

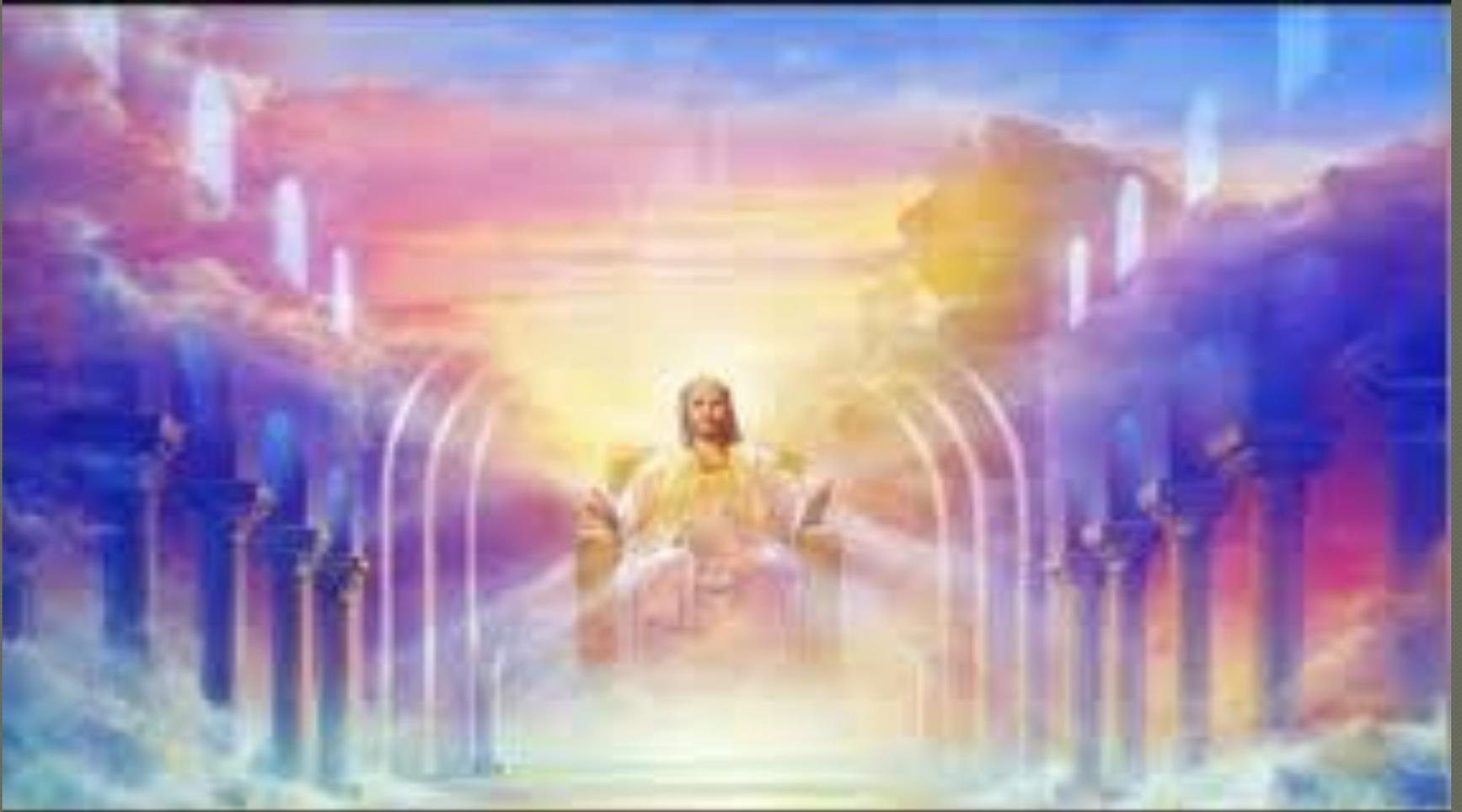
Revelation Part 2: Chapters 4-5: Christ on the Throne

Crean Lutheran High School
Chapel, May 16th, 2012

Chapters 4-5 Launch Into An Apocalyptic Vision of Heaven

- The first three chapters of Revelation are pretty straight-forward and address real churches in history, but now...
- In chapters 4-5, we find ourselves in heaven!

Heaven = Being in the Glorious Presence of the Lord Jesus Christ



So does the Bible teach that Jesus is in heaven OR with us here?

- Answer: YES! He is both in heaven and with us here on earth!
- How? Because He has the power of God.
- Matthew 18:20: two or three gathered in my name, “I am among them.”
- John 14:20: “you in me, and I in you.”
- Romans 8:34: “Christ...at the right hand of God...” = in the position of power & authority; i.e., sitting on the throne!

Christ on the Throne is Happening RIGHT NOW!



What is going on in this picture of Christ on the Throne?

- ◉ In the chapters after 4-5, Revelation is going to describe the effects of sin, death, and the devil on the earth.
- ◉ And more importantly, what God does about these to RESCUE His people!
- ◉ All of this is recorded in “a scroll” with seven seals.

The Way Scripture Was Recorded



A Scroll with SEVEN seals

- Recall SEVEN = perfection = the Word of God that God Himself must reveal to us!



At first there is great concern

- Revelation 5:3-4: “And no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll or to look into it, and I began to weep loudly because no one was found worthy to open the scroll or to look into it.”

Why the dilemma?

- Because the only one qualified to open the scroll must be someone who could face the effects of sin, death, and the devil in such a way so as not to be overwhelmed by them; and conversely have the power to overcome them!
- Only ONE qualifies!

Revelation 4:5

- “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.’”

He Who is Worthy; He Who Conquered!



In Revelation 4-5 Everyone is Worshipping This One!

The 24 Elders =

a. God's people of the Old Testament represented by the 12 tribes.

b. God's people of the New Testament (including us) represented by the 12 apostles.

$12 + 12 = 24 =$ all the people of God

Worship Around The Throne of Christ (“The Feast of Victory”)! ---



The Four Living Creatures

- Irenaeus around A.D. 170 speculated that they were the four evangelists.

Lion = John

Man = Matthew

Ox = Luke

Eagle = Mark

The predominant interpretation, however, is that these are simply angels.

The WAY Christ is worshipped is very revealing & informative

- Revelation 5:9-10: “by your blood you ransomed people for God” ...”you have made them a kingdom of priests to our God.”
- YOU who believe in Christ:
 1. Are ransomed
 2. Are priests

Ransomed Priests!

- Ransomed means that Christ paid a ransom/a price [by His blood] to buy you FROM death TO life!



Christ is on His Throne Leading You to be a Priest Too!

"BUT YOU ARE A CHOSEN GENERATION,
A ROYAL PRIESTHOOD,
A HOLY NATION,
HIS OWN SPECIAL PEOPLE."
(1 PETER 2:9)



A Priest

- ◉ Lives between God and their neighbor...
 1. They talk to God about their neighbor =
IN PRAYER
 2. They talk to their neighbor about God =
IN WITNESS

Since Christ Is Enthroned In Power...

- ◉ Jesus = has 100% the power!
- ◉ The Devil = has 0% of the power!
- ◉ So Revelation also reveals...

Revelation 12:8-9: “[the devil] was defeated...and thrown down.”

Revelation 20:2: “[the devil] bound...for a thousand years.”

As a result, you may successfully
resist the evil one!

- James 4:7: “Resist the devil,
and he will flee from you.”
- How are you able to do
that? Answer: Christ on the
Throne!