Revelation 4 & 5

A study of Heaven’s Throne
and the
Scroll with 7 Seals

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Relationship with Christ

• The Most Important Understanding about our Salvation:
  – We believe eternal life is a gift from God in Christ Jesus and we are justified by His grace and His faith who paid the price; death, for our transgressions

  Romans 3:21-26; 4:4-5,25; 6:23; Ephesians 2:4-10; Titus 3:4-7 (Is 53; Eze 36:25-27; John 3:3-8,16; 16:8; Rom 5:6-10; 8:1-4, 14-17; 1Cor 15:3-4,20-22; 2Cor 5:14-15,19-21; Gal 1:4; 3:13-14,26; 4:4-7; Phil 2:6-11; Col 1:13-14; Heb 8:7-12; 1Pet 1:23; 2Pet 1:3-4; 1John 2:2; 4:10)

• God “sent his angel to show his servants” the future (Rev 22:6) “Do not despise prophecies.” 1Thess 5:20
  – Purpose: To share the vital necessity of a character transforming relationship with Christ, namely the Gospel of His sacrifice for all who call Him Lord and Savior (Ps 1:1-2; Matt 20:25-28; Luke 19:17-20; John 20:21; Rom 12:2; 2Cor 3:17-18; Gal 5:22-25; Eph 5:19-21; 6:12-18; Phil 3:7-14; Col 2:6; 1Thess 5:16-23; Heb 10:25; 2Pet 2:9; 3:18; 1John 4:4)
Principles of Bible Study

• Paul’s counsel to Timothy:
  – 16 All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work. 2Tim 3:16-17 (Ps 119:105; Prov 30:5-6; Is 8:20; John 17:17; 1Thess 2:13; Heb 4:12)
  – for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit. 2Pet 1:21

• Bible versions:
  – Use versions with the closest translation to the original language
    • Recommend comparing NKJV (used here), NASB95, KJV, and ESV
  – Concordance sources: www.abibleconcordance.com; www.blueletterbible.org

• Use of Expository study methods (versus Thematic study)
  – This method explores the literal meaning of each word in Scripture and its relationship to other words in its context (exegesis)
Principles of Interpretation

- It’s important to be consistent by using the same principles, pattern, and understanding of the Book of Daniel for the prophecies in Revelation (Num 12:6; 2Chron 20:20; Joel 2:28-29; Amos 3:7; Acts 2:14-21; Rev. 12:17; 19:10; 22:8-9)

- Every word deserves careful consideration
  - “For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept, Line upon line, line upon line, Here a little, there a little.” Is 28:10,13

- Like Daniel’s visions were to Daniel, Revelation is future to John’s time
  - “…I will show you things which must take place after this.” Rev 4:1
  - “…to show His servants the things which must shortly take place.” Rev 22:6
  - “Surely the Lord God does nothing, unless He reveals His secret to His servants the prophets.” Amos 3:7 (Isaiah 42:9; Hosea 12:10)

- The historical-grammatical method of interpretation alone provides consistent meaning with the Biblical theme from Genesis to Revelation

- Much in Revelation is symbolic; identified based on context
  - Look for definitions and correlations elsewhere within Daniel and Revelation first, then the Bible as a whole; then in history

Like Daniel 2,7,8,9 & 10-12, the principle used is “repeat and enlarge”
“Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written in it; for the time is near.”

Revelation 1:3
Revelation (AD 95-96)

• The Apostle John received the Revelation visions while on Patmos
  • John was exiled in AD 95 during the reign of Emperor Domitian. His exile ended upon the accession of Emperor Nerva in AD 96.
  • Jerusalem had been destroyed 25 years earlier in AD 70
  • Revelation is written using chiastic structures: a chiasm is a repetition of similar ideas in the reverse sequence
  • Events in Revelation are built by progressive repetition adding detail like Daniel 2, 7, 8, 9, & 11-12
  • The visions were not given in chronological order
Overview

The Book of Revelation

Revelation 1-14 is mirrored...

- Rev 1:1-8  Introduction
- Rev 1:9-3:22  7 Churches
- Rev 4:1-8:1  7 Seals
- Rev 8:2-11:18  7 Trumpets
- Rev 11:19-14:20  Cosmic Controversy

...by Revelation 15-22

- Rev 22:8-17  Conclusion
- Rev 19:11-21:8  1,000 Years
- Rev 15:1-16:21  7 Plagues
- Rev 17:1-19:10  Fall of Babylon
Overview

The Book of Revelation

Revelation contains 7 Throne scenes that provide a view of the Sanctuary in Heaven:

1. Introduction of the 7 seals (Rev 4:1-5:14)
2. Introduction of the 7 trumpets (Rev 8:2-6)
3. Introduction of the cosmic controversy in Rev 12 (Rev 11:19)
4. Introduction to the 7 plagues (Rev 15)
5. Introduction to the fall of spiritual Babylon (Rev 16:17-17:3a)
6. Introduction to the Second Advent (Rev 19:1-10)
7. Introduction to the New Earth (Rev 21:5-11a)
Introduction

God’s Throne and the Worthy Lamb

• “To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne.”
  Rev 3:21
  ✓ Jesus, the land Owner in Luke 19:11-27, went to a far country to receive a kingdom. The ten servants left behind with “minas” are “Christians.”

• Revelation 4:1-5:14 describes the scene of victorious Jesus being welcomed into God’s throne room (Sanctuary) just after His resurrection with His atonement for us, accepted!

• Revelation 4 & 5 introduce a scroll with 7 seals (described in Rev 6:1-8:1), closely resembling eras and events paralleling the Olivet discourse (Matt 24-25, Mark 13, and Luke 21) Jesus gave Tuesday night before the crucifixion in response to His disciples’ question, “What shall be the sign of thy coming?”

• In Revelation 4 and 5, John is shown the majesty of God’s throne room

• Chapter 4 praises God’s creative power

• Chapter 5 celebrates the redemption provided by Jesus
Revelation 4

The Throne Room of Heaven
Revelation 4:1

• “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.’”

  – After these things: After John was shown Jesus among the 7 churches on earth in Rev 1-3, he is taken to Heaven in vision

  – “Door was opened” KJV: Implying that this door had been previously closed. This door was opened when Christ ascended back to Heaven after his resurrection, as He gained the victory for us. (Lev 17:11) An open door symbolizes knowledge for us to understand.

    • In Heaven, Jesus will receive the kingdom when He stands, then return for His faithful servants (Dan 7:13-14; 12:1; Matt 25:14-30; Luke 19:11-27; Rev 14:14-16)

  – Voice like a trumpet: In Rev 1:10 this voice is Jesus

  – Come up here: John is shown this scene from the perspective of Heaven, viewing Christ’s heavenly Sanctuary ministry (Lev 16; Dan 7:9-10,22,26; Heb 1:3; 2:16-17; 4:14-16; 8:1-6; 9:11-28; 10:19-22; Rev 14:6-7; 22:12)

  – Things which must take place after this (welcoming Jesus): John’s vision was for the future benefit of the Christian church (Rev 1:4,19)
Revelation 4:2

- “Immediately I was in the Spirit; and behold, a throne set in heaven, and One sat on the throne.”

  - In the Spirit: The onset of a vision: See similar in Rev 1:10; 17:3; 21:10
  - Throne: Denoting power and authority (Eze 1:26)
  - Set (standing NASB): The throne was already there, in the holy place located on the north, at the Table of Showbread (Is 14:13-14; Dan 7:9-10)
  - One sat: God the Father (Eze 1:26-27)
    - All 3 members of the Godhead are represented in this scene, in verses 4:2 (the Father), the Holy Spirit in 4:5; 5:6, and Jesus in 5:5-6 (Ps 136:1-3; Is 6:3; 1John 5:7-8)
    - The Godhead is also identified in Rev 1:4-5; 22:16-21 (Matt 28:19)

✓ The throne scene shows the setting for the pre-advent judgment that began at the end of the 2,300 day/year prophecy (Fall 457BC to Fall 1844) (Dan 8:13-14; 7:9-10). John was later shown the initiation of the judgment (10/22/1844) from an earthly perspective, recorded in Rev 10:1-11:2
The Tabernacle

Moses was given Exquisitely Detailed Instructions

The Tabernacle-Patterned from the Heavenly Sanctuary
Ex 25:1-9; 26:1-37; Ps 77:13; Heb 8-10

North
10 x 20 x 10 cu

Court
Ex 27:9-19
50 x 100 cu

Ex 25:10-22; Deut 10:4-5
(Ex 20; Ps 85:10; Mt 5:17; 9:13;
Jn 14:15; 1John 2:1; Rev 11:18-19)
2.5 x 1.5 cu

West
Ark with Mercy Seat and
Covering Cherubim
Containing God’s Law
Ex 25:10-22; Deut 10:4-5
(Ex 20; Ps 85:10; Mt 5:17; 9:13;
Jn 14:15; 1John 2:1; Rev 11:18-19)
2.5 x 1.5 cu

Altar of Incense
Intercessory Prayer
Ex 30:1-10
(Lk 6:12; He 7:25; Rev 8:1-4)
1 x 1 x 2 cu

South

Altar of Burnt Offering
Typifying Jesus’ Sacrifice
Ex 27:1-8
(Mt 27:35; Jn 1:29)
5 x 5 x 3 cu

5 Pillars
Ex 26:37
10 cu

Most Holy Place

Holy Place

Gold Plate

Gold Plate

7 Branched Lamp stand
Gospel Light to the World
Ex 25:31-40
(Mt 5:16; Jn 1:9; 8:12; Jn 2:3-3; Rev 1:11-13; 21:22-27)

Veil
Ex 26:31
(Mt 27:51; Mk 15:38; Lk 23:45; He 9:3)

7 Pillars
Ex 26:32
4 Pillars

1 cubit = about 18 inches

Our High Priest, Jesus, has been interceding and preforming the pre-advent judgment in the Most Holy Place compartment since the antitypical day of Atonement 10/22/1844.
(Heb 4:14; 1Tim 2:5)

Pillars
Ex 27:10-18
5 cu

10 x 20 x 10 cu

4 Pillars
Ex 26:32

Table of Showbread
God’s Word=Life
Ex 25:23-30; Lev 24:5-9
5 Pillars
Ex 26:37
1 x 2 x 1.5 cu

Laver
Ex 27:1-8
(Mt 27:35; Jn 1:29)
5 x 5 x 3 cu

1 x 2 x 1.5 cu

Baptism
(Mt 3:16; 28:19; Jn 3:3-5; 4:10; Titus 3:5)

Baptism

Gospel Light to the World
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(Mt 5:16; Jn 1:9; 8:12; Jn 2:3-3; Rev 1:11-13; 21:22-27)

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10 cu

Drawn to scale

1 x 1 x 2 cu

Most Holy Place

Holy Place

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(Mt 5:16; Jn 1:9; 8:12; Jn 2:3-3; Rev 1:11-13; 21:22-27)

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Ark with Mercy Seat and
Covering Cherubim
Containing God’s Law
Ex 25:10-22; Deut 10:4-5
(Ex 20; Ps 85:10; Mt 5:17; 9:13;
Jn 14:15; 1John 2:1; Rev 11:18-19)
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Altar of Burnt Offering
Typifying Jesus’ Sacrifice
Ex 27:1-8
(Mt 27:35; Jn 1:29)
5 x 5 x 3 cu

