

# BOOK OF REVELATION – REVELATION 4: 1-11

## THE THINGS SEEN AND ARE AND WHAT SHALL TAKE PLACE

By Kevin E. Hughes

**John's Call to Heaven, to show Him what must take place, 4:1**

**Working Outline > Read Revelation 4:1** (Paragraphs ¶ from NAS Bible)

**Revelation 4:1**

- I. 1 After these things 1:1, 1:19, 4:1d,
  - A. I (John) looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven, 19:11, Ezek 1:1,
  - B. and the first voice (Son of Man) which I (John) had heard, 1:10, 1:12
    - 1. (Voice) like the sound of a trumpet speaking with me, 1:10, 1:12
    - 2. said, "Come up here (heaven), 11:12,
    - 3. and I (Son of Man) will show you
      - a. what must take place 1:1, 1:19, 22:6, Mt 24:6, Lk 21:9
        - i. after these things (after this)." 4:1a, 1:19, 22:6

**After "these things", Rev 4:1a**

**Q1:** WHAT are "these things" that John is speaking of, in verse 4:1a ?

**A:** John is speaking of all that he had heard and saw up to this point in time, Rev 1:1-Rev 3:22

**First > He saw the Vision of the Son of Man who spoke to him, in Rev 1:9-11**

**Second > He heard what the Son of Man had to say to the 7 Churches, in Rev 2:1-Rev 3:22**

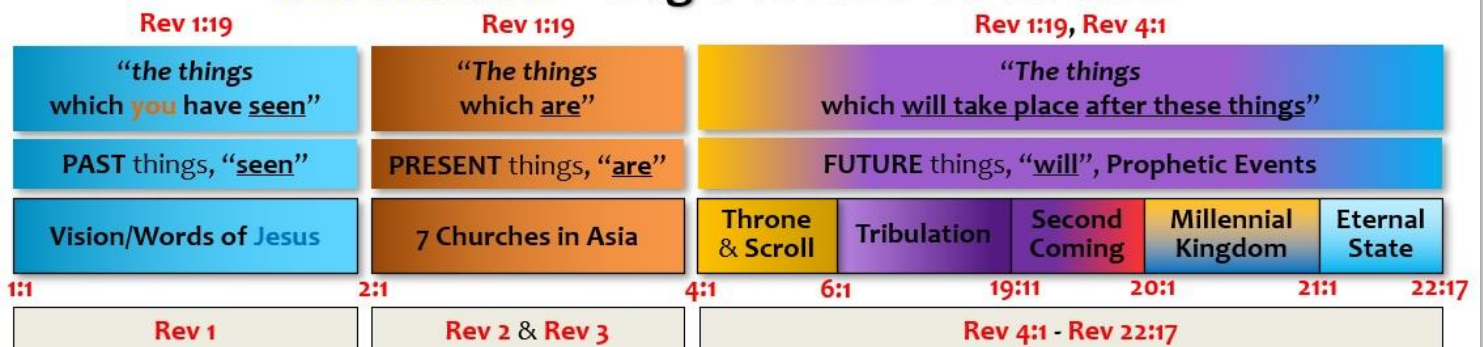
This means,

"these things" are "the things which you (John) have seen" > the Vision of the Son of Man, in Rev 1:9-11

"these things" are "the things which are" > the 7 Churches in the first century, in Rev 2:1-Rev 3:22

"these things" are "After these things" OR after the Vision of the Son of Man and after the 7 Churches.

### Revelation - Big Picture of Events



**Q2:** WHO was "the first voice (Son of Man) which I (John) had heard" "like a trumpet", in verse 4:1b ?

**Read Rev 1:10-13**

**A:** John said, "... I heard behind me a loud voice like the sound of a trumpet", Rev 1:10

John said, "Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking with me..." Rev 1:12

The first voice John heard, Rev 4:1, was the Son of Man, Rev 1:13, and He began speaking in Rev 1:17

Then John was told by the Son of Man, "Come up here", meaning come up to "heaven", 4:2

So John came from Earth to Heaven. This was the first of about 14 Visions in Heaven

John was told to come up to "heaven", so that the Son of Man could show John:

what must take place after these things OR after the Vision of the Son of Man and after the 7 Churches.

