**Sermon Notes October 24, 2021**

**Series**: Revelation

**Sermon**: God Is Still on the Throne

**Scripture**: Revelation 4:1-11, Matthew 22:39-40

**Summary**: Now we begin a new vision—the second vision given to John the Apostle. Now it’s time for the churches to see the future events that are coming upon the earth.

**Read**: Scripture references before your Life Group meeting

Now we begin a new vision—the second vision given to John the Apostle. As we open the door into chapter 4, we see that John is summoned into the throne room of heaven and views everything from this point on… from a heavenly perspective. This perspective reassures us that God is in control of it all… he’s still on the throne, his sovereign will shall be done, his eternal purpose will be accomplished, and his ultimate triumph is certain.

1. **The Great Transition**
   1. Revelation 4:1a (ESV)
   2. This transition shifts our focus into the future.
   3. This future transition focus will allow us to see events that are to come prior to Christ’s Second Coming. This shift in viewpoint explains:
      1. The absence of the church until chapter 19.
      2. The opening of the scroll.
      3. Israel described as the woman who delivers the male child (Christ).
      4. The 144,000 who are sealed.
      5. The view of the temple
      6. The two witnesses
      7. The great earthquake.
      8. The persecution of the Jews by the antichrist.
   4. The attributes of God are continually ascribed to Christ
      1. Alpha and Omega
      2. Mediator of creation, redemption, and the final Kingdom.
      3. The Word of God.
      4. Lamb of God, inseparable from God.
2. **A Better View**
   1. Revelation 4:1b (ESV)
      1. John taken to heaven in Spirit.
      2. A view to “what must take place.”
      3. Intended to give John divine perspective and a behind the scenes look at the human dilemma.
   2. Revelation 4:2-3 (ESV)
      1. John gives us a brief description of the “One” seated on the throne.
      2. This section of scripture connects us to the Old Testament.
         1. The stones
         2. The tribes of Israel the stones represent
         3. The meaning of the tribe names.
      3. The order of the stones in the ephod
3. **The Twenty-Four Elders**
   1. Revelation 4:4 (ESV)
      1. Representatives of the Church
         1. Robed in white
         2. Wearing gold crowns
         3. Already having been raptured
4. The Majesty of He who sits on the throne
   1. Revelation 4:5-11 (ESV)
      1. The seven lamps = the Holy Spirit.
      2. The Crystal Sea represents the great gulf fixed between man and God.
      3. The four living creatures = Seraphim.
   2. Revelation 4:8b (ESV) Holy, holy, holy
      1. Trinity
   3. Chapter ends with worship of God by the twenty-four elders

**Application / Next Steps**

Why should I change how I live my life today…? Is there a rush?

* Why did you come to church today?
* How will you react when you see the throne room?
* When have you last praised God in all situations?

**Matthew 22:39-40 (ESV),**

**Jesus replied: Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself. All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.**

Our highest calling as Christians is to glorify God, and to enjoy Him forever.