2.5 x 1.5 cu

Most Holy Place

Holy Place

5 Pillars
Ex 26:37
10 cu

The Plan of Salvation

South

Drawn to scale

1 cubit = about 18 inches

Pillars
Ex 27:10-18
5 cu

3/3/19
Revelation 4:3

- “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.”
  - He who sat: **God the Father**
  - Like a **Stone**: Ezekiel 28:12-15; Dan 2:34-35,45; 1Pet 2:4-8
    - Jasper: The **last** stone (transparent white or clear diamond, representing Christ’s second coming) in the high priest’s breastplate is the **first stone** in New Jerusalem’s foundation (**Benjamin**) (Ex 28:15-21; 39:8-14; Rev 21:11,18,19)
    - Sardius (Carnelian or Lapis Lazuli): The **first** stone (blood red, representing the cross) in the high priest’s breastplate (**Reuben**)
      - Literally sourced from Sardis, the 5th church era that was “dead” (Rev 3:1)
      - “Elohim” meaning, “God revealed in a people”, the perfection in Christ of the **last generation**
            - [http://overcomers.ca/blog_wpd/more%20on%20the%20sardius.htm](http://overcomers.ca/blog_wpd/more%20on%20the%20sardius.htm)
      - [http://christianshepherd.org/e_books/the_precious_stones_seen_in_the_word_of_god.pdf](http://christianshepherd.org/e_books/the_precious_stones_seen_in_the_word_of_god.pdf)
  - **✓ The stone and color order is **reversed** as John’s perspective is after Calvary**
    - Rainbow: Evokes the promise and power of **mercy** and **justice** made to Noah and all generations and that God will remember His covenant (Gen 9:8-17; Is 54:9-10; Eze 1:28; Rom 3:24-26; Rev 10:1)
Revelation 4:4a

• “Around the throne were twenty-four thrones, and on the thrones I saw twenty-four elders sitting,“
  – 24 Elders:
    • These were NOT human representatives, such as Enoch, Moses, Elijah and those raised with Jesus (Matt 27:50-53; Eph 4:8; Is 26:19; Rev 5:9-10 NASB; 7:13)
    • They are seated on “thrones” therefore are kings who sit in the heavenly council; representatives of the unfallen worlds (Job 1:6-7; 2:1-2; Rev 4:4; 5:5-6,8-10; 7:13-14; 11:16-18; 14:3; 19:4)
      – Satan represented Earth from the time he usurped Adam’s seat to the cross (John 12:31-33) (egwwritings.org, DA 833-835)
      – Jesus, the second Adam, occupies the seat since AD31 (Ps 24:7-10; Rom 5:18; 1Cor 15:22,45; Ps 8:3-5; Heb 2:5-9)

✓ The number 12 is used to represent God’s people and “24” may be a symbol for God’s people from both Old and New Testament times (Matt 19:28; Rev 21:12,14)
  – Rev 7:4-8 describes God’s end time remnant as 12x12x1000 = 144,000
  – Rev 21:17 describes the height of the wall of New Jerusalem as 144 cubits
Revelation 4:4b

• “clothed in white robes; and they had crowns of gold on their heads.”

  – White robes: White means to be forgiven (Is 1:18); it is God who provides robes (Is 61:10) of **righteousness** (Zech 3:4-5; Rev 1:14; 2:17; 3:5,18; 4:4; 6:2,11; 7:9,13-14; 14:14; 19:7-8,11,14; 20:11)

  – Crowns of gold: The Greek word used here mean “garlands” so these crowns of victory are golden olive wreaths (Rev 2:10)
Revelation 4:5

• “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.”

  – Lightnings, thunderings and voices: As when the law was given on Mt Sinai/Horeb (Ex 19:10-12,16). With Jesus coming into the scene in Rev 5:5, John is shown the setting for Jesus opening the 7 seals in Rev 6; 8:1 (1Sam 2:10; 7:10; 2Sam 22:14; Job 26:14; 37:4-5; 40:9; Ps 18:10-13; 29:3; 77:18; 104:7; John 12:29; Rev 8:5; 10:3-4; 11:19; 14:2; 16:18; 19:6) **Speed that angels work** (Eze 1:13-14,24; 3:12-13)
    • Note that the Father is our Advocate also (1John 2:1)
    • 1st of 7 thunders in Revelation (John 12:29; Rev 4:5; 6:1; 8:5; [10:3-4]; 11:19; 14:2; 16:18; 19:6)

  – 7 lamps of fire are the 7 Spirits; the Holy Spirit: “There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse, And a Branch shall grow out of his roots. The 1Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon Him, The Spirit of 2wisdom and 3understanding, The Spirit of 4counsel and 5might, The Spirit of 6knowledge and of the 7fear of the Lord.” Is 11:1-2 (John 16:13; Rev 1:4; 3:1)
    • The 7 branched lampstand had one lamp in the center, a single Stem, with three on each side
    • The 7 Spirits had not yet been sent to earth on the Day of Pentecost (Rev 5:6)
Revelation 4:6

• “Before the throne there was a sea of glass, like crystal. And in the midst of the throne, and around the throne, were four living creatures full of eyes in front and in back.”
  
  – **Sea of glass:** Located in front of God’s throne (Rev 15:2)
    
    • This was typified by the laver in front of the earthly Sanctuary (Ex 24:10; 30:17-21; 1Ki 7:23-25)
  
  – **4 living creatures around the throne:** These having 6 wings each (Rev 4:8); are the Seraphim of Isaiah 6:2-4
    
    • Ezekiel (1:5-21; 10:1-22) provides a description of another class of angels having 4 wings plus 2 hands (representing God’s guidance), each called Cherubim

✓ “They sang as it were a new song before the throne, before the four living creatures, and the elders; and no one could learn that song except the hundred and forty-four thousand who were redeemed from the earth.” Rev 14:3

– **Full of eyes:** A description of intelligence, representing the all seeing nature of God (Job 34:21; Ps 33:18; Prov 15:3; 1Pet 3:12)
Revelation 4:7

- “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.”

