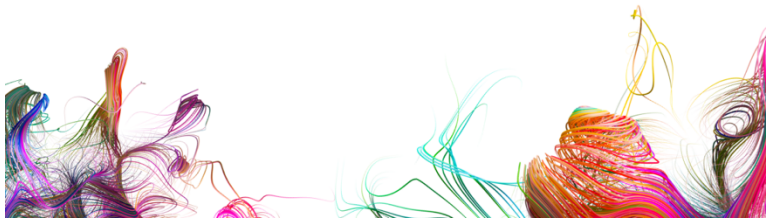


REVELATION

FINDING PEACE IN A
WORLD OF CHAOS



Week 9: A Vision of Heaven
Date: Week of 3/10/2024
Scripture: Revelation 4:1-11

Bridgebuilder Opening

1. The Bible says a lot about heaven but leaves many questions unanswered. What do you imagine heaven will be like? What is most intriguing to you about heaven?

Observations and Interpretations

1. Read Revelation 4 and circle or highlight any words that stand out to you. What are some of your observations from this initial reading of the text?

2. Do some quick research to get insight into the significance of some of John's descriptive words: jasper and carnelian stone, an emerald rainbow, a sea of glass... See *Ezekiel 1:28, 4:3, 1:26, and 10:1 for Old Testament reference.*

3. With that imagery in place, what idea is John conveying?

4. There are different thoughts about the identity of the 24 elders. Who do you think they represent and why? Refer to *1 Chronicles 24:1-5, Exodus 24:9-10, and Isaiah 24:23 for further insight.* What is significant about their response?

5. As more imagery unfolds in this vision, use what you know of mythology and Biblical history to help interpret their meaning.
 - a. Lighting and thunder (*Ex. 19-20*)

- b. Sea (*Psalm 104, Ezekiel 1:22-24, 1 Kings 7:23-44*)
 - c. The Four Living Creatures (*Ezekiel 1:5-21, Zechariah 4:10*)
6. How is the response of the Four Living Creatures like that of the 24 elders?
7. There is one overarching message in Revelation 4. What is the main thing John tries to teach us in these verses?

Applications

1. This year our church is focusing on the theme of bringing *peace* into our lives and city. How can the worship in response to the sovereignty of God in this text help give you *peace* as you live in a world of chaos?
2. This vision portrays whole-hearted, fully surrendered worship. What are you holding back in worship? Or what is holding you back in worship?
3. In one sentence, state one thing the Lord wants you to take away from this study.

The Gospel and Prayer

God, we are not worthy to be in your presence. As Isaiah voiced, "*We are a people of unclean lips.*" Help us to live with holy reverence before and daily lay ourselves down as living sacrifices before you. Thank you, Jesus, for doing everything necessary for us to enter into the presence of the one true God!