

Songs of Praise to God

Revelation 4:8

The four great angels sing praise to God. What one word do they use to describe God? _ _ _ _.

Why do they sing “Holy” 3 times? What does that mean?

How often do these great angels sing praise to God?

Revelation 4:9-11

How do the 24 leaders (and all God’s people) praise God?

Why do they praise God now? What did God do? (more reasons for praising God will come in later verses.)

To Think About...

This is a verse from a song often used in churches. Notice how it is much like what Revelation chapter 4 describes. Can we begin singing this praise to God before we get to heaven? How?

*Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth and sky and sea
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty*

God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

The Book of Revelation God’s Picture of History and Heaven

Lesson 3, Chapter 4:1-11

To Begin...

If you think someone is awesome, how do you praise them? Think about your favorite sports hero or movie star. What do you say about them? What does that person do to deserve your praise?

Descriptions of Greatness, Songs of Praise

Before John sees how God works in history, he sees God in heaven. Revelation chapter 4 is an amazing picture of God’s glory in heaven. Words can’t describe what heaven will really be like, but John does the best he can to describe it for us.

John Sees God on His Throne

Revelation 4:1-3

Who calls John up to heaven? Whose voice called him? (see Rev. 1:10-13 for help.)

Who is the only one who can open the door into heaven? (see Rev. 3:8 for help.)

How would you describe the sun? What does it look like? How does John describe God on His throne? What does God look like?

A rainbow surrounds God's throne. When did a rainbow first appear? (see Genesis 9:12-16.) The rainbow is a sign of God's _____ or _____.

Revelation 4:4-5

John saw 24 leaders (or elders). Why 24?

How many sons did Jacob have? Genesis 49:28 (63)

How many disciples did Jesus have? Read Matthew 10:1-4 (1221).

_____ (Old Test.) + _____ (New Test.) = 24

Who are these leaders? There are two ways to interpret it.

1. Read Matthew 19:28 (1237). 24 leaders could mean 24 people who will judge/rule/take care of God's people.
2. Read Revelation 1:6 & 3:21. There are not 24 people who are leaders. 24 simply means all of God's people will sit on thrones and rule with Him.

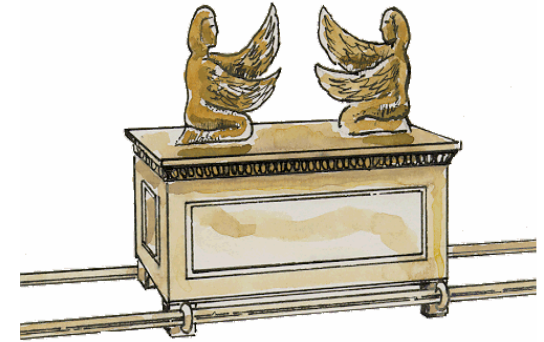
Revelation 4:6-8

What About...	<p><i>The Sea of Glass?</i> In front of God's throne was a sea of glass. For the Jews, the sea or ocean meant chaos, no order, everything wrong and out of control. The sea can also mean our sins that separate us from God. Notice that in front of God, the sea is calm, like glass, completely under God's control.</p>
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Brightly Burning Angels

John saw four living creatures around the throne. Describe them. What do they look like?

Read Exodus 25:17-22 (95). The Ark was the place where God met with Moses or the high priest. What was always there on the ark with God?



Now read Isaiah 6:1-3 (858). Did Isaiah see the same living creatures?

Isaiah called them seraphim. "Seraphim" means...

<p><i>The Number 4?</i> John saw 4 of these great angels. Why 4? Some people think it is because of 4 gospels in the Bible – Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. More likely, the number 4 means everything God created. For example, the Bible sometimes talks about the "four corners of the earth," or the "four winds" (Revelation 7:1). The four great angels are like God's personal angels, and they represent all of creation giving praise to God all the time.</p>	What About...
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