  ✓ The Israel camp was divided in 4 sections on each side of the Tabernacle:
    - Judah (east), Reuben (south), Ephraim (west), Dan (north) (Num 2)

  ✓ Jacob described the last days to (and about) his sons in Gen 49: Judah (lion’s cub), Reuben (firstborn, weakness of men), Ephraim (son of Joseph, heifer [Hos 10:11]), Dan (serpent, an imposter of the true God)
    - Dan is missing from the 12 tribes of Revelation 7 (the 144,000); the serpent is replaced, in stark contrast, by a flying eagle

  - Lion: Jesus; our King and defender, of the tribe of Judah (Rev 5:5)
  - Calf: Jesus; was sacrificed for our sins (Lev 4)
  - Face like a man: Jesus; took on humanity in order to be our substitute (Mark 10:45; John 10:11; Rom 5:6)
  - Flying eagle: Jesus; bore us on eagle’s wings to Himself (Ex 19:4; Ps 17:8; 91:4)

  ✓ The Living Creatures represent character attributes of Christ
Revelation 4:8

• “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!’”
  
  – 4 living creatures: Seraphim, these could be the 4 angels holding back the 4 winds of Rev 7:1, though their responsibility is to attend the throne (Is 6:2-3)
  
  – Eyes around and within: God is all seeing, throughout the day and night (Job 34:21; Ps 33:18; Prov 15:3; 1Pet 3:12)
    • A description of continuous praise and worship
  
  – Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty: Holy (3x) represents each of the 3 members of the Godhead; a praise hymn (Is 6:3; 1John 5:7-8)
  
  – Was, is, is to come: Reference to the eternal nature of God (Ex 3:14; Heb 13:8; Rev 1:4,8; 21:6; 22:13)
Revelation 4:9-11

• “9 Whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits on the throne, who lives forever and ever, 10 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: 11 ‘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.’”

– Living creatures: The 4 “beings” that always attend God’s throne (Eze 1)
– Glory, honor, thanks: Praise (Rev 5:13)
– Him who sits and lives forever: God the Father
– 24 Elders: They are seated on “thrones” therefore are kings who sit in the heavenly council; representatives of the unfallen worlds (Job 1:6-7; 2:1-2)
– Glory, honor, power: A succession of praise (Rev 5:13)
– Worship because God is Creator and Sustainer: “...Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water.” Rev 14:7 (Gen 1 & 2; Ex 20:8-11; Deut 6:13,17; 10:12-13,20; Ps 146:6-7; John 1:1-3; Col 1:16-17)
Revelation 5

The Lamb and the Scroll
Revelation 5:1

• “And I saw in the right hand of Him who sat on the throne a scroll written inside and on the back, sealed with seven seals.”
  – And: Continuing from chapter 4; one continuous vision shown John from the perspective of Heaven
  – Him: God the Father (Dan 7:9)
  – Throne: Symbol of authority; as in Rev 4:2
  – Scroll written inside and on the back: The scroll is full of evidence
    • Potentially a record of all humans that have existed; a history of the world in context of the plan of salvation; “…the vision of all…” Is 29:11-12
    • Compare “Book of Life” (Rev 13:8; 21:27)
    • Compare “Book of the Covenant” (Deut 17:18-20; 2Ki 11:12-17)
    • Compare “the judgment scroll” (Eze 2:9-3:3)
    • Compare “the flying scroll” with the same dimensions as the Tabernacle (20x10 cubits) (Zech 5:1-4)
  – Sealed with 7 seals: Implying a complete record; the seals may represent Satan’s claims over humanity
Revelation 5:2-3

• “2 Then I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, ‘Who is worthy to open the scroll and to loose its seals?’ 

3 And no one (“man” KJV) in heaven or on the earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll, or to look at it.”

   – Strong angel: High ranking angel with authority* (Rev 18:2,21)
   – Loud voice: Heard throughout the universe with no response, initially
   – Scroll [Greek, biblion]: “…the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together…” Rev 6:14
   – No one worthy in heaven, earth, under the earth: No “being” in Heaven, no human on earth, no “being” in Satan’s symbolic home (bottomless pit/abyss) responded, initially (Rev 9:1-2,11; 11:7; 17:8a)

✓ *Possibly the “strong angel” is Satan, belligerently claiming John and all humanity, as he did with Joshua the high priest in Zechariah 3:1-4
Revelation 5:4

• “So I wept much, because no one (“man” KJV) was found worthy to open and read the scroll, or to look at it.”
  – John wept much realizing that the whole human race was guilty of sin and that Satan had access to the evidence, the records of Heaven, proof of our sinfulness
    • This scene is typified by Joshua the high priest in Zechariah 3:1-4
    • Jesus, however, became fully human to destroy death itself (Heb 2:14)
Revelation 5:5

• “But one of the elders said to me, ‘Do not weep. Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has prevailed to open the scroll and to loose its seven seals.’”

  – **Elders:** They are seated on “thrones” therefore are kings who sit in the heavenly council; representatives of the unfallen worlds (Job 1:6-7; 2:1-2; Rev 4:4; 5:5-6,8-10; 7:13-14; 11:16-18; 14:3; 19:4)
  
  – **Lion of Judah:** Jesus, the Messiah (Gen 49:9; Is 11:1,10; 31:4; Hos 5:14; 11:10-11; Amos 3:8)
  
  – **Root of David:** Christ (2Ki 19:30; Is 11:1,10; Matt 1:5-6; 21:9; Lu 3:32; Rom 15:12; Rev 22:16)
  
  – **Prevailed:** Meaning “to conquer,” *dating this event* to Christ’s ascension back to heaven ten days before Pentecost, AD31 (Rev 3:21)
  
    • **Jesus** is the only one qualified as both fully divine (John 1:1,3,14), and fully man (1Tim 2:5); qualified because He never sinned (Heb 4:15)
    
    • **Jesus** redeemed us (became our substitute/atonement/propitiation) from the prince of the world, Satan (John 14:30) (Mark 10:45; John 10:11; Rom 3:25; 5:6)
    
    • **Sin,** defined by the law (Rom 7:7; 8:3; 1John 3:4; Gal 3:21), will not rise a second time (Nah 1:9)
Revelation 5:6

• “And I looked, and behold, in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as though it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent out into all the earth.”