**Q3:** WHAT are the things that “must take place”, in **verse 4:1d** ?

**Read** Rev 1:1, 1:19, 22:6

“The Revelation of **Jesus Christ**, which **God** gave **Him** (**Jesus**) to show to **His bond-servants**, the things which must soon take place” ..., Rev 1:1

“Therefore write the things which **you** (**John**) have seen, and the things which are, and the things which will take place after these things. Rev 1:19

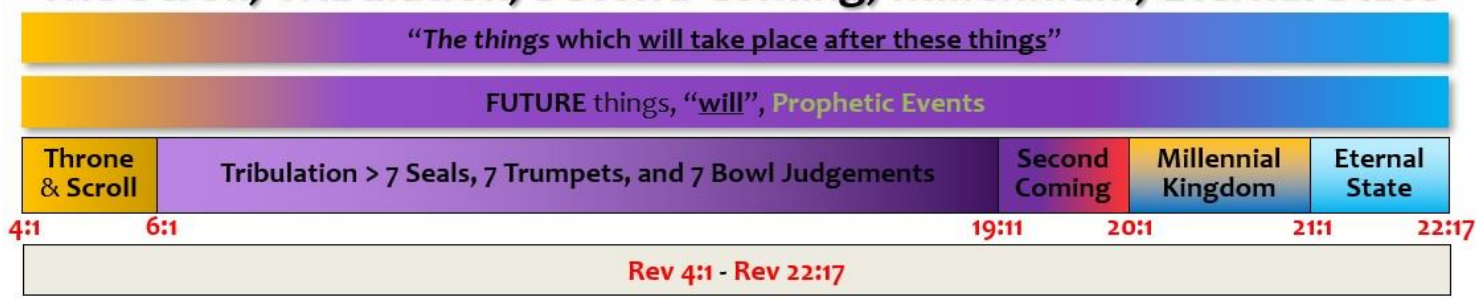
... “and **the Lord**, the **God** of the spirits of the **prophets**, sent **His** angel (**Jesus**) to show to **His bond-servants** the things which must soon take place”, Rev 22:6

**Q4:** WHAT are the things that “must take place” “after these things”, in **verse 4:1d** ?

The things after (future) these things (after this, ESV) refers to:

The **Throne**, the **Scroll**, and the **Tribulation Period** or **Judgments** of **God**, and the **2<sup>nd</sup> Coming**, in Rev 4:1–19:21 and the **1000 year Millennium**, the **New Heavens** and **Earth**, and the **New Jerusalem**, Rev 20:1-22:17

## The Scroll, Tribulation, Second Coming, Millennium, Eternal State



### The Throne in Heaven, 4:2-3

**Working Outline** > **Read Revelation 4:2-3** (Portion of Paragraph ¶ from NAS Bible)

#### Revelation 4:2-3

- I. 2 Immediately I (**John**) was in **the Spirit**; 1:10, 17:3, 21:10
- II. and behold, a **throne** was standing in **heaven**, Rev 1:4, 20:11, 5:1, 6:16, 19:4, Ps 11:4, Isa 66:1, Ezek 1:26-28
  - A. and **One** (**the Father**) sitting on the **throne**. 1 Kings 22:19, Isa 6:1, Dan 7:9
    1. 3 And **He** (**the Father**) who was sitting
      - a. was like a **jasper stone** 21:11, 21:18-20, Ex 28:20, Ezek 28:13
      - b. and (like) a **sardius** (**carnelian**) in appearance; 21:11,
    2. and there was a **rainbow** around the **throne**, Ezek 1:28,
      - a. like an **emerald** (21:19) in appearance.

#### “in the Spirit”, Rev 4:2

**John**, “in the Spirit” refers to the exalted **spiritual state** brought on by the **Holy Spirit**, that **he** “was in”, so **he** could **hear** (“heard”, 1:10) and “see” (1:11-12) “things” (1:19) that were about to be revealed to **him**. **John**, being “in the Spirit” is mention 3 other times, in Rev 1:10, 17:3, 21:10

“a **throne** was standing in **heaven**, and **One** (**the Father**) sitting on the **throne**”, Rev 4:2

Rev 1:4, 20:11, 5:1, 6:16, 19:4, Ps 11:4, Isa 6:1, Isa 66:1, Ezek 1:26-28

**First**, **John** saw a **Throne** in **Heaven**, Rev 4:2. **Heaven**: where **God** and **His Angels** live.

**Second**, The **One** sitting on the **throne** was **God the Father**, Read 5:1, 5:5, 5:7

We know this because **the Lion of Judah** (**Jesus**), 5:5, takes the **Book/Scroll** from the right hand of **Him** who sat on the **Throne**, 5:7. **Him** (**God the Father**) who is **Worshiped**, 5:10-11.

## Chart



**He** who was **sitting** on the **throne** was in appearance Like, **Rev 4:3**

**3** And **He** (**God the Father**) who was **sitting**

was **like** (*Simile Metaphor*) a **jasper stone** (in appearance), **21:11, 21:18-20, Ex 28:20, Ezek 28:13**

**He** (**God the Father**) appeared as a **jasper stone** does, But **He** was Not a **jasper stone**.

**Jasper** A “**Precious stone**” or gem, **21:18**, “a very costly stone, as a stone of crystal-clear **jasper**”, **21:11** “that reflects various colors”, **21:11**. Also what the “**Wall**” of the **New Jerusalem** is made of, **21:18**, and what the “**first foundation stone**” of the **New Jerusalem** is made of, **21:19**.

**Jasper** is also one of the **precious stones**, in row 4, of the **breastplate** of the **high priest**, **Ex 28:20**.

