

# Bereans Bible Institute

## Module XI – Revelation

### Lesson 15 – Revelation 4:1-11

---

#### I. The Celestial Court Seated

A. Vs. 2: God is called the *Ancient of Days* (the Eternal One, in contrast to “*the Son of Man*” who is brought before Him – Dan. 7:13-14)

1. Dan. 7:9-10 Thrones “put in place,” and the Ancient of Days “was seated” imply a new situation – the convening of a trial against human government.

B. Vs. 3: The One seated was like jasper and sardine stone (shades of red)

1. A rainbow encircling the Throne like emerald (shades of green)

C. Vs. 4: Twenty-four thrones encircling God’s Throne.

1. 24 “elders” (refers to highest rank)

a. The 24 courses of the sons of Aaron had charge over the altar of incense (1 Chron. 6:49; 1 Chron. 24:1-19), as Zacharias (Luke 1:5-11)

b. The 24 elders act as priests, Rev. 5:8

c. The 24 elders are angelic beings, Rev. 8:3

d. White robes and wreaths imply holiness and victory over Satan

e. NOT the “Church” raptured to heaven

D. Vs. 5:

1. “lightening, thunders, and voices” discharged from the throne, indicate a major judgment by God about to be pronounced: Rev. 4:5 the 7 sealed scroll, Rev. 8:5 the 7 trumpets; Rev. 11:19 & Rev. 16:18 destruction of Antichrist.

2. The 7 “lamps” = the 7 “Breaths” (& 7 eyes on the Lamb, Rev. 5:6).

E. Vs. 6-8a:

1. The “glassy sea” before the throne, reservoir for the “River of Life” (Rev. 22:1)

2. The 4 Creatures: (Compare Ezekiel 1:1-28)

a. Ezek. – 4 faces & 4 wings / Rev. – 1 face ea. 6 wings

b. Ezek. 1:10 – faces: man (front, south vs. 4), lion (right, east), ox (left, west), eagle (rear, north).

c. They did not turn, the faces always kept this orientation.

3. Symbolism of the faces:

a. Eagle (north, past) preincarnate Son of God (Exod. 19:4; Deut. 32:11; Isa. 40:31); descends suddenly, and ascends higher than any bird (John 3:13).

b. Lion (east) the King reigning in His Kingdom, the rising sun illuminating the earth (Mal. 4:1-3)

c. Ox (west), the Apostolic Mission spread west (1 Kings 7:25; 1 Cor. 9:6-10).

d. Man (south) having descended from heaven (John 3:13; Eph. 4:8-11)

F. Vs. 8b-11:

1. Worship similar to Isaiah’s experience (Isa. 6:1-8)

a. Six-winged creatures called “Seraphim” (burning)

2. 24 Elders & 4 Creatures participate in responsive worship

3. Whenever the creatures WILL ... future tense implies a prophecy of the future court.

4. God is called “SOVEREIGN OVER ALL” because He created everything.