LOOKING INTO GLORY!

Revelation 4:1-11

INTRODUCTION: Eternity is just around the corner for each of us. Eternity is only a breath away and in just the twinkling of an eye we could be in eternity. Revelation 1:1: the word "shortly" in this verse means when these things start to happen they will happen rapidly: Matthew 24:44; 1 Corinthians 15:52. Revelation 4:1 I believe is talking about the rapture of Christ's Church! Remember the golden key to understand the book of Revelations? Revelation 1:19. Revelation 4:2; 1 Thessalonians 4:15-18; Revelation 4:1: the Church will not go through the Tribulation: 1 Thessalonians 5:9-11; Matthew 24:36-42; Luke 17:28-30; Revelation 4:2.

I. THE PERSON ON THE THRONE!

The Person on the throne is described in Revelation 4:2-3. These verses describe the glory of the One sitting on the throne! Jasper here speaks of the diamond with all its facets and beauty. The sardine stone was ruby red and speaks of the blood sacrifice of the Lord Jesus Christ. Revelation 4:3 speaks of a rainbow in a 360 degree circle the symbol of having no beginning or end and the green of the emerald speaks of eternal life. This rainbow lets us know that for the child of God the storm is over when we see this. The throne speaks of both the glory and the grace of our God! Revelation 4:5: although the storm is over for the child of God there is a storm brewing for those left behind on the earth.

II. THE PERSONS BEFORE THE THRONE!

We now see the persons before the throne: Revelation 4:4. These are not angels because these twenty-four elders sit on thrones, they wear crowns, and they sing. Revelation 5:8-9. These twenty-four elders have been redeemed: Revelation 5:9-10. They have crowns upon their heads: 2 Timothy 4:7-8; Revelation 1:5-6. These twenty-four elders represent all the redeemed of the Lord.

III. THE PRAISE AROUND THE THRONE!

Now let's look at the praise around the throne. Revelation 4:4-5: This means the perfection of the Holy Spirit. Remember we are looking not into a temple made by hands here but the true temple of God in heaven. Remember that the primary work of the Holy Spirit is to bring glory and honor to the Lord Jesus Christ. Isaiah 4:4; Revelation 4:6: this sea of glass is representative of the Word of God not now used for cleansing but it's permanence in heaven: Psalm 119:89. So the Word of God that once was used to cleanse us is now the basis and the foundation for all eternity. Revelation 4:6-8: all creation grows in travail until the manifestation of the Sons of God. One day soon this whole earth is going to blossom as a rose. Why did our Lord create everything in the beginning: Revelation 4:11. This world was created by our Lord Jesus Christ. This world is sustained by our Lord Jesus Christ. Our God is not finished! He is on the throne but He is coming back and will rule and reign on this earth for one thousand years and then on into eternity! Revelation 4:9-11; Matthew 24:44.