**He** (**God the Father**) appeared as a **sardius stone** does, But **He** was Not a **sardius stone**.

**Sardius** A “**Precious stone**” or gem, **21:19**

and what the “**sixth foundation stone**” of the **New Jerusalem** is made of, **21:20**.

**Sardius** is also one of the **precious stones**, in row 4, of the **breastplate** of the **high priest**, **Ex 28:20**.

And on the shoulder **plate** of **ephod**, the **priest’s garment**, with the names of **the tribes of Israel**, **Ex 28:9-12**.

**Ezekiel 1:27**

**27** Then **I** (**Ezekiel**) noticed from the **appearance** of **His loins** (waist) and upward

something like **glowing metal** (amber) that looked **like fire** all around within **it** (waist),

and from the **appearance** of **His loins** (waist) and downward **I** saw something like **fire**; ...

Apparently, **He** (**God the Father**) **appeared** as “a very costly stone, as a **stone of crystal-clear jasper**”, **21:11**

And above and below **His** waist **appeared** “something like **glowing metal** (amber color)

that looked **like fire** all around”, “there was a **radiance** (brightness) around **Him**”

“there was a **rainbow** around the **throne**”, **Rev 4:3**

there was a **rainbow** around (**the Father’s**) the **throne**, **Ezek 1:28**,

like an **emerald** (**21:19**) in appearance, **4:3**

**Ezekiel 1:27d-28**

and there was a **radiance** around **Him**. **28** As the **appearance** of the **rainbow** in the clouds on a rainy day,

so was the **appearance** of the surrounding **radiance**. Such was the appearance of the likeness of **the glory of the Lord**. And when **I** (**Ezekiel**) saw it, **I** fell on **my face** and heard a **voice speaking**.

Apparently, there **appeared** a “**radiance**” of **green light**, the color of “**emerald**”, “around the **throne**”, and **it** “was the **appearance** of the likeness of **the glory of the Lord**”.



## The 7 Visions John saw in Heaven and on Earth Chart

The Scenes “in Heaven” are preliminary to and explain the Events that follow “on Earth”,  
There are 7 Pairs of Connecting Events, each with a Heavenly and an Earthly component,  
All “in Heaven” Scenes have some Heavenly Voices, 17 Heavenly Voices in 7 Scenes,

### I. Introduction, (1:1-20),

#### A. The People on the Earth, (The 7 Churches) (2:1-3:22),

1. The First Vision, “in Heaven”, (4:1-5:14), (The Throne, the Book, and the Lamb),
  - a. The First Vision, “on Earth”, (6:1-7:8), (The 6 Seals and the 144,000),
2. The Second Vision, “in Heaven”, (7:9-8:6) (The Great Multitude and the 7<sup>th</sup> Seal),
  - a. The Second Vision, “on Earth”, (8:7-11:14) (The 6 Trumpet Judgment),
3. The Third Vision, “in Heaven”, (11:15-19) (The 7<sup>th</sup> Trumpet Judgment),
  - a. The Third Vision, “on Earth”, (11:19) (The Earthquake, etc.),
4. The Forth Vision, “in Heaven”, (12:1-12) (The Woman, the Child, and the Dragon),
  - a. The Fourth Vision, “on Earth”, (12:13-13:8) (The Dragon and 2 Beasts),
5. The Fifth Vision, “in Heaven”, (14:1-5) (The Lamb and the 144,000),
  - a. The Fifth Vision, “on Earth”, (14:6-20) (The Lamb and the 6 Angels),
6. The Sixth Vision, “in Heaven”, (15:1-8) (The 7 Bowl Judgment Angels),
  - a. The Sixth Vision, “on Earth”, (16:1-18:24) (The 7 Bowl Judgments),
7. The Seventh Vision, “in Heaven”, (19:1-16) (The Marriage of the Lamb, etc),
  - a. The Seventh Vision, “on Earth”, (19:17-20:15) (The Final Five Judgments),

#### B. The People of the New Earth, (21:1-22:5), (The Millennium, Judgment, and New Jerusalem),

### II. Conclusion, (22:6-21), (Words of Comfort and Warning)

## Around, Out From, and Before, the Throne in Heaven, 4:4-6a

Working Outline > Read Revelation 4:4-6a (Portion of Paragraph ¶ from NAS Bible)

### Revelation 4: 4:4-6a

- I. 4 Around the throne (of the Father) were twenty-four thrones; 11:6
  - A. and upon the (24) thrones I (John) saw twenty-four elders sitting, 1 Chron 24:4, 25:9-31
    1. clothed in white garments, 3:4-5, 3:18, 6:11, 7:9, 7:13-16, 19:14
    2. and golden crowns on their heads. 4:10, 2:10, 3:11,
- II. 5 Out from the throne come flashes of lightning and sounds and peals of thunder. 11:19, 14:2, 19:6
- III. And there were seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, 1:4, 3:1, 5:6, Zech 4:10, 2 Chron 16:9
  - A. which are the seven Spirits of God; 1:4, 5:6
- IV. 6a and before the throne there was something like a sea of glass, like crystal; 15:2, 21:18, 21:21

## THE TWENTY-FOUR ELDERS, Rev 4:4

Q1: In Rev 4:4, WHO are the twenty-four elders ?

