Behold, A Throne!

Revelation 4 Chad Scruggs Tuesday Morning Men's Bible Study Park Cities Presbyterian Church October 4, 2016

Revelation 4 After this I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven! And the first voice, which I had heard speaking to me like a trumpet, said, "Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this." ² At once I was in the Spirit, and behold, a throne stood in heaven, with one seated on the throne. ³ And he who sat there had the appearance of jasper and carnelian, and around the throne was a rainbow that had the appearance of an emerald. ⁴ Around the throne were twenty-four thrones, and seated on the thrones were twenty-four elders, clothed in white garments, with golden crowns on their heads. ⁵ From the throne came flashes of lightning, and rumblings and peals of thunder, and before the throne there was as it were a sea of glass, like crystal.

And around the throne, on each side of the throne, are four living creatures, full of eyes in front and behind: ⁷ the first living creature like a lion, the second living creature like an ox, the third living creature with the face of a man, and the fourth living creature like an eagle in flight. ⁸ And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and within, and day and night they never cease to say,

"Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!"

⁹ And whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to him who is seated on the throne, who lives forever and ever, ¹⁰ the twenty-four elders fall down before him who is seated on the throne and worship him who lives forever and ever. They cast their crowns before the throne, saying,

¹¹ "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."

Table Discussion Questions:

1. Why do you think John is shown a throne at the beginning of his vision? Why do the seven churches need to see this first? Why do we?

2. What grips you about the vision personally? What feelings/impressions does it invoke? What does this suggest about standing in the presence of God?

3. What is said about God in the vision? How might this change the way you pray, worship, live before Him?

4. What things easily get enthroned in your own heart? What happens in our lives when other things are big and God is small?

5. What is the relationship between God and creation? When is the creation at its best? Why is it important to remember that all of life is spiritual life?

6. How does a vision of God's beauty and power actually free us to be ourselves?

7. What is the position of the door at the beginning of John's vision? Why is that important? Who has the authority to invite John through the door?