  – **Midst of the throne:** The focal point is the Lamb (Acts 7:55; Eph 2:5-6)

  – **4 Living creatures/Elders:** Rev 4:4; 4:6; 11:16; 14:3; 15:7; 19:4

  – **Lamb that was slain:** The Lion of Judah, Jesus, died to redeem us (Is 53:5,7; John 1:29; Gal 3:13; 1Cor 1:18,23; 5:7; 15:3; 1John 1:7)

    • The crescendo of Five Hymns of Rev 4:8 (4 living creatures),11 (24 elders); 5:9-10 (4 living creatures and 24 elders),12 (100M+ angels),13 (all created beings in the universe)

  – **7 horns:** Complete strength/power (Deut 33:17; 1Sam 2:10; 2Sam 22:3; 1Ki 22:11; 2Chron 18:10; Ps 75:10; 92:10; 132:17; Eze 29:21; 34:21; Dan 7:7-8,20,24-25; Dan 8:3,6-7,20; Hab 3:4KJV; Zech 1:18-21)

  – **7 eyes/Spirits:** All seeing and knowledgeable (2Chr 16:9; Job 34:21; Ps 33:18; Prov 15:3; 1Pet 3:12; Zech 3:9; 4:2-6,10; Rev 1:4; 3:1; 4:5) (John 14:26; 15:26)

  – **Sent out into all the earth:** John was present when the “early rain” of the Holy Spirit took place (Acts 1:4-8) in the upper room at Pentecost (Acts 2:1-4)
Revelation 5:7

• “Then He came and took the scroll out of the right hand of Him who sat on the throne.”
  – **He came taking the scroll:** Jesus came to the Father after the resurrection and was given the role as **King/Judge** and **High Priest/Redeemer**, to break the 7 seals (Dan 7:13; John 7:39; Acts 2:17,32-36,38)
    • The ten day acceptance coronation of Christ in Heaven culminated on Pentecost/Feast of Weeks, **AD31** (Lev 23:15-22; Acts 1:3,8-9; 2:1-4)
    – Right hand of Him who sat on the throne: The power of God the Father (Ex 15:6; Dan 7:9-10)

✓ The “seals” are “loosed” however the scroll itself does not get opened until after the 1,000 years (Rev 20:12)
Revelation 5:8

“Now when He had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each having a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints.”

He: Jesus, the Lamb

The 24 elders and the 4 seraphim, by holding bowls of incense (for the prayers of the saints), intercede and advocate for us (Ps 141:2a; Heb 9:22; Rev 8:3-4)

Before the Lamb: Referring to the Altar of Incense located before the throne, represented by the Table of Showbread

- Two stacks of bread represent the Father and Jesus seated (Rev 3:21) on their thrones on the “…sides of the north” (Is 14:12-14)
- The “Bread of the Presence” (1Sam 21:6; Lam 4:16; Pr 7:15; 2Sam 17:11)
- The Table of Showbread has two crowns (Ex 25:23-25; 37:11-12); both the Ark of the Covenant (Ex 25:11) and the Altar of Incense (Ex 37:26) have one crown

Incense represents Jesus’ Blood of Atonement (Ms15-1897.20) egwwritings.org
Revelation 5:9-10

• “9 And they sang a new song, saying: ‘You are worthy to take the scroll, And to open its seals; For You were slain, And have redeemed us to God by Your blood Out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation, 10 And have made us kings and priests to our God; And we shall reign on the earth.’” (NKJV as well as KJV mistranslated this passage)

• “9 And they sang a new song, saying, ‘Worthy are You to take the book and to break its seals; for You were slain, and purchased for God with Your blood men from every tribe and tongue and people and nation. 10 You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to our God; and they will reign upon the earth.’” NASB

  – New song: Christ returned to Heaven after completing the promised sacrifice (Ps 98:1-9); a praise hymn (Rev 4:11; 12:7-10)
  – Break its seals: Only Jesus can break the binds of Satan (1Cor 15:51-55)
  – Redemption by Jesus’ blood: Necessary to pay the penalty for the sins of all throughout the world (1Cor 15:3; Gal 1:4; Col 1:14; 1Pet 2:24; 1John 1:7; 2:2; Rev 1:5)
    • Blood atonement necessary: Lev 17:11; Matt 26:28; Rom 3:25; Eph 1:7; Heb 2:14; 9:12,14,22
  – Kingdom (saints) and priests: (Ex 19:6; Deut 7:6; Is 61:6; 66:21; 1Pet 2:9; Rev 1:6; 20:6)
  – Reign on (literally “over”) the earth: With Christ after 1,000 years (Rev 20:1-3)
Revelation 5:11-12

• “11 Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne, the living creatures, and the elders; and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands, 12 saying with a loud voice: ‘Worthy is the Lamb who was slain To receive power and riches and wisdom, And strength and honor and glory and blessing!’”

  – Voice of many angels: Representing the 2/3’s of angels that chose to stay with God (Rev 12:4)
  – Around the throne: Similar to how Israel was encamped around the earthly tabernacle/sanctuary
  – Number “100,000,000”: Similar to the scene recorded in Daniel 7:10
  – Worthy: Jesus is uniquely able to break the seals of the scroll; to save us (Matt 28:18; Heb 2:10; 5:8-9; Rev 4:11)
  – Lamb that was slain: The Lion of Judah, Jesus, died to redeem us (Is 53:5,7; John 1:29; Gal 3:13; 1Cor 1:18,23; 5:7; 15:3)
  – To receive: 7 qualities; 1 power, 2 riches, 3 wisdom, 4 strength, 5 honor, 6 glory, 7 blessing (another praise hymn)
Revelation 5:13-14

“13 And every creature which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, I heard saying: ‘Blessing and honor and glory and power Be to Him who sits on the throne, And to the Lamb, forever and ever!’ 14 Then the four living creatures said, ‘Amen!’ And the twenty-four elders fell down and worshiped Him who lives forever and ever.”