**A:** Elders in the Bible are always Men  
and Not Angels the only other choice.  
Therefore, if Men, they are Men who are,  
at this point in time, in Heaven. Chart



**Elders** (Hebrew, *zequen*),

were wise, experienced, discerning Men entrusted with authority to help govern the people, Num 1:13-15

Men were selected to run the day-to-day affairs of the People of Israel, the Sanhedrin, and Synagogues.

When David was Old, he made Solomon King, and he gathered all the leaders, Priests, and Levites,

30 years old and older, 1 Chron 23:1-2, and he assigned Duties to the Levite Priests, 1 Chron 23:3-26:32.

David assigned the Levite Priests, into 24 groups, with each group serving 2 weeks a year. 1 Chron 24:1-31

David also assigned 24 groups of Prophetic Musicians, serving 2 weeks a year, 1 Chron 25:1-31, Rev 5:8

In the **New Testament Church**, “**elder**” also refers to governing **group** of **Men** over the affairs of the **People**.

These **24 Elders** are “**sitting**” on “**thrones**” around the **throne** of **God**, implies **ruling**, **Rev 4:4**

These **Elders** are “**clothed in white garments**”, **Rev 4:4**, that identify **them** as **Born of God** or **Overcomers** **who** will be Given by **God Clean White Fine Linen Robes**, **Rev 3:4-5**, **1 John 5:4-5**, **Washed, Sanctified**, and **Justified** with the **Blood of Lamb**, **Rev 3:18**, **7:15**, **1 Cor 6:11**. See Lesson 8 for more.

These **24 Elders** “**worship Him** who lives forever”, **4:10**, **11:16**, **19:4**

and **they** have “**golden crowns on their heads**”, **4:4**, and “**will cast their crowns** before the **throne**”, **4:10**. **Believers** “**will receive the crown of life** which **the Lord** has promised to **those** who love **Him**”, **2:10**, **Jas 1:12**.

“**each one** holding a **harp** and **golden bowls** full of **incense**, which are **the prayers of the saints**”, **Rev 5:8-9**

The **24 Elders** explain to **John** who the **Great Multitude** in **white robes** in **Heaven** are, in **Rev 7:13-17**

Also are the **ones** after the **7<sup>th</sup> Trumpet** sounded, who **give thanks to God**,

**Because God** by **His** great **power**, **wrath**, and **destruction** has begun to **reign**, **Rev 11:16-18**

**Because the time came** “**to destroy those** (unbelievers) **who** destroy the **earth**”, **11:18**

### **24 Elders Conclusion**      **Men ? or Angels?**      **Chart**

These **elders** must represent **Humans redeemed** by the **Blood of Lamb**, both **Jew** and **Gentile**.

These **elders** stand for **Human representatives** of the **New Covenant Church**, of **Jew** and **Gentile**.

**Because they** are “**in Heaven**”, **4:2**, and “**upon thrones**”, a place of **ruling**, **Elders Rule**, **Rev 4:4**,

**Because Overcomers/Believers** are to have **authority over** and **rule over the Nations**, **Rev 2:26-27**

**Because Humans** are always referred to as **Elders** and **Angels** as **Elders** is implied only once in **Isa 24:23**

**Because Angels** are Not said to **Rule** on **thrones** or have **golden crowns**, in the Bible, **2 Tim 4:8**, **Jas 1:12**

**Because Angels** with **white garments**, are Not said to have “**washed their robes and made them white**

in the **blood of the Lamb**”, **Rev 7:14**, as **Overcomers** or **Believers** or **Redeemed Humans** have, **Rev 3:4-5**

**Because they** are “**clothed in white garments**”, **Rev 4:4**

**Clean White Fine Linen Robes** identifies **them** as **Overcomers** or **Believers**, **Rev 3:4-5**, **1 John 5:4-5**

**Because they** have “**golden crowns on their heads**”, **4:4**, and “**will cast their crowns** before the **throne**”, **4:10**.

**Because Believers** “**receive the crown of life**, **the Lord** has promised to **those** who love **Him**”, **2:10**, **Jas 1:12**

**Because they** Worship, Praise, Pray, and Give Thanks to **God** as **Believers** do, in OT and NT.

**Because their number** seems to correspond to the **24 divisions** of the **Ruling Levite Priests**, **1 Chron 24:7-18**, and the **24 divisions** of the **Prophetic Musicians**, **1 Chron 25:9-31**.

**Q2:** In **Rev 4:4**, Are these **24 Elders** actual members the **Nation of Israel** or of the **NT Church** ?

**Israel** or **Old Testament believers** or **saints of Israel** could not be represented here in **Rev 4:4**, until after **Daniel's 70th week**.

