And he who sat there had the appearance of jasper and carnelian, and around the throne was a rainbow that had the appearance of an emerald. 4 Around the throne were twenty-four thrones, and seated on the thrones were twenty-four elders, clothed in white garments, with golden crowns on their heads. 5 From the throne came flashes of lightning, and rumblings and peals of thunder, and before the throne were burning seven torches of fire, which are the seven spirits of God, 6 and before the throne there was as it were a sea of glass, like crystal.

And around the throne, on each side of the throne, are four living creatures, full of eyes in front and behind: 7 the first living creature like a lion, the second living creature like an ox, the third living creature with the face of a man, and the fourth living creature like an eagle in flight. 8 And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and within, and day and night they never cease to say,

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

**Q: How is "one seated on the throne" described?**

- He has the appearance of jasper and carnelian (like a diamond in brilliance, reflecting light in amazing colors)

**Q: Who is around the throne?**

- 24 elders – white garments and golden crowns mean they are redeemed.

**Q: Where did these redeemed come from?**

- Not Israel – not yet redeemed. They come at the end of the tribulation
- Not tribulation saints - they're not yet saved Chap 7
- Only one group left – the church

**Q: What is the floor made of?**

- Crystal-clear glass

**Q: What creatures did John see and what are they doing?**

- Four living creatures, or cherubim. Ezek. 1:4
- Face like a lion; ox; eagle;

9 And whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to him who is seated on the throne, who lives forever and ever, 10 the twenty-four elders fall down before him who is seated on the throne and worship him who lives forever and ever. They cast their crowns before the throne, saying,

11 Worthy are you, our Lord and God,  
to receive glory and honor and power,  
for you created all things,  
and by your will they existed and were created."

**Q: Why do the elders cast down their crowns?**

- They fully acknowledge God reigns and that He alone is responsible for their rewards. They rightly project Lordship and honor to where it belongs

**Q: Why replace "thanks" in v9 with "power" in v11?**

- They are referring to creation, which was a work of power.

**Q: V11 is a song sung by the living creatures. Is this the only song sung in heaven?**

- No, this song seems to be intermittent. V9 – "whenever"



---

## The Rapture

---

1 Thessalonians 4 –

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 by no means precede those who are asleep. 16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. 18 Therefore comfort one another with these words.

# Really RIP?

This is popular belief  
but not biblical



---

# Next Up

---

What Is To Be...

