Revelation

Chapters 4 & 5

Revelation 1:19

"Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter;"

1. "hast seen" – Chapter 1 – The Revelation of Christ
2. "which are" – Chapters 2,3 – The Church Age
3. "which shall be hereafter" – Chapters 4-22 – After the church age – at the end of the world and throughout eternity

Why the Rapture Occurs Between Chapters 3 & 4

- ✓ **The "church" is never mentioned again after chapter 3**
- ✓ **The tribulation, the wrath of God begins in chapter 6**
- ✓ **The antichrist makes his entrance in chapter 6**

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Why the Rapture Occurs Between Chapters 3 & 4

- ✓ **Rev. 4:1 – "trumpet", "come up here and I will show you things which must take place after these things" (the things of the church)**
- ✓ **The enthroned elders are representative of the raptured saints and they are always seen in heaven after Rev. 4:1**

So, What Are Chapters 4 & 5 About?

- ✓ The judgments and wrath of God are not actually mentioned as being poured out until chapter 6.
- ✓ Chapters 4 and 5 are introductions to the terrible events described from chapter 6 on.

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So, What Are Chapters 4 & 5 About?

- ✓ Chapter 4 describes the scene around the throne of God after the rapture, before the tribulation events are described.
- ✓ Chapter 5 describes a "sealed book" and the search to find someone worthy to open the book and reveal the contents of each of the sealed sections of the book.

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Revelation Chapter 4

1 After this I looked, and there before me was a door
standing open in heaven. And the voice I had first 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 there before me was a throne in
heaven with someone sitting on it. 3 And the one who sat
there had the appearance of jasper and carnelian. A
rainbow, resembling an emerald, encircled the throne. 4
Surrounding the throne were twenty-four other thrones,
and seated on them were twenty-four elders. They were
dