

Revelation 4 and 5

The throne in heaven

4 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!”

⁹ And whenever the living creatures give glory and honour 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 honour and power,
for you created all things,
and by your will they existed and were created.”

The scroll with seven seals

5 ¹ Then I saw in the right hand of him who was seated on the throne a scroll written within and on the back, sealed with seven seals. ² And I saw a mighty angel proclaiming with a loud voice, “Who is worthy to open the scroll and break its seals?” ³ And no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll or to look into it, ⁴ and I began to weep loudly because no one was found worthy to open the scroll or to look into it. ⁵ And one of the elders said to me, “Weep no more; behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals.”

⁶ And between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders I saw a Lamb standing, as though it had been slain, with seven horns and with seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. ⁷ And he went and took the scroll

from the right hand of him who was seated on the throne. ⁸ And when he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each holding a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. ⁹ And they sang a new song, saying,

“Worthy are you to take the scroll
and to open its seals,
for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God
from every tribe and language and people and nation,
¹⁰ and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God,
and they shall reign on the earth.”

¹¹ Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands,
¹² saying with a loud voice,

“Worthy is the Lamb who was slain,
to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might
and honour and glory and blessing!”

¹³ And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, saying,

“To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb
be blessing and honour and glory and might forever and ever!”

¹⁴ And the four living creatures said, “Amen!” and the elders fell down and worshipped.

Cross References (Selected)

Matthew 25 v 31: “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne...”

Hebrews 4 v 16: Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Luke 1 v 32, 33: “He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David,
³³ and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.”

Revelation 20 v 11, 12: Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. From his presence earth and sky fled away, and no place was found for them. ¹² And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened.

Isaiah 11 v 1, 2: There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.

And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him,
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the Spirit of counsel and might,
the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord

Cross References (Selected) - Continued

Acts 2 v 3, 4: And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them.
⁴ And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Ephesians 5 v 25, 26: Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, ²⁶ that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word...

Isaiah 6 v 2: Above him stood the seraphim. Each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew.

Genesis 49 v 9: Judah is a lion's cub...

John 1 v 29: The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"

Zechariah 4 v 10: "These seven are the eyes of the Lord, which range through the whole earth."

Psalms 141 v 2: Let my prayer be counted as incense before you, and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice!

Philippians 2 v 9 to 11: Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Acts 15 v 6: The apostles and the elders were gathered together to consider this matter...

Revelation 7 v 11 to 14: ¹¹ And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹² saying, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen." ¹³ Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?" ¹⁴ I said to him, "Sir, you know." And he said to me, "These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

1 Peter 2 v 9: But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession...

Revelation 5 v 9, 10 (KJV): And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; ¹⁰ And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth...

Throne Room Angels -

Seraphim, Cherubim and Living Creatures

<i>Seraphim</i> : שֶׁרָפִיִּים = ‘burning ones’	<i>Cherubim</i> : כְּרֻבִּים = ‘angelic beings’	<i>Zoa</i> : ζῷα = ‘living creatures’
Isaiah 6 v 2, 3, 6, 7	Ezekiel 1 v 5, 6, 10, 11 Ezekiel 10 v 13 to 15 includes: <i>Ophanim</i> : אֹפָנִים = ‘wheels’	Revelation 4 v 6 to 8
<p><i>Above him stood the seraphim. Each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. ³ And one called to another and said:</i></p> <p><i>“Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!”</i></p> <p><i>⁶ Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a burning coal that he had taken with tongs from the altar. ⁷ And he touched my mouth and said: “Behold, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for.”</i></p>	<p><i>“And from the midst of it came the likeness of four living creatures. And this was their appearance: they had a human likeness, ⁶ but each had four faces, and each of them had four wings... ¹⁰ As for the likeness of their faces, each had a human face. The four had the face of a lion on the right side, the four had the face of an ox on the left side, and the four had the face of an eagle. ¹¹ Such were their faces. And their wings were spread out above. Each creature had two wings, each of which touched the wing of another, while two covered their bodies...</i></p> <p><i>“As for the wheels, they were called in my hearing “the whirling wheels.” ¹⁴ And every one had four faces: the first face was the face of the cherub, and the second face was a human face, and the third the face of a lion, and the fourth the face of an eagle. ¹⁵ And the cherubim mounted up. These were the living creatures that I saw by the Chebar canal...</i></p>	<p><i>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,</i></p> <p><i>“Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!”</i></p>
<i>Seraph</i> occurs 9 times in 7 verses in the Hebrew concordance of the King James Version of the Bible.	<i>Cherub</i> occurs 91 times in 66 verses in the Hebrew concordance of the King James Version of the Bible.	<i>Zo'on</i> occurs 23 times in 20 verses in the Hebrew concordance of the King James Version of the Bible.
<i>Seraphim</i> is also the word used for the ‘fiery serpents’ and the ‘bronze serpent’ (Numbers 21 v 6 to 9).	When Adam was driven from the Eden, the <i>cherubim</i> guarded the way to the tree of life (Genesis 3 v 24).	In Ezekiel 1, the <i>cherubim</i> are described as <i>chayot</i> : חַיִּוֹת = ‘living creatures’ (translated as ζῷα, <i>zoa</i> , in the Septuagint).
	Moses was instructed to make two golden <i>cherubim</i> with wings outstretched over the mercy seat on top of the ark of testimony (Exodus 25 v 17 to 22).	
	Satan is described as ‘an anointed guardian <i>cherub</i> ’ before his fall (Ezekiel 28 v 14 to 17).	