**Because** “**all Israel** will be **saved**” when “**the Deliver (Jesus) comes** (2<sup>nd</sup> Coming)”

and **Jesus** removes **ungodliness** (sin) from **Jacob** (from Israel), **Rom 11:25-32**, **Dan 12:1-2**

Also **Jer 31:34**, **Isa 59:20-21**, **Hosea 2:1-23**, **Hosea 3:1-5**, **Zech 10:6**, **Isa 35:4**.

If the **24 Elders** are Not **Israel**, then that leaves **the Church**

made up primarily of **Gentiles** (non-Jews), **Eph 3:11-13**, and a remnant of **Israel** (Jews), **Rom 11:5**.

**The Churches** in **Rev 2** and **Rev 3**, are rewarded with:

a **crown**, **2:10**, **3:11**, a **throne**, **3:21**, a **white robe**, **3:4-5**, like the **24 Elders**, in **4:4**, **4:10**

### **24 Elders - Commentary Reference:**

<https://www.gotquestions.org/24-elders.html>

<https://www.biblestudytools.com/bible-study/topical-studies/do-we-know-who-the-24-elders-of-revelation-are.html>

<https://www.evidenceunseen.com/bible-difficulties-2/nt-difficulties/jude/rev-44-who-are-the-24-elders-mentioned-here/>

**Out from the Throne of God, Rev 4:5**

Out from the throne come flashes of lightning and sounds and peals of thunder. 4:5

When God on His Throne is present, it is often accompanied by lightning and thunder, Rev 11:19

Also When God appeared on Mt. Sinai, there was lightning and thunder, Ex 19:16, 20:18

**SEVEN LAMPS OF FIRE, Rev 4:5**

And there were seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, 1:4, 3:1, 5:6, Zech 4:10, 2 Chron 16:9

which are the seven Spirits of God; 1:4, 5:6

Notice John gives the Literal Interpretation of the “seven lamps of fire burning”

as “the seven Spirits of God”

*See Lesson 05 for a more Detailed explanation*

**The Seven Spirits: Represent Seven Angels these are the Seven Eyes of the Lord**

**Zechariah 4:10**

10 ... But these seven (eyes) will be glad when they (eyes) see the plumb line in the hand of Zerubbabel —these (eyes) are the eyes of the Lord which range to and fro throughout the earth.” (2 Chron 16:9)

**Revelation 5:6** The seven spirits OR the seven eyes of the Lamb (Jesus) >

are those 7 spirits (Angels) “sent out into all the earth”, by Jesus,

**2 Chronicles 16:9**

9 “For the eyes of the Lord move to and fro throughout the earth that He may strongly support those whose heart is completely His....

Apparently, the seven spirits of the Lamb (Jesus), 5:6, seven spirits or seven Angels,

These 7 Angels represent the Lamb’s “all seeing eyes”,

“which range to and fro throughout the earth.”, Zech 4:10, 2 Chron 16:9

The Lamb has “seven eyes”, and the “eyes” are the spirits (Angels) which are dispatched into all the earth.

These are “the seven eyes” of the Lamb (Jesus) or His omniscience (all knowing/seeing) as in (Rev 5:6).

It says that there is no place on earth which is not under the all seeing eye of the Lord.

*The eyes of the LORD are in every place, Watching the evil and the good, Prov 15:3*

**BEFORE THE THRONE SOMETHING LIKE A SEA OF GLASS, Rev 4:6a**

**Rev 4:6a** “and before the throne there was something like a sea of glass, like crystal;” 15:2, 21:18, 21:21

**Revelation 15:2**

2 And I saw (in Heaven) something like a sea of glass mixed with fire, and those who had been victorious over the beast and his image and the number of his name, standing on the sea of glass, holding harps of God.

**Revelation 21:18**

18 The material of the wall was jasper; and the city (New Jerusalem) was pure gold, like clear glass.

**Revelation 21:21**

21 And the twelve gates were twelve pearls; each one of the gates was a single pearl.

And the street of the city (New Jerusalem) was pure gold, like transparent glass.

## Conclusion

before the throne (of God in Heaven) there was something like a sea of glass, like crystal, Rev 4:6

I (John) saw (in Heaven) something like a sea of glass mixed with fire, Rev 15:2

I (John) saw Believers standing on the sea of glass, holding harps of God, Rev 15:2

the city (New Jerusalem out of Heaven) was pure gold, like clear glass, Rev 21:18, 21:2

the street of the city (New Jerusalem out of Heaven) was pure gold, like transparent glass, Rev 21:18, 21:2

Heaven’s standing surface and New Jerusalem city and its streets are like Clear Pure Gold Glass

## Around, Out From, and Before, the Throne in Heaven, 4:6-8

Working Outline > Read Revelation 4:6-8 (Portion of Paragraph ¶ from NAS Bible)

### Revelation 4:6-8

V. 6 and before the throne there was something like a sea of glass, like crystal; 15:2, 21:18, 21:21

VI. and in the center and around the throne,

A. four living creatures full of eyes in front and behind. 4:8, 6:1, Ezek 1:5, (11 times in Rev)

1. 7 The first creature was like a lion, Ezek 1:5, Ezek 1:10, Ezek 10:14

2. and the second creature like a calf (ox),

3. and the third creature had a face like that of a man,

4. and the fourth creature was like a flying eagle.

