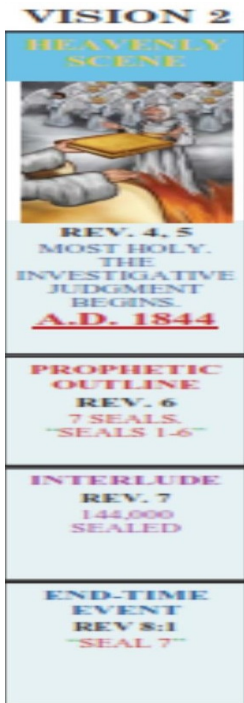


Daniel & Revelation End-time Prophecies Sermon Series
Study #33: Four Beasts In The Throne Room!
Revelation 4
Bible Sermon Study Notes by Cary Rodgers, pastor



Vision 1 began in Heaven in the Holy place. Revelation chapters 4 and 5 John sees the beginning of a new Vision, vision 2. Vision 2 starts in Heaven, but this time John see Jesus in the Most Holy Place where the Investigative judgment begins. Following this, John sees the prophetic outline of the seven seals in Revelation 6, specifically seals 1- 6. The scene changes to give an interlude of the 144,000 in Revelation 7. Vision 2 ends with the opening of the seventh seal in Revelation 8:1, the end-time event.

After John receives the messages to the seven churches and the vision of Jesus in the Holy place in Heaven what does John see next that starts the beginning of vision 2?

Revelation 4:1

1 After this I looked, and, behold, **a door** was opened in heaven: and the first voice which I heard was as it were of **a trumpet** talking with me; which said, Come up hither, and I will shew **thee things which must be hereafter**.

Whose voice does John hear that sounds like a trumpet? Did John hear this voice in the beginning of the first vision in holy place in Heaven?

Revelation 1:9-11

9 I John, who also am your brother, and companion in tribulation, and in the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was in the isle that is called Patmos, for the word of God, and for the testimony of Jesus Christ.

10 I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a **great voice, as of a trumpet**,

11 Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last...

The same voice that sounds like a trumpet that John heard when he saw Jesus in the holy place he hears again in the beginning of the second vision.

What does Jesus tell John that he will see in this second vision?

Revelation 4:1 (last part) - Come up hither, and I will shew thee things which must be hereafter.

Jesus reveals to John that he will show him the future and prophecies that must be fulfilled before the end of time. This was similar to what God showed Daniel concerning the king Nebuchadnezzar's dream in Daniel 2.

Remember, what did Daniel tell Nebuchadnezzar about the prophetic events detailed in his dream of the great image?

Daniel 2:29, 45

29 As for thee, O king, thy thoughts came into thy mind upon thy bed, what should come to pass **hereafter**: and he that revealeth secrets maketh known to thee **what shall come to pass**.

45 Forasmuch as thou sawest that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it brake in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold; the great God hath made known to the king what shall come to pass **hereafter**: and **the dream is certain, and the interpretation thereof sure**.

Remember, Daniel and Revelation are sister prophetic books that complement each other perfectly. Jesus shows John some of the same prophetic events that Daniel saw in vision. Each prophetic scene that John and Daniel sees that are similar gives us a complete prophetic picture of the soon coming of Jesus Christ.

What door is opened in Heaven that John sees in the second vision?

In the first vision where does he see Jesus? In the holy place.

Remember in the earthly sanctuary is a miniature model of the heavenly sanctuary

What was used to divide the Holy from the MOST Holy place?

Exodus 26:33

33 And thou shalt hang up the vail under the taches, that thou mayest bring in thither within the vail the ark of the testimony: and **the vail shall divide unto you between the holy place and the most holy**.

A. Why a “divide”?

Hebrew word “divide” is *bâdal* (*baw-dal'*) means to “separate” or “distinguish”

B. Why is the word “vail” used in this context instead of curtain or hanging to describe the division between the holy and the most holy place?

The vail that separated the Holy from the Most Holy is not just a “hanging”. A “hanging” was described at the entrance or “gate” of the courtyard and the entrance or “door” of the holy place of the tabernacle.

