



Revelation 4:1, "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'."

Revelation 4:2, "Immediately I was in the Spirit; and behold, a throne set in heaven, and on the throne One sitting."

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Revelation 4:4, "Around the throne 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."

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1. They are "elders," *presbuteroi*, a word never used of angels.

There is an absence of the mention of these
 24 elders in heaven prior to the events of
 Rev 4.

3. The prophecies in *Daniel* are the frame of reference for the book of Revelation. In Dan 7:9

Daniel 7:9, "I watched till <u>thrones</u> [pl.] were put in place, and the Ancient of Days was seated; His garment *was* white as snow, and the hair of His head *was* like pure wool. His <u>throne</u> [sg.] *was* a fiery flame, its wheels a burning fire;"

4. The number, 24, is based on the representative priesthood in Israel.
1 Chron 24:3, 4; 1 Chron 15:9–30.

5. The white garments are those of rewarded Church Age believers. Rev 3:5, 18.

 The golden crown are stephanos, rewarded crowns, not diademos, crowns of royalty. Angels are never said to wear victor crowns, only humans.

- 7. The function of the 24 elders, as kings and priests, fits the role of the glorified church, not the role of angels.
 - <u>Revelation 5:10</u>, "And have made <u>you</u> kings and priests to our God; and you shall reign on the earth."

8. These 24 elders are redeemed by the blood of the Lamb (Rev 5:9). Angels are not redeemed. Revelation 5:9, "And they [the two groups mentioned] sang a new song, saying: [First group: The 24 elders]

'You [the Lamb] are worthy to take the scroll, and to open its seals; For You were slain, and have redeemed us to God by Your blood out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation,

[Second Group: The Living Creatures]

Revelation 5:10, "And have made them kings and priests to our God; and you shall reign on the earth'."

Revelation 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.

twork by Pat Marvenko Smith ©1982, 1992 ww.revelationillustrated.com Revelation 8:5, "Then the angel took the censer, filled it with fire from the altar, and threw *it* to the earth. And there were noises, thunderings, lightnings, and an earthquake." Revelation 11:19, "Then the temple of God was opened in heaven, and the ark of His covenant was seen in His temple. And there were lightnings, noises, thunderings, an earthquake, and great hail." Revelation 16:18, "And there were noises and thunderings and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such a mighty and great earthquake as had not occurred since men were on the earth." 4:5 lightnings and noises and thunderings

8:5 thunderings, noises, lightnings, and an earthquake

11:19 lightnings, noises, thunderings, an earthquake, and great hail

16:18 "And there were thunderings and noises and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such a mighty and great earthquake as had not occurred since men were on the earth."

Revelation 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." Revelation 1:4, "John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace, from Him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven Spirits who are before His throne," Zechariah 4:6, "So he answered and said to me: 'This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: "Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit," says the LORD of hosts'."

Zechariah 4:10, "For who has despised the day of small things? For these seven rejoice to see the plumb line in the hand of Zerubbabel. They are the eyes of the LORD, which scan to and fro throughout the whole earth." Revelation 4:6, "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.

Revelation 4:7, "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. Revelation 4:8, "*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!

Revelation 4:9, "Whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits on the throne, who lives forever and ever,"