B. 8 And the four living creatures, each one of them having six wings, Isa 6:2,

1. are full of eyes around and within; 4:6, Ezek 1:18, Ezek 10:12

2. and day and night they do not cease to say,

3. "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God, the Almighty, Isa 6:3

4. who was and who is and who is to come." 1:4, 1:8,



## THE FOUR LIVING CREATURES, Rev 4:6-8

The four living creatures are mentioned in, Rev 4:6, 4:8, 5:6, 5:8, 5:14, 6:1, 6:3, 6:5, 6:6, 6:7, 7:11, 14:3, 15:7, 19:4

The four living creatures > were "in the center and around the throne (of the Father)", 4:6

John saw, the creatures immediately in the center and around the throne of the Father, 4:2-3

John saw, the 24 Elders around the throne, but not "in the center" of "the throne", 4:4

The four living creatures, each one of them having six wings, 4:8, Isa 6:2,

Only Angels are said to have wings in the Bible, so the four living creatures must be Angelic Spiritual Beings.

Cherubim Angels are said to have 2 Wings, Ex 25:20, 1 Kings 6:24-27

Cherubim Angels are said to have 4 Wings, Ezek 1:6, Ezek 10:8, 12, 16, 19, 21, 11:22,

Seraphim Angels are said to have 6 Wings, in Isa 6:2

### Read Isaiah 6:1-7

1 In the year of King Uzziah's death I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, lofty and exalted, with the train of His robe filling the temple.

2 Seraphim (plural) stood above (around, Sep.) Him, each having six wings:

with two (wings) he (they, Sep.) covered his (their, Sep.) face,  
and with two (wings) he (they, Sep.) covered his (their, Sep.) feet,  
and with two (wings) he (they, Sep.) flew.

3 And one (Seraphim) called out to another (Seraphim) and said,

"Holy, Holy, Holy, is the Lord of hosts, Rev 4:8

The whole earth is full of His glory."

4 And the foundations of the (Temple) thresholds trembled at the voice of him (they, Sep.) (Seraphim) who called out, while the temple was filling with smoke.

5 Then I (Isaiah) said, "Woe is me, for I am ruined ! Because I am a man of unclean lips,

And I live among a people (Israel) of unclean lips; For my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts."

6 Then one of the **Seraphim** flew to **me** with a **burning coal** in **his hand**, which **he** had taken from the altar with tongs.

7 **He** (**Seraphim**) touched **my** mouth with **it** (**coal**) and said,

“Behold, this (**coal**) has touched **your** lips; and **your iniquity** is taken away and **your sin** is forgiven.”

**How are the four living creatures** in **Rev 4:6-9**, **Like** the **Seraphim** in **Isa 6:2-7** ?

**They** both are (“**before**” or “**above** (around)”) **One/the Lord**, sitting on a **throne**, **Rev 4:1-2** and **Isa 6:2**)

**They** both have **wings** (**six wings**, **Rev 4:8** and **six wings**, **Isa 6:2**)

Therefore, **they** must be **Angels** in **Rev 4** and **Isa 6**, because Only **Angels** are said to have **wings** in Bible.

**They** are **Angels** (called **living creatures**, **Rev 4** and called **Seraphim**, **Isa 6**)

**They** both “say” or “called out”, “Holy, Holy, Holy, is **the Lord of hosts**”, in **Rev 4:8** and in **Isa 6:3-4**

Therefore, **they** both **Praise the Lord** in the same words, so **their function** is the same in **Heaven**.

### Conclusion

**They** both are **6 winged Angels**, **Seraphim**, around the **throne** in **Heaven** that **praise the Lord**.

**How are the four living creatures** in **Rev 4:6-9**, **Not Like** the **Seraphim** in **Isa 6:2-7** ?

In **Rev 4:7**, **They** looked Like a **Lion**, a **Calf**, a **Man**, and an **Eagle**, mostly Like **Creatures** in appearance.

In **Isa 6:2, 6**, **They** are said to have a **face**, **feet**, **hands**, and **flew**, mostly Like **Humans** in appearance.

**How are the four living creatures** in **Rev 4:6-9**, **Like** the **four living beings** of **Ezek 1:5-14** ?

**They** both are (“**above**” or “**before**” a **throne** with **One/the Glory of Lord**, **Rev 4:1-2** and **Ezek 1:26-28**)

**They** both have **wings** (But **six wings**, **Rev 4:8** and **four wings**, **Ezek 1:6, 10:21**)

Therefore, **they** must be **Angels**, because Only **Angels** are said to have **wings** in Bible.