Exodus 27:16 And for the gate of the court *shall be* an **hanging** of twenty cubits, *of* blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen, wrought with needlework: *and* their pillars *shall be* four, and their sockets four.

Exodus 26:36 And thou shalt make an **hanging** for the door of the tent, *of* blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen, wrought with needlework.

- Hebrew word for “hanging” is *mâsâk* (*maw-sawk*): a cover, - covering, curtain.
- Hebrew word for “Vail” in Exodus 26:33 to describe the separation between the holy and the most holy place is *poreketh* (*po-reh'-keth*): separatix or (the sacred) screen

What is a separatrix? In mathematics a separatrix refers to the boundary “**separating two modes of behavior**” in differential equation.

The Vail: “**separating two modes of behavior**” or TWO distinct departments (The Holy from the MOST holy place)

What made the Most Holy Place “MOST” Holy or the Holy of Holies?

Hebrews 9:3-7

- 3 And after the second veil, the tabernacle which is called the Holiest of all;
- 4 Which had the golden censer, and the ark of the covenant overlaid round about with gold, wherein was the golden pot that had manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the tables of the covenant;
- 5 And over it the cherubims of glory shadowing the mercyseat; of which we cannot now speak particularly.
- 6 Now when these things were thus ordained, the priests went always into the first tabernacle, accomplishing the service of God.
- 7 But into the second went the high priest alone once every year, not without blood, which he offered for himself, and for the errors of the people:

- A. Ark of the Covenant (inside 10 commandments, Aaron rod budded, and gold pot of manna)
- B. The Mercy seat of God (His Throne) with covering angels (cherubs)
- C. Shekinah glory (presence or dwelling place) on His throne
- D. Only High Priest permitted to enter once a year for day of Day of atonement (judgment): “the cleansing of the sanctuary”

The Veil separating the Holy from the Most Holy Place separates “two modes of behavior”

- Holy Place – Daily Services (symbolic transference of sin from the courtyard into the Holy place)
- Most Holy Place – Yearly Service – Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur) also known as a Day of Judgment and Cleansing of the Sanctuary in which the all the record of sins in the holy place are symbolically cleansed from the Holy Place.

Most Holy Place = “The Cleansing Room” because of the Day of Atonement

“The Glory Room”. The place of the Shekinah glory. Also the place where we are judged holy or unholy.

The door that John sees open while he is in the holy place is the door to the Most Holy place in heaven. Like Daniel in vision in Daniel chapter 7, John sees the throne of God and scenes of the investigative judgment in Revelation chapters 4 and 5.

What does Daniel see in the Most Holy Place in Heaven?

Daniel 7:9-10

9 I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit, whose garment was white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne was like the fiery flame, and his wheels as burning fire.

10 A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him: thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him: the judgment was set, and the books were opened.

Daniel sees God the father presiding over the investigative judgment in the Most Holy Place in which Jesus is the judge. The judgment is set and the books were opened reveals the investigative judgment taking place. The details of when it began was based on our study on Daniel 8:14, the investigative judgment started in 1844 (October 22, 1844).

What did John see next through the open door to the Most Holy Place in Heaven?

Revelation 4:2-3

2 And immediately I was in the spirit: and, behold, a throne was set in heaven, and one sat on the throne.

3 And he that sat was to look upon like a jasper and a sardine stone: and there was a rainbow round about the throne, in sight like unto an emerald.

John sees the throne room of God. As he gazes at the scene He sees God on the throne shining forth like the precious gem stones of jasper and sardine stone surrounded by a rainbow. The red in the sardine and jasper stones symbolizes blood; God the Father through His Son, Jesus Christ, spilled blood for man to save man. Around the throne John sees a rainbow that shines bright green as transparent emerald.

What is the significance of God's real rainbow?

Remember the rainbow stands as a monument of God's everlasting covenant to all of us.

Genesis 9:12-17

12 And God said, This is the token of the covenant which I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for perpetual generations:

13 I do set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be for a token of a covenant between me and the earth.

14 And it shall come to pass, when I bring a cloud over the earth, that the bow shall be seen in the cloud:

15 And I will remember my covenant, which is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall no more become a flood to destroy all flesh.

16 And the bow shall be in the cloud; and I will look upon it, that I may remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is upon the earth.

17 And God said unto Noah, This is the token of the covenant, which I have established between me and all flesh that is upon the earth.

The green emerald represents life and the rainbow represents the precious promises of God, His everlasting covenant.

Who does John see surrounding the throne of God?**Revelation 4:4**

4 And round about the throne were four and twenty seats: and upon the seats I saw four and twenty elders sitting, clothed in white raiment; and they had on their heads crowns of gold.

Who are the 24 elders clothed in white raiment with golden crowns surrounding the throne of God? We will study them in detail in our next study on Revelation chapter 5.

After John sees the 24 elders around the throne, what does John see next?**Revelation 4:5**

5 And out of the throne proceeded lightnings and thunderings and voices: and there were seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God.

With the door (vail) open between Holy and the Most Holy Place the candlestick in the Holy Place with seven lamps burning is before the throne of God. The seven lamps not only represent the seven churches that were supposed to be a light to the world according to Revelation 1:20, but they also

represent the seven spirits of God. The oil that supplies the fuel for the light of the each of the seven lamps is the Holy Spirit.

Remember is a God's favorite number of seven represents perfection, completeness, and also stands as a monument of God's everlasting covenant.

We studied the seven Spirits of God in our previous studies based on Isaiah 11:2

Isaiah 11:2

2 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 of the fear of the LORD;

The Seven Spirits

1. Spirit of the Lord
2. Spirit of Wisdom
3. Spirit of Understanding
4. Spirit of Counsel
5. Spirit of Might
6. Spirit of Knowledge
7. Spirit of the fear of the Lord

What are the lightnings, thunder, and voices that proceed from the throne of God?

This shows us that God's throne is very busy with activity to set the captive free on this sinful planet. This also depicts to us a scene of urgency in the throne room of God.

The angels in heaven who take heed of every command of God can move as quick as lightning or faster than the speed of light!

Ezekiel 1:14

14 And the living creatures (six winged angels - seraphims) ran and returned as the appearance of a flash of lightning.

Not only are the angels of heaven quick as lightning, but God's commandment is also like lightning to swiftly run throughout the earth.

Psalms 147:15

15 He sendeth forth his commandment upon earth: his word runneth very swiftly.

The thundering is the voice of the commander in chief, Jesus Christ giving His angels commands in their work to minister to humanity. The voices are the voices of angels answering to the commands of Jesus.

What else does John see in the throne room of God?

Revelation 4:6

6 And before the throne there was a sea of glass like unto crystal: and in the midst of the throne, and round about the throne, were four beasts full of eyes before and behind.

This is the same sea of glass that the saints of God who came out of great tribulation will be standing on in victory when they get to heaven!

Revelation 15:2

2 And I saw as it were a sea of glass mingled with fire: and them that had gotten the victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his mark, and over the number of his name, stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God.

What feeds the sea of glass is the water that comes from the throne of God!

Revelation 22:1

1 And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb.

This water that comes from the throne of God to feed the sea of glass is more than likely a beautiful waterfall because the throne is high and lifted up.

Isaiah 6:1

1 In the year that king Uzziah died I saw also the **Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and his train filled the temple.**

Four beasts full of eyes

At the end of Revelation 4:6 John sees four beasts full of eyes!

What is the description of these four beasts full of eyes?

Revelation 4:7-9

7 And the first beast was like a lion, and the second beast like a calf, and the third beast had a face as a man, and the fourth beast was like a flying eagle.

8 And the four beasts had each of them six wings about him; and they were full of eyes within: and they rest not day and night, saying, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come.

9 And when those beasts give glory and honour and thanks to him that sat on the throne, who liveth for ever and ever,

These beasts are not literal beast but symbolic in nature.

Remember, what do beasts in Bible prophecy in Daniel and Revelation represent?

Daniel 7:17-18

17 These great beasts, which are four, are four kings, which shall arise out of the earth.

18 But the saints of the most High shall take the kingdom, and possess the kingdom for ever, even for ever and ever.

Beast in Bible prophecy in Daniel and Revelation represent kings or kingdoms.