- Every creature: This includes the wicked who will acknowledge God (Matt 23:39)
- Him who sits on the throne: The Father, who gave His Son, is to be praised also (John 10:30)
  - 4 attributes of worship acknowledgment are due the Father and the Lamb; a praise hymn (Blessing, Honor, Glory, Power) (Eph 1:20-23; Phil 2:6-11; Heb 10:12; Rev 4:9,11)
- Amen: Praise from the 4 living creatures (Cherubim) who attend the throne (Rev 4:6-8)
- Worshiped: Confirmation from the 24 representatives (elders) of the other worlds
Our Mission as the Remnant

• “Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.” (Rev 19:10)
  – The understanding of prophecy is a call to action; to share the gospel of everlasting life through a relationship with Jesus, proclaiming the 3 angels’ message of Rev 14:6-12

• “...obey God’s commandments” (Rev 12:17) and “Worship him who made the heavens, the earth, the sea and the springs of water.” (Rev 14:7)

• “…Everyone who keeps from defiling the Sabbath, And holds fast My covenant—Even them I will bring to My holy mountain, And make them joyful in My house of prayer.” (Is 56:6-7)

• “Be holy...blameless” (1Pet 1:16-19; 2Pet 3:10-14)
He who testifies to these things says, “Surely I am coming quickly.” Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus!  
Revelation 22:20
Additional Information

I am indebted to Tim Roosenberg who has studied Daniel 11-12 since the early 2000’s and has dedicated his ministry to providing people with knowledge of the times that we live through seminars and his website; http://www.islamandchristianity.org

I am also indebted to two individuals whom have dedicated their lives in a study of Revelation 17 since the late 1990’s. Their website, http://666man.net, provides significant depth on the many related Bible passages and prophecies that correlate completely to the prophecies of Daniel

For an excellent verse by verse commentary see: http://www.bibleexplained.com

For a deep perspective of how Revelation represents the spiritual fulfillment of much of the Old Testament see: Louis F. Were, The Certainty of the 3rd Angel’s Message, 1945

Ellen Gould White was a prolific author and an American Christian pioneer. Along with other Sabbatarian Adventist leaders such as Joseph Bates and her husband James White, she formed what became known as the Seventh-day Adventist Church. The Smithsonian magazine named Ellen G. White among 100 Most Significant Americans in an acknowledgement of her influence on religion. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ellen_G._White
“As the bow in the cloud is formed by the union of the sunlight and the shower, so the rainbow encircling the throne represents the combined power of mercy and justice. It is not justice alone that is to be maintained, for this would eclipse the glory of the rainbow of promise above the throne; man could see only the penalty of the law. Were there no justice, no penalty, there would be no stability to the government of God. It is the mingling of judgment and mercy that makes salvation full and complete. It is the blending of the two that leads us, as we view the world’s Redeemer and the law of Jehovah, to exclaim, “Thy gentleness hath made me great.” [Psalm 18:35.]" {Lt1f-1890.29}

“Were justice extinct, and were it possible for divine mercy to open the gates to the whole race, irrespective of character, there would be a worse condition of disaffection and rebellion in heaven than before Satan was expelled. The peace, happiness, and harmony of heaven would be broken up. The change from earth to heaven will not change men’s characters; the happiness of the redeemed in heaven results from the characters formed in this life, after the image of Christ. The saints in heaven will first have been saints on earth.” {Lt1f-1890.31}
“The One who has stood as our intercessor; who hears all penitential prayers and confessions; who is represented with a rainbow, the symbol of grace and love, encircling his head, is soon to cease his work in the heavenly sanctuary. Grace and mercy will then descend from the throne, and justice will take their place. He for whom his people have looked will assume his right,—the office of Supreme Judge.” {RH January 1, 1889, par. 1}

“As the bow in the cloud results from the union of sunshine and shower, so the bow above God’s throne represents the union of His mercy and His justice. To the sinful but repentant soul God says, Live thou; “I have found a ransom.” Job 33:24.” {Ed 115.2}
Ellen White Comments  Rev 4:4

✓ “The human race do not stand in the righteousness of character which Adam possessed at his creation. Although neglect to keep the requirements of God is sin, and the wages of sin is death, yet there is no claim made that man may have eternal life except through the obedience and righteousness of Jesus Christ, who is the representative and head of all humanity.” {ST June 11, 1894, par. 11}

✓ “Jesus humbled himself, clothing his divinity with humanity, in order that he might stand as the head and representative of the human family, and by both precept and example condemn sin in the flesh, and give the lie to Satan’s charges.” {ST January 16, 1896, par. 2}

✓ “Christ was to suffer in our behalf, standing at the head of humanity as representative of the race. He was to work out the character which every follower of His is to work out, through the provision He has made,—His infinite sacrifice, His life and death on earth.” {GH March 1, 1901, par. 4}
Ellen White Comments Rev 4:5

✓ “The holy places of the sanctuary in heaven are represented by the two apartments in the sanctuary on earth. As in vision the apostle John was granted a view of the temple of God in heaven, he beheld there “seven lamps of fire burning before the throne.” Revelation 4:5. He saw an angel “having a golden censer; and there was given unto him much incense, that he should offer it with the prayers of all saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne.” Revelation 8:3. Here the prophet was permitted to behold the first apartment of the sanctuary in heaven; and he saw there the “seven lamps of fire” and the “golden altar,” *represented by the golden candlestick* and the *altar of incense* in the sanctuary on earth.” {FLB 202.3}
Ellen White Comments  