**They** are **Angels** (called **living creatures**, **Rev 4** and **living beings** and **Cherubim**, **Ezek 1:5, 10:1, 20**)

**They** both have some feature resembling a **Lion**, **Calf** (ox), **eagle**, **Man**, **Rev 4:7** and **Ezek 1:4-11**

But, in **Rev 4**, only one had a Face of a **Lion**, **Calf** (ox), **eagle**, **Man**, and in **Ezek 1**, all **4** had those faces.

### Conclusion

**They** both are **winged Angels**, “**above**” or “**before**” a **throne** in **Heaven** that **praise** or **move the Lord**.

Therefore, the **four living creatures** in **Rev 4:6-9** are **Angels**



## The Four Living Creatures, are Like

The four living creatures > are full of eyes in front and behind. 4:6, 4:8, 6:1, Ezek 1:5,  
> are full of eyes around and within; 4:8, Ezek 1:18, Ezek 10:12

full of eyes represents at least 2 major attributes of God.

His omniscience (He knows all things, Past, Present, and Future)

and His omnipresence (He is everywhere Present at the same time)

The four living creatures (Angels) > and day and night they do not cease to say, 4:8

“Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God, the Almighty, 4:8, Like in Isa 6:3,

who was and who is and who is to come.” 4:8, 1:4, 1:8,

The first creature (Angel) was like a lion, full of eyes, having six wings, Ezek 1:5, Ezek 1:10, Ezek 10:14

This seems to be representative of the Chief Land Creature of the Earth, the Lion.

The second creature (Angel) like a calf (ox), full of eyes, having six wings,

This seems to be representative of the Chief Domestic Creature of the Earth, the Calf (ox).

The third creature (Angel) had a face like that of a man, full of eyes, having six wings,

This seems to be representative of the Chief Land Person of the Earth, Man.

The fourth creature (Angel) was like a flying eagle, full of eyes, having six wings,

This seems to be representative of the Chief Sky Creature of the Earth, the Eagle.

### Conclusion

Perhaps it is safest to say that the four different living creatures portrayed certain creatures of the Earth and are important because each one represents a part of all living creation on the Earth.

“full of eyes” representing God overseeing His Creation in His omniscience and His omnipresence.

This Compares with “every living creature”, Gen 1:24, 2:19, 9:10, named by Adam and on Noah’s Ark.

## The Whole Creation or every created thing

Romans 8:19–22

19 For the anxious longing of the creation waits eagerly for the revealing of the sons of God.

20 For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it,

in hope 21 that the creation itself also will be set free from its slavery to corruption

into the freedom of the glory of the children of God.

22 For we know that the whole creation groans and suffers the pains of childbirth together until now.

Revelation 4:11

11 “Worthy are You, our Lord and our God, to receive glory and honor and power;

for You created all things, and because of Your will they (all things) existed, and were created.”

Revelation 5:13

13 And every created thing which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and on the sea,

and all things (created) in them, I heard saying, “To Him who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb,

be blessing and honor and glory and dominion forever and ever.”

### Conclusion

The Creation was subjected to futility, after the Fall of Man in Gen 3:17, and after the Flood, Gen 9:2-3

The Whole Creation groans and suffers the pains of childbirth together until now, Rom 8:22

Q: But how can Creation groan and suffer pains of childbirth ?

A: Personification, a figure of speech that adds human qualities to non-human things, as to Creation here.

## The Purpose of the Four Living Creatures, in Revelation

### Revelation 4:8

8 And the **four living creatures** (Angels), each one of **them** having **six wings**, are full of eyes around and within; and day and night **they** do not cease to say, “Holy, holy, holy is **the Lord God, the Almighty**, who was and who is and who is to come.”  
The **4 Angels** Praise **the Lord God**, without ceasing, in **Heaven**.

### Revelation 4:9

9 And when the **living creatures** give **glory** and **honor** and **thanks** to **Him** who sits on the **throne**, to **Him** who lives forever and ever, The **4 Angels** give **glory** and **honor** and **thanks** **the Lord God**, in **Heaven**.

### Revelation 5:8

8 When **He** had taken the book, the **four living creatures** and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each one holding a **harp** and **golden bowls** full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints.  
The **4 Angels** at times, present **the Lamb** (Jesus) with the **prayers** of **the saints**.

### Revelation 5:9–10

9 And **they** (**four living creatures**) **sang** a new song, saying, “**Worthy** are **You** to take the book and to break its seals; for **You** were slain, and **purchased** for **God** with **Your blood** **men** from every **tribe** and **tongue** and **people** and **nation**.  
10 “**You** have made **them** (**believers**) to be a kingdom and priests to **our God**; and **they** (**believers**) will **reign** upon the earth.”  
The **4 Angels** at times, **sing songs** of **praise** and **acclaim** the **worthiness** in the work of **the Lamb Jesus** in **His purchasing** (bought for a price) **Believers** for **God**.

