I. FIRST, THIS IS A SIGNIFICANT VERSE.

A. It’s significant because it’s a “transition” verse (“After this”)

   It’s a bridge between Revelation 1-3 and what follows.

B. It’s also significant because it’s a representative verse (“I looked”)

   1. John represents all Christians who will be raptured to heaven.

   2. The church is not mentioned again being on earth after chapter three.

II. SECOND, THIS IS A SYMBOLIC VERSE.

A. First, there is a visual symbol (“a door standing open in heaven”).

   1. This symbolizes entrance into heaven.

   2. This door is not a thing, but a person-John 10:9.

B. Second, there is an auditory symbol (“the voice I had first heard speaking to me like a trumpet”).

   1. John had heard this voice before-1:10.

   2. This voice belongs to Jesus-1:17-18.

   3. A trumpet will sound preceding Jesus’ Return (perhaps Rapture)-I Thessalonians 4:16 & I Corinthians 15:52.
III. THIRD, THIS IS SOLACING VERSE.

A. There is a solacing invitation (“Come up here”-symbolic of the rapture which means “caught up”).

B. There is solacing information (“I will show you what must take place after this.”) (i.e. “after you are gone”). Refers to chapters 4-22.