Rev 4:6-8

✓ “The revelation given to Isaiah was of the King, the Lord of hosts, a being greater than any earthly potentate. He was seated on a throne, high and lifted up, with bright-winged seraphim on either side as a royal guard. “Each one had six wings; with twain he covered his face, and with twain he covered his feet [in token of reverence and humility], and with twain he did fly,” representing an instant execution of the Lord’s bidding. Heavenly beings stood around the throne of Omnipotence, waiting His commands, and swift in the performance of their service to the inhabitants of earth.” {BEcho September 9, 1895, par. 8}

✓ “The vision of Isaiah (6:1-5) represents the position of God’s people in the last days, when they are privileged to see by faith the work going on in the sanctuary above. Jesus is seated with His Father on the throne, high and lifted up, and all who come to God through Him will find access into the inner sanctuary. The view of the glory of God in His excellent majesty prepares the heart to humility; and the very work done for Isaiah will be done for all who humble themselves and acknowledge their sins; for the bow of promise is above the throne.” {BEcho September 9, 1895, par. 13}
“Four heavenly angels always accompanied the ark of God in all its journeyings, to guard it from all danger, and to fulfill any mission required of them in connection with the ark. Jesus the Son of God, followed by heavenly angels, went before the ark as it came to Jordan; and the waters were cut off before his presence. Christ and angels stood by the ark and the priests in the bed of the river, until all Israel had passed over Jordan. Christ and angels attended the circuit of the ark around Jericho, and finally cast down the massive walls of the city, and delivered Jericho into the hands of Israel.” {1SP 399.2}

“It is essential that every subject of the kingdom of God should be obedient to the law of Jehovah...The fact that the law is holy, just, and good is to be testified before all nations, tongues, and peoples, to worlds unfallen, to angels, seraphim, and cherubim. The principles of the law of God were wrought out in the character of Jesus Christ, and he who co-operates with Christ, becoming a partaker of the divine nature, will develop the divine character, and become an illustration of the divine law.” {RH March 9, 1897, par. 1-2}
“Listen to their voices as they sing loud hosannas and as they wave the palm branches of victory. Rich music fills heaven as their voices sing forth these words, Worthy, worthy is the Lamb that was slain and rose again forevermore. Salvation unto our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb. And the angelic host, **angels** and **archangels**, **covering cherub** and **glorious seraph**, echo back the refrain of that joyous, triumphant song, saying, Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honor, and power, and might, be unto our God for ever and ever.” {Lt71-1878.8}
“The fifth chapter of Revelation needs to be closely studied. It is of great importance to those who shall act a part in the work of God for these last days. There are some who are deceived. They do not realize what is coming on the earth. **Those who have permitted their minds to become beclouded in regard to what constitutes sin are fearfully deceived.** Unless they make a decided change they will be found wanting when God pronounces judgment upon the children of men. They have transgressed **the law** and broken the **everlasting covenant**, and they will receive according to their works.” {9T 267.1}

“**Above the throne is revealed the cross; and like a panoramic view appear the scenes of Adam’s temptation and fall, and the successive steps in the great plan of redemption.**” {GC 666.3}
– This is the opening of the scroll at the second resurrection, after 1,000 years.
“The light we have received upon the third angel’s message is the true light. The mark of the beast is exactly what it has been proclaimed to be. Not all in regard to this matter is yet understood, nor will it be understood until the unrolling of the scroll; but a most solemn work is to be accomplished in our world. The Lord’s command to His servants is: “Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and show My people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins.” Isaiah 58:1. {6T 17.1}
The Book With Seven Seals Contains the History of the World--“There in His open hand lay the book, the roll of the history of God’s providences, the prophetic history of nations and the church. Herein was contained the divine utterances, His authority, His commandments, His laws, the whole symbolic counsel of the Eternal, and the history of all ruling powers in the nations. In symbolic language was contained in that roll the influence of every nation, tongue, and people from the beginning of earth’s history to its close.” {9MR 7.2} {Lt65-1898.17}

“Thus the Jewish leaders made their choice. Their decision was registered in the book which John saw in the hand of Him that sat upon the throne, the book which no man could open. In all its vindictiveness this decision will appear before them in the day when this book is unsealed by the Lion of the tribe of Judah.” {COL 294.1}

“The Lamb of God is represented before us as “in the midst of the throne” of God. He is the great ordinance by which man and God are united and commune together. Thus men are represented as sitting in heavenly places in Christ Jesus. This is the appointed place of meeting between God and humanity.” {Ms7-1898.15}
Ellen White Comments

“His whole life was a reproof to their selfishness, and when the final test came, the test which meant obedience unto eternal life or disobedience unto eternal death, they rejected the Holy One of Israel. When they were asked to choose between Christ and Barabbas, they cried out, “Release unto us Barabbas!” Luke 23:18. And when Pilate asked, “What shall I do then with Jesus?” they cried fiercely, “Let Him be crucified.” Matthew 27:22. “Shall I crucify your King?” Pilate asked, and from the priests and rulers came the answer, “We have no king but Caesar.” John 19:15. When Pilate washed his hands, saying, “I am innocent of the blood of this just person,” the priests joined with the ignorant mob in declaring passionately, “His blood be on us, and on our children.” Matthew 27:24, 25.” {COL 293.3}

“Thus the Jewish leaders made their choice. Their decision was registered in the book which John saw in the hand of Him that sat upon the throne, the book which no man could open. In all its vindictiveness this decision will appear before them in the day when this book is unsealed by the Lion of the tribe of Judah.” {COL 294.1}
Ellen White Comments  

✓ “The Garden of Eden with its disobedience and the garden of Gethsemane with its obedience are presented before us. What a costly work was that in Eden! How much was involved in the fatal eating of the forbidden tree! But many are following in the very same footsteps, in disobedience, in breaking away from the law of God. When men selfishly enter a course of disobedience to God they go on imperceptibly. They do not calculate what the sure result will be when they enter the path of temptation, and make but feeble efforts to resist, and some make none at all. But when the scroll is unrolled, and God looks over it, He will find that He has been denied in that place, dishonored in another place; and as the roll is opened more and more, the results of unchristlike actions are revealed. The Word of God was not fed upon, therefore their actions were not the result of eating the flesh and drinking the blood of the Son of God.” {Lt69-1897.23}
Ellen White Comments  