### Revelation 5:12–13

12 saying with a loud voice, “**Worthy** is **the Lamb** that was slain to receive **power** and **riches** and **wisdom** and **might** and **honor** and **glory** and **blessing**.”  
The **4 Angels** at times, **proclaim** the **Worthiness** of **the Lamb**, to receive all these things listed.

### Revelation 5:14

14 And the **four living creatures** kept saying, “**Amen**.” And the elders fell down and worshiped.  
The **4 Angels** at times, say “**Amen**” as a declaration of affirmation

### Revelation 6:1 Also Rev 6:3, 6:5, 6:6, 6:7

1 Then **I** saw when **the Lamb** broke one of **the seven seals**, and **I** heard one of the **four living creatures** saying as with a voice of thunder, “**Come**.” (4 Times)  
The **four living creatures** say “**Come**.” to each of the **four horse riders** of the **first 4 Seal Judgments**,  
The **4 Angels** as **God’s** agents, at times, call other **Angels** to execute the **wrath** of **God**, with **Judgments** and **Plagues** on **Man** and on the **Earth**. Rev 6:16-17, 15:7

### Revelation 7:11 and 19:4

11 And all the **angels** were standing around the **throne** and around the (24) **elders** and the **four living creatures**; and **they** (the 4) **fell** on **their** faces before the throne and **worshiped God**,  
4 And the twenty-four **elders** and the **four living creatures** **fell down** and **worshiped God** who sits on the **throne** saying, “**Amen. Hallelujah!**”  
The **4 Angels** at times, **fall down** and **worship God** on **His throne**, saying, “**Amen. Hallelujah!**”

### Revelation 15:7

7 Then **one of** the **four living creatures** gave to the **seven angels** **seven golden bowls** full of the **wrath** of **God**, **who** lives forever and ever.  
The **4 Angels** as **God’s** agents, at times, call other **Angels** to execute the **wrath** of **God**, with **Judgments** and **Plagues** on **Man** and on the **Earth**. Rev 6:1, 6:16-17

## Four Living Creatures and the Twenty-Four Elders Worship the Father, 4:9-11

Working Outline > Read Revelation 4:9-11 (Portion of Paragraph ¶ from NAS Bible)

### Revelation 4:9-11

- I. 9 And when the (4) living creatures (Angels) give glory and honor and thanks 5:12-13
  - A. to Him (the Father) who sits on the throne,
  - B. to Him (the Father) who lives forever and ever, 4:10, 15:7, 10:6, Dan 4:34, Dan 12:7
- II. 10 the twenty-four elders (Men) will fall down before Him (the Father) who sits on the throne,
  - A. and will worship Him who lives forever and ever, 4:9, 15:7, 10:6, Dan 4:34, Dan 12:7
  - B. and will cast their (elders, Men) crowns before the throne, saying, 4:4
    1. 11 “Worthy are You, our Lord and our God, to receive glory and honor and power; 5:12-13
    2. for You created all things, 10:6, 14:7, Jn 1:3, Col 1:16-17, Heb 1:2
      - a. and because of Your (God’s) will they existed, and were created.” Eph 1:11,

## Four Living Creatures (Angels) - Praising the Father

Here we have the Four Living Creatures or 4 Angels

In Rev 4:9, Angels giving glory and honor and thanks to God the Father on the throne who lives forever

## Twenty-Four Elders (Men)

Then in Rev 4:10, we have the Twenty-Four Elders or 24 Redeemed Men

24 Elders who worship God the Father on the throne who lives forever

24 Elders who cast their crowns before the throne

24 Elders who Proclaim God the Father Worthy, to receive glory and honor and power

Because they have “golden crowns on their heads”, 4:4, and “will cast their crowns before the throne”, 4:10.

Because Believers “receive the crown of life, the Lord has promised to those who love Him”, 2:10, Jas 1:12

## Twenty-Four Elders - Worship the Father

In Rev 4:11, the Father is Worthy “Worthy... ..to receive glory and honor and power

the Father is Worthy, “for You created all things”, 4:11

In Rev 5:9, the Lamb is Worthy “Worthy are You to take the book and to break its seals;

for You were slain, and purchased for God with Your blood

men from every tribe and tongue and people and nation.

In Rev 5:12, the Lamb is Worthy “Worthy is the Lamb that was slain

to receive power and riches and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing.”

## I. The Vision of the Throne Room in Heaven, 4:1-11

A. The throne in Heaven, with the Lord like Jasper stone, 4:1-3

1. Around the throne, 24 thrones with 24 Elders, 4:4

2. Before the throne, were 7 Lamps of Fire, the 7 Spirits of God, 4:5

3. Before the throne, there was something like a sea of glass, like crystal;

4. Around the throne, were 4 Living Creatures, full of eyes, 4:6

a. 4 Living Creatures like a lion, calf, man, eagle, with 6 Wings, full of eyes, Praising God, 4:7

b. 4 Living Creatures and 24 Elders, give Honor, Glory, and Worship to God, 4:8-11