

New Hope / January 16, 2022 / Revelation 4 – “A Glimpse of Heaven” (Helps us understand earth) What’s it all about? What is the meaning of life?

I. We are created for spiritual dimension, Heaven –

**4** After these things I looked, and behold, a door *standing* open in heaven. And the first voice which I heard was like a trumpet speaking with me, saying, “Come up here, and I will show you things which must take place after this.” Revelation 4:1 (NKJV)

1. *Heaven is a spiritual place, where God dwells, if we are true believers, it is our home too -*  
**20** For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, Philippians 3:20 (NKJV)

2. *They we are called up to it, yet it is actually all around us –*  
**15** And when the servant of the man of God arose early and went out, there was an army, surrounding the city with horses and chariots. And his servant said to him, “Alas, my master! What shall we do?” **16** So he answered, “Do not fear, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them.” **17** And Elisha prayed, and said, “LORD, I pray, open his eyes that he may see.” Then the LORD opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw. And behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha. 2 Kings 6:15–17 (NKJV)

3. *What we see in chapters 4 & 5, are the ALWAYS - Come up here, HEAVEN, an eternal place ... in chapters 6 thru the end of the Book we see mostly the FUTURE, at least future for John and his readers - and I will show you things which must take place after this.*

II. We are created for a relationship with the Living God –

**2** Immediately I was in the Spirit; and behold, a throne set in heaven, and *One* sat on the throne. **3** And He who sat there was like a jasper and a sardius stone in appearance; and *there was* a rainbow around the throne, in appearance like an emerald. **4** Around the throne were twenty-four thrones, and on the thrones I saw twenty-four elders sitting, clothed in white robes; and they had crowns of gold on their heads. **5** And from the throne proceeded lightnings, thunderings, and voices. Seven lamps of fire were burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God. **6** Before the throne *there was* a sea of glass, like crystal. ... Revelation 4:2–6 A (NKJV)

1. *We are subjects of God’s sovereignty - a throne set in heaven, and One sat on the throne.*  
:2

2. *We are students of God’s mystery -* **3** And He who sat there was like a jasper and a sardius stone in appearance – :3 A John 17:3

3. *We are beneficiaries of God’s grace - and there was a rainbow around the throne, in appearance like an emerald.* :3 B

4. *We are kings and priests under Him -* **4** Around the throne were twenty-four thrones, and on the thrones I saw twenty-four elders sitting, clothed in white robes; and they had crowns of gold on their heads

5. *We know, hear, fear and obey His Voice* - <sup>5</sup> **And from the throne proceeded lightnings, thunderings, and voices. :5 A**
6. *We are perfectly sanctified by His Spirit* - **Seven lamps of fire were burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God. :5 B**
7. *We are sanctified for service / worship* - <sup>6</sup> **Before the throne there was a sea of glass, like crystal. ... :6 A**

III. *We are created to serve in weakness, dependence and from a distance, we are created for adventurous glorifying of God –*

1. *The four living creatures were wonderfully designed to serve in nearness to God* -  
 ... **And in the midst of the throne, and around the throne, were four living creatures full of eyes in front and in back.**

2. *They are wonderfully fit for this nearness* -

<sup>7</sup> **The first living creature was like a lion, the second living creature like a calf, the third living creature had a face like a man, and the fourth living creature was like a flying eagle. <sup>8</sup> The four living creatures, each having six wings, were full of eyes around and within. And they do not rest day or night, saying: “Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, Who was and is and is to come!”**

3. *There is a relationship between them and us* -

<sup>9</sup> **Whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits on the throne, who lives forever and ever, the twenty-four elders fall down before Him who sits on the throne and worship Him who lives forever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying: <sup>11</sup> “You are worthy, O Lord, To receive glory and honor and power; For You created all things, And by Your will they exist and were created.” Revelation 4:6–11 (NKJV)**

4. *Yet, we do not have their strength, we serve from a distance and in weakness –*

A. *We don't see God like they do* -

<sup>12</sup> **For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known. 1 Corinthians 13:12 (NKJV)**

<sup>7</sup> **For we walk by faith, not by sight. 2 Corinthians 5:7 (NKJV)**

B. *We lack their wings, and boundless energy, but we have determination* -

<sup>7</sup> **But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us. <sup>8</sup> We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; <sup>9</sup> persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed—<sup>10</sup> always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body. <sup>11</sup> For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus' sake, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. 2 Corinthians 4:7–11 (NKJV)**

C. *Yet, while they serve with pleasure, and ease, in heaven, we serve adventurously, overcoming sin and pain, from earth* -

<sup>16</sup> **Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day. <sup>17</sup> For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, <sup>18</sup> while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal. 2 Corinthians 4:16–18 (NKJV) Genesis 28:12**

*Arnold Brewick*