✓ “Christ’s ascension to heaven was the signal that His followers were to receive the promised blessing. For this they were to wait before they entered upon their work. When Christ passed within the heavenly gates, He was enthroned amidst the adoration of the angels. As soon as this ceremony was completed, the Holy Spirit descended upon the disciples in rich currents, and Christ was indeed glorified, even with the glory which He had with the Father from all eternity. The Pentecostal outpouring was Heaven’s communication that the Redeemer’s inauguration was accomplished. According to His promise He had sent the Holy Spirit from heaven to His followers as a token that He had, as priest and king, received all authority in heaven and on earth, and was the Anointed One over His people.” {AA 38.3}
“The Saviour is presented before John under the symbols of “the Lion of the tribe of Judah” and of “a Lamb as it had been slain.” Revelation 5:5, 6. **These symbols represent the union of omnipotent power and self-sacrificing love.** The **Lion of Judah**, so terrible to the rejectors of His grace, will be the **Lamb of God** to the **obedient and faithful**. The pillar of fire that speaks terror and wrath to the transgressor of **God’s law** is a token of light and mercy and deliverance to those who have kept **His commandments**. The arm strong to smite the rebellious will be strong to **deliver the loyal**. Everyone who is faithful will be saved.” {AA 589.2}

“As the **Lion of Judah**, Christ will defend his chosen ones and bring them off victorious, because they accepted him as “the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.” **Christ the slain Lamb**, who was despised, rejected, the victim of Satan’s wrath, of man’s abuse and cruelty,—how tender his sympathy with his people who are in the world! And according to the infinite depths of his humiliation and sacrifice as the **Lamb of God**, will be his power and glory as the **Lion of Judah, for the deliverance of his people.**” {HM November 1, 1893, Art. B, par. 7}
Ellen White Comments  
Rev 5:6

✓ “The Lamb of God is represented before us as “in the midst of the throne” of God. [Revelation 5:6; 7:17.] He is the great ordinance by which man and God are united and commune together. Thus men are represented as sitting in heavenly places in Christ Jesus. This is the appointed place of meeting between God and humanity.” {Ms7-1898.15}
“Christ’s ascension to heaven was the signal that His followers were to receive the promised blessing. For this they were to wait before they entered upon their work. When Christ passed within the heavenly gates, He was enthroned amidst the adoration of the angels. **As soon as this ceremony was completed, the Holy Spirit descended upon the disciples in rich currents**, and Christ was indeed glorified, even with the glory which He had with the Father from all eternity. The Pentecostal outpouring was Heaven’s communication that the Redeemer’s inauguration was accomplished. **According to His promise He had sent the Holy Spirit from heaven to His followers as a token that He had, as priest and king, received all authority in heaven and on earth, and was the Anointed One over His people.**” {AA 38.3}
Ellen White Comments

“Let the families, the individual Christians, and the churches bear in mind that they are closely allied to heaven. The Lord has a special interest in His church militant here below. The angels who offer the smoke of the fragrant incense are for the praying saints. Then let the evening prayers in every family rise steadily to heaven in the cool sunset hour, speaking before God in our behalf of the merits of the blood of a crucified and risen Saviour. That blood alone is efficacious. It alone can make propitiation for our sins. It is the blood of the only begotten Son of God that is of value for us that we may draw nigh unto God, His blood alone that taketh “away the sin of the world.” Morning and evening the heavenly universe behold every household that prays, and the angel with the incense, representing the blood of the atonement, finds access to God.” {Ms15-1897.20}
“Holy angels will join in the song of the redeemed. Though they cannot sing from experimental knowledge, “He hath washed us in his own blood, and redeemed us unto God” [See Revelation 1:5; 5:9], yet they understand the great peril from which the people of God have been saved. Were they not sent to lift up for them a standard against the enemy? They can fully sympathize with the glowing ecstasy of those who have overcome by the blood of the Lamb and the word of their testimony.” {Lt79-1900.33}
“O that all could behold our precious Saviour as He is, a Saviour. Let His hand draw aside the veil which conceals His glory from our eyes. It shows Him in His high and holy place. What do we see? Our Saviour, not in a position of silence and inactivity. He is surrounded with heavenly intelligences, cherubim and seraphim, ten thousand times ten thousand of angels. All these heavenly beings have one object above all others, in which they are intensely interested—His church in a world of corruption.” {Lt89c-1897.2}
Ellen White Comments

Rev 5:12

✓ “And He is coming. Are we getting ready for Him? Are we ready so that if we shall fall asleep, we can do so with hope in Jesus Christ? Are you laboring for the salvation of your brothers and sisters? The Lifegiver is soon to come. The Lifegiver is coming to break the fetters of the tomb. He is to bring forth the captives and proclaim, “I am the resurrection, and the Life.” [Verse 25.] There stands the risen host. The last thought was of death and its pangs. The last thoughts they had were of the grave and the tomb, but now they proclaim, “O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?” [1 Corinthians 15:55.] The pangs of death was the last thing they felt. “O death, where is thy sting?” The last thing they acknowledged were the pangs of death. When they awake the pain is all gone. “O grave, where is thy victory?”” {Ms18-1894.26}
“The Feast of Tabernacles was not only commemorative but typical. It not only pointed back to the wilderness sojourn, but, as the feast of harvest, it celebrated the ingathering of the fruits of the earth, and pointed forward to the great day of final ingathering, when the Lord of the harvest shall send forth His reapers to gather the tares together in bundles for the fire, and to gather the wheat into His garner. At that time the wicked will all be destroyed. They will become “as though they had not been.” Obadiah 16. And every voice in the whole universe will unite in joyful praise to God. Says the revelator, “Every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, Blessing, and honor, and glory, and power, be unto Him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb forever and ever.” Revelation 5:13.” {PP 541.2}