



10/2/25

In my response today, you'll see me mention my living creature, Toby. He is 12 years old now, and I think he's starting to forget that I'm the "master" and he's the doggy. He tells me when he wants to be fed, when he wants more, when he wants to go out, when he wants me to pet him. I think he may be turning into a cat. But that can't be right. God created them according to their kind! Maybe my baby is just getting old. I still love him, and I want to keep him around as long as I can.

*Blessings,
Jonna*

Revelation 4

I will never forget when Tim preached the Book of Revelation, and we got to this chapter. This chapter is one of the many reasons I can read what's to come and know it is "for worship and not for worry". I don't think I noticed before that the very reason everything revolves around the throne and everyone bows to the Lord in worship... is the power of God in CREATION! Vs. 11 says, "Worthy are You, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for You CREATED all things, and by Your will they existed and were created." To negate the power of God in creation is to negate the magnitude of who He is. And the reason I can face tomorrow is because I know He who spoke the world and all who live here into existence also holds tomorrow in His hands. Worthy are You, Lord, to receive my worship. Because You are so worthy, I do not need to worry!!! Praise Your name!

Vs. 1 ~ John said, "After this I looked, and behold a door standing open in heaven!" After what I looked? This is so cool!!! This comes right after Jesus said to the church At Laodicea, "Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with Me." He was saying here, "I wait for you to open the door of your heart to Me, believer who is not devoted to Me." And then John points out that GOD'S door in heaven is OPEN. It is never God who closes His door to me. It is I who close my door to Him. O Lord, please help me to keep my door open to You. You are worthy!!!

John heard one who had the voice like a trumpet say to him, "Come up here, and I will show you

what must take place after this." Come up where? Come up to the throne room of heaven. God is so good! John was going to be shown some really frightening things in the chapters that follow. God made sure that he saw His majesty and glory and power from His throne BEFORE seeing the scary things so that he would never forget... "Greater is He who is in me than he that is in the world." If I know the power and wisdom and majesty and love of God being poured into my heart, I can face what I don't understand and filter it through my God who does understand.

Vs. 2 ~ John says, "At once I was in the Spirit." This is so important for me to grasp. John would have seen nothing if he had not been IN the Holy Spirit. It is the Holy Spirit who leads me into all truth... who reveals truth... who helps me overcome my worry.

John saw "one seated on the throne". I remember someone pointing out to me that everything John saw next was centered on the throne. God is the center! Not me. What did John see?

Vs. 3-11 ~

John tries to describe the One on the throne in all His magnificence. But how do you describe the majesty of heaven to someone who has never seen the fullness of majesty? John tries to give a snapshot of His glory.

One thing I know for sure... the Lord God Almighty sits on the throne, and I do not! If He is on His throne in heaven, I need to let Him be on the throne of my heart.

He "had the appearance of jasper and carnelian." Beautiful light like precious jewels emanating from His glory.

A rainbow of emerald encircled the throne. Every rainbow I see on earth is beautiful. Each one reminds me of God's faithfulness in keeping His promises. No rainbow I have ever seen was a complete circle. In heaven, the rainbow is complete because God is complete.

24 four elders clothed in white with crowns on their heads sat on 24 thrones that surrounded His throne. Could they be the 12 disciples along with representatives of the 12 tribes of Israel? I don't know. I know that angels are never called elders, so these are people... on thrones! Their thrones don't match the throne of God, but God gives them a measure of glory and honor. God is generous. None of us deserve glory and honor from Him, but He still gives it. He crowns me with glory and honor and steadfast love and mercy. Praise His name.

From the throne came thunder and lightning. This is reminiscent of the time Moses spent with God on the mountain when God gave him the 10 commandments with thunder and lightning coming from the mountain. The people were terrified. They missed the memo... this is for worship, not for worry. I'm GRATEFUL that my God is so powerful that thunder and lightning come from Him! Who can stand against the power of the living God? No one!

Before the throne were 7 burning torches of fire which are the 7 spirits of God. Revelation 1:4

tells me that this is referring to the Holy Spirit. He is the One who seals me, who pours the love of God into my heart, who leads me, and who transforms me to be like Jesus.

Also before the throne is a sea of glass, like crystal. I can only imagine the prisms of light emanating through the glass.

Around the throne on each side of the throne are 4 living creatures full of eyes in front and behind. I don't know... that had to be really weird to look at. So completely different from anything my mind can conceive. Let me never minimize the awe of God!!!

Each living creature was both unique and similar in its appearance. They all had eyes and 6 wings. But one looked like a lion... powerful. One looked like an ox... strong. One had the face of a man... though he was not a man. One looked like an eagle in flight. Each represent a sense of authority to me. Even with their power and the sense of authority, they all worship the Lord Almighty... day and night, never ending worship... as He deserves.

"They never cease to say, 'Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!'" He is eternal. He is holy, set apart. I can say every day of my life, "This moment is for worship and not for worry, because the holy Lord God Almighty WAS in charge, IS in charge, and ALWAYS will be in charge." Do I believe that? If I do, it will absolutely change the way I handle every single situation I face... big or small, significant or seemingly insignificant. Even insignificant moments are significant because they reveal my heart. Is the door of my heart open to the One whose door is open to me?

As the living creatures worshiped the Lord God Almighty with glory and honor and thanks, the 24 elders couldn't help but worship Him as well. They fell down on their faces before Him who was seated on His throne. They cast their crowns before His throne in totally surrendered worship.

They said to Him who is worthy of worship forever and ever because He LIVES forever and ever... "Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for You created all things, and by Your will they existed and were created."

God is the source of all glory and honor and power, so He is worthy to receive all glory and honor and power. The elders and living creatures understood that. Do I? They worshiped God, not out of obligation, but gratitude. Do I? O Lord, may it be so.

This is why I can worship and not worry...

- *God's door is always open to me.*
- *Everything revolves around His throne.*
- *The Lord God Almighty is on His throne. He WAS. He IS. He will ALWAYS BE.*
- *He is the source of all glory and honor and power.*

This is why I need to get off my throne and get on my face before the Lord in worship...

- *No open door of mine would mean anything if His door was not open to me.*
- *Nothing revolves around me... even if I want to believe it does. I have no thunder and lightning coming from my throne. I have no rainbow encircling me. Even my living creature, Toby, does not worship me 24 hours of the day.*
- *I was NOT. I am ONLY because of Jesus' blood covering my sin. I WILL BE only because HE gives me life.*
- *Any genuine, lasting honor or glory or power I have comes from Him.*

O Lord, please help me to remember these things. When I am trying to be on the throne, I have lots of reason to worry... I don't have the power or the wisdom or the authority to control anything. When You are on the throne of my heart, I have no reason to worry. Instead, I can gratefully worship. Holy, holy, holy are You my God... worthy of all worship and praise and gratitude.

When I think of how COMPLETELY You're worshiped in heaven and how INCOMPLETELY You're worshiped in my own life, I'm in awe of Your mercy. I deserve nothing but condemnation and punishment. You give me mercy and grace... because You are love. O Lord, if You grow nothing else in me, please grow my heart of worship for You. You are worthy.