

THE  
LION  
OF JUDAH



# Revelation

- Revelation = singular – not Revelations
- Not a series of visions or pictures
- It is one motion picture in living color
- After the letters to the 7 churches the movie begins
- YOU are in this opening scene

# Revelation 4 & 5

- As the movie begins the camera begins at the center of the scene
- Then the camera slowly backs away to show each group farther from the center



# God on the Throne – 4:1-3

- 1 After these things I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven. And the first voice which I heard was like a trumpet speaking with me, saying, "Come up here, and I will show you things which must take place after this." 2 Immediately I was in the Spirit; and behold, a throne set in heaven, and One sat on the throne. 3 And He who sat there was like a jasper and a sardius stone in appearance; and there was a rainbow around the throne, in appearance like an emerald.

# God on the Throne – 4:1-3

- God the Father is at the very center of all the Bible from Genesis to Revelation
- God is on the Throne – He is still in charge
- Where God is – there is brightness, brilliance, jewels and a rainbow

## 24 Elders / 24 Thrones – 4:4

- Around the throne were twenty-four thrones, and on the thrones I saw twenty-four elders sitting, clothed in white robes; and they had crowns of gold on their heads.

# 24 Elders / 24 Thrones – 4:4

- Several theories about these 24 - - -
- 24 courses / levels of priests
- 24 = 12 doubled – the whole church (Jews and Gentiles)
- 12 tribes of Israel (Jews) & 12 apostles (Christians)

## 7 Lamps, 7 Spirits – 4:5

- And from the throne proceeded lightnings, thunderings, and voices. Seven lamps of fire were burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God.



## 7 Lamps – 4:5

- “The Holy Spirit. The numeral seven indicates fulness, perfection. It is the sacred number. The sevens are constantly repeated through Revelation. There are seven churches, seven spirits, seven seals, seven trumpets, seven thunders, seven vials, etc.” — B. W. Johnson, The People's New Testament

## 4 Living Creatures – 4:6-7

- 6 Before the throne there was a sea of glass, like crystal. And in the midst of the throne, and around the throne, were four living creatures full of eyes in front and in back. 7 The first living creature was like a lion, the second living creature like a calf, the third living creature had a face like a man, and the fourth living creature was like a flying eagle.

# 4 Living Creatures – 4:6-7

- Theories about these creatures:
- 4 primary angels – archangels?
- 1 – Looked like a lion
- 2 – Like a calf
- 3 – Face like a man
- 4 – Flying like a eagle

# All worship God – 4:8-11

- 8 The four living creatures, each having six wings, were full of eyes around and within. And they do not rest day or night, saying: "Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, Who was and is and is to come!" 9 Whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits on the throne, who lives forever and ever, 10 the twenty-four elders fall down before Him who sits on the throne and worship Him who lives forever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying: 11 "You are worthy, O Lord, To receive glory and honor and power; For You created all things, And by Your will they exist and were

# All worship God – 4:8-11

- 24 elders and 4 living creatures worship God
- The theme is -
  - God is Holy
  - We should honor Him for all eternity
  - God is worthy of our worship

# God has a scroll – 5:1-4



- 1 And I saw in the right hand of Him who sat on the throne a scroll written inside and on the back, sealed with seven seals. 2 Then I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, "Who is worthy to open the scroll and to loose its seals?" 3 And no one in heaven or on the earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll, or to look at it. 4 So I wept much, because no one was found worthy to open and read the scroll, or to look at it.



# God has a scroll – 5:1-4

- Scrolls made of papyrus reeds – smooth on top side – rough on back side
- Written on both sides = VERY IMPORTANT
- Sealed with 7 seals
  - Not sealed to preserve – like a canning jar
  - Seal = like a notary seal – show as genuine
  - Seal = shows it has not been altered, tampered, or changed
- Who has the authority to open the seals?

# The Lion of Judah – 5:5

- But one of the elders said to me, "Do not weep. Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has prevailed to open the scroll and to loose its seven seals."





# The Lion of Judah – 5:5



- Notice - Lion (symbol of royalty) of Judah
- **Genesis 49:9-10** 9 Judah is a lion's whelp; From the prey, my son, you have gone up. He bows down, he lies down as a lion; And as a lion, who shall rouse him?  
10 The scepter shall not depart from Judah, Nor a lawgiver from between his feet, Until Shiloh comes; And to Him shall be the obedience of the people

# The Lion of Judah – 5:5



- Notice - Root of David
- **Isaiah 11:10** "And in that day there shall be a Root of Jesse, Who shall stand as a banner to the people; For the Gentiles shall seek Him, And His resting place shall be glorious."



## Lamb – 5:6



- And I looked, and behold, in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as though it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent out into all the earth.

# Lamb – 5:6

- Here is the element of surprise
- The LION can open the seals
- John looks and sees a LAMB
- Jesus is the LION and the LAMB!



## Lamb took the scroll – 5:7-8

- Then He came and took the scroll out of the right hand of Him who sat on the throne. 8 Now when He had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each having a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints.



## Angels sing – 5:11-12

- 11 Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne, the living creatures, and the elders; and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands, 12 saying with a loud voice: "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain To receive power and riches and wisdom, And strength and honor and glory and blessing!"



## Angels sing – 5:11-12

- **What is the number present?**
- 4 – living creatures
- 24 – elders
- Angels = 10,000 X 10,000 and 1,000s of 1,000s
- **Hebrews 12:22** But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to an innumerable company of angels,

# You are there – 5:13

- And every creature which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, I heard saying: "Blessing and honor and glory and power Be to Him who sits on the throne, And to the Lamb, forever and ever!"
- This includes all humanity.



# The movie is about to start

- All that we have studied is the opening scene and the action is about to begin.
- Worship of God includes more than a preacher and song leader.
- **When you worship God** – think about this scene with the 4 living creatures, 24 elders, the Lion / Lamb, the host of angels – all humanity present.

We will stand before Jesus