Jesus is the king of the everlasting kingdom! In Revelation 4:7-9 the four beasts full of eyes gives us a depiction of the character of Jesus Christ as King of kings and judge of the investigative judgment.

Why are the four beasts full of eyes? What does this symbolize as it relates to the character of Jesus?

As judge, Jesus sees all and knows all in every direction.

Proverbs 15:3

3 The eyes of the LORD are in every place, beholding the evil and the good.

Jeremiah 16:17

17 For mine eyes are upon all their ways: they are not hid from my face, neither is their iniquity hid from mine eyes.

Jeremiah 23:24

24 Can any hide himself in secret places that I shall not see him? saith the LORD. Do not I fill heaven and earth? saith the LORD.

2 Chronicles 16:9

9 For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him....

1 Peter 3:12

12 For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil.

Psalms 11:4

4 The LORD is in his holy temple, the LORD'S throne is in heaven: his eyes behold, his eyelids try, the children of men.

Hebrews 4:13

13 Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do.

All that Jesus sees as judge will be weighed in the judgment

Ecclesiastes 12:14

14 For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.

Not only were these four beasts full of eyes but they all had six wings like seraphims. They are quicker than lightning!

In Revelation 4:7 what are the four beasts that John sees like?

First was like a lion, the second was like a calf, the third was like the face of a man, and the fourth was like a flying eagle.

Each beast is a symbolic representation of Jesus the King of the everlasting kingdom.

Like a lion...

Jesus is the Lion out of the tribe of Judah according to Revelation 5:5!

Proverbs 30:30

30 A lion which is strongest among beasts, and turneth not away for any.

Like the lion who is king of the jungle, out of all the beast kingdoms described in Daniel and Revelation Jesus is the King that will destroy all earthly kingdoms. Jesus is the strongest among beasts!

Like a calf...

During the sacrificial system of the earthly sanctuary, calves (young cows less than 2 yrs old), like lambs were also used.

Leviticus 9:2-3

2 And he said unto Aaron, Take thee a young **calf** for a sin offering, and a ram for a burnt offering, without blemish, and offer them before the LORD.

3 And unto the children of Israel thou shalt speak, saying, Take ye a kid of the goats for a sin offering; and a calf and a lamb, both of the first year, without blemish, for a burnt offering;

Calf pointed to the death of Jesus for as payment for the sins of the world!

Hebrews 9:11-14

11 But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building;

12 Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.

13 For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh:

14 How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

Like the face of a man...

Jesus is fully God and fully human. He is the Emmanuel, God with us!

Matthew 1:23

23 Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.

John 1:14

14 And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

Philippians 2:5-8

5 Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:

6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:

7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:

8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

Romans 8:1-4

1 There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.

3 For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh:

4 That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

Like a flying eagle...

Eagles are the king of the birds of the air. They are swift and have very sharp vision. Jesus is depicted as a flying eagle that is active and swift with ministry of saving souls from everlasting death.

Like an eagle Jesus cares for his baby eagle chicks...

Deuteronomy 32:11-13

11 As an eagle stirreth up her nest, fluttereth over her young, spreadeth abroad her wings, taketh them, beareth them on her wings:

12 So the LORD alone did lead him, and there was no strange god with him.

13 He made him ride on the high places of the earth, that he might eat the increase of the fields; and he made him to suck honey out of the rock, and oil out of the flinty rock;

After John sees the four beasts what does he see next that end Revelation chapter 4?

Revelation 4:10-11

10 The four and twenty elders fall down before him that sat on the throne, and worship him that liveth for ever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying,

11 Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.

Who are these 24 elders around the throne of God during the investigative judgment? To be continued.

We will continue our study in the throne room of God in our next study in Revelation 5!

Appeal....

We are living in the time of judgment. Our probation will soon end... you do not know the day and hour of your personal court date when your name will come up before the courts of heaven. But know this, the court proceedings is happening now! Soon your name will go before the courts of Heaven.

Revelation 14:7 ... for the **hour of his judgment is come.**

Ecclesiastes 12:14

14 For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.