

May 11, 2014

*"Mom is Great, Women are Wonderful;  
But God is Creator and King!"*

*Revelation 4:1-11*

*What's it all about Alfie? What is the meaning of Life? Is there a meaning of Life? Is there a God?*

*Are these beer questions or are they important questions?*

I. *The Bible gives us a glimpse of Heaven, a glimpse of God and a view of REALITY –*

<sup>NKJ</sup> **Revelation 4:1** After these things I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven. (Revelation 4:1 NKJ)

1. I say "a" view of reality ... though I really believe the BIBLE presents THE view of reality, because I realize there are OTHER (wrong) VIEWS:

- A. For instance, some people believe there is no Heaven, no Hell, no Devil, no angels and NO God, they do not believe in spiritual or even real MORAL things at all.
- B. Such people believe a door open in Heaven, and a throne room in Heaven is at best = imagination and at worst = a lie!

2. Yet, because I believe the Bible is TRUE, I believe Revelation 4 shows us TRUTH, spiritual and moral truth, Note the TRUTHS it present:

<sup>2</sup> **Immediately I was in the Spirit; and behold, a throne set in heaven, and One sat on the throne. (Rev 4:2 NKJ)**

- A. One sitting on a throne is God
- B. The fact He is sitting on a throne represents His sovereign power and authority; His Kingdom, His Rule -

**and there was a rainbow around the throne, in appearance like an emerald. (Rev 4:3 NKJ)**

- C. A rainbow around the throne represents the fact that God's RULE is a gracious rule

And from the throne proceeded lightnings, thunderings, and voices. (Rev 4:5 NKJ)

D. Lightnings, thunderings and voices proceeding from the throne represent the fact that God is Just, His Rule is Just and He makes this judgment known, in His Word, with His Voice and the Voices of His ministers!

**Seven lamps of fire were burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God. (Rev 4:5 NKJ)**

E. Seven lamps of fire represent all the various ministries and God glorifying activities that ENLIGHTEN US about God's THRONE, His Kingdom, His Sovereignty ---

<sup>63</sup> **"It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life. (John 6:63 NKJ)**

<sup>6</sup> **Before the throne there was a sea of glass, like crystal. (Rev 4:6 NKJ)**

F. The sea of glass represents that which cleanses us for God's service, ultimately the Blood of Jesus Christ

G. Of course the elders and the four living creatures represent the servants of God, ready to submit to and DO God's will, God's people pray –

II. *One of the Great Things we can Know, even a bit without the Bible: God is a Praise-Worthy CREATOR, Who has created many wonderful things: including Moms and Women -*

<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 4:11 NKJ)**

1. *The Four Living Creatures, created for nearness to God – and around the throne, were four living creatures full of eyes in front and in back. <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!" (Rev 4:6-8 NKJ)*

2. *Animals, like the four living creatures, have features that match their environment, according to God's will and purpose:*

- A. Polar Bears

- B. Deep Sea Fish
- C. Humming Birds

3. *God created human beings in His image –*

26 Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." 27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. 28 Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth." (Gen 1:26-28 NKJ)

and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness. (Ephesians 4:24 NKJ)

and have put on the new *man* who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him, (Colossians 3:10 NKJ)

4. *God created women with a capacity, and usually a calling to be MOTHERS, which is spelled out in detail in the Bible –*

*This is a HATED DOCTRINE TODAY –*

Kirsten Dunst (actress from the movie Spider Man) said feminine qualities that were once celebrated have "been a little undervalued" in our current society.

"We all have to get our own jobs and make our own money, but staying at home, nurturing, being the mother cooking – it's a valuable thing my mum created," she continued. "And sometimes, you need your knight in shining armor." Perhaps sensing the forthcoming deluge of negative comments, she apologized for what came next. "I'm sorry," she said. "You need a man to be a man and a woman to be a woman."

One writer, Stacey Ritzen, confirmed she hates Dunst, calling her "an insufferable person." Feminist blog Jezebel also weighed in with a report calling the actress "dumb."

*Yet, it is not only "traditional values" that are under attack, but with them our very concept of God and along with it.*

III. *Our society is pushing hard against Our God in Heaven, Who Rules –*

<sup>3</sup> Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints. <sup>4</sup> For certain men have crept in unnoticed, who long ago were marked out for this condemnation, ungodly men, who turn the grace of our God into lewdness and deny the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ. (Jude 1:3-4 NKJ)

*I know how Jude felt!*

*Feminist Theology / Rosemary Ruether*

*According to her - "Scripture and tradition are themselves codified human experience" Rosemary Ruether*

*God is not in Heaven, but she is Mother Earth, the God in Heaven is a product not only of mere HUMAN vs God but a product of MEN vs WOMAN ...*

*"We speak of a human image of the divine as the Primal Matrix, the great womb within which all things, God and humans, earth and sky, human and nonhuman beings are generated. Here the divine is not abstracted into some other world beyond this earth but is the encompassing source of life that surrounds this world and assures its continuance. This is the myth of the World Egg out of which all things arise." Rosemary Ruether*

*"Feminism represents a fundamental shift in the valuations of good and evil." Rosemary Ruether*

*Look at Genesis 1:26-28 and add to it God's Ten Commandments and Revelation 4 and you know what Ruether considers SIN! Just believing what we do about God is considered by Ruether the equivalent to rape and murder. Yet these are not Ruether's views alone. Ruether's views have spread all through our culture in popular movie Avatar, in the war against "global warming / climate change" in moves against the traditional family, in the exaltation of homosexual and lesbian relationships. It is all rebellion against our God in Heaven.*

*Arnold A. Brevick*