

“The Throne of God” – week #8
Revelation 4

Key vocabulary

1. **Throne = seat of authority & rule; God is the ruler of all heaven & earth**
2. **Jasper = clear crystal, probably see through reflecting the rainbow colors**
3. **Carnelian = orange, red clear type of crystal, see through**
4. **Emerald = light green crystal, see through to reflect more light**
5. **24 elders = represents the ‘Raptured Church’ in heaven**
6. **7 torches of fire/7 spirits of God = Holy Spirit, fire represents cleansing through judgment**
7. **4 living creatures = these are Seraphim – Isaiah 6:1-8 & Cherubim – Ezekiel 1:4-14**
*****God’s power & heaven’s beauty is on display w/crystals & the Noahic Rainbow- Genesis 9**
*****The Church is already in heaven having gone through the Judgment Seat of Christ w/white garments & crowns on their heads – Revelation 4:4**
*****John experienced a “rapture” as a preview of what will happen to the Church in the near future!!!**

Going deeper

Cherubim = guardian angels, they guard God’s holy throne, seen on the Ark of the Covenant – Exodus 25:22 – seen in Ezekiel 1:4-28 & seen in Genesis 3:22-24

Seraphim = worship angels, seen in Isaiah 6:1-8

Gabriel = messenger angel in Daniel 8 & 9, to Mary in Luke 1 etc.

Michael, the Archangel = warrior angel, seen in Daniel 10, Revelation 12 etc.

Female Angels = some prophetic angels in Zechariah 5:5-11

The 24 Elders

Who are they?

Angels? NO = angels do not sit on thrones nor are they ever referred to as ‘elders,’ the redeemed (saved) qualify in both areas! – Matthew 19:28

They are wearing white garments (fine linen) – Revelation 19:14

They are wearing golden crowns – Judgment Seat of Christ, crowns awarded – James 1:12 Example 12 Disciples, 12 Tribes of Israel? = 24

Not likely since OT Saints will not be resurrected until the end of the Tribulation – Daniel 12:1-2

Well, 12 seems to be the number of completion in the Bible ...

12 spies, 12 stones, 12 tribes, 12 disciples etc.

Possible explanation ...

I Chronicles 24 = 24 orders of priests, we ARE priests – I Peter 2:9-10, Revelation 5:10

It’s unanimously believed that these 24 elders are “The Church” after having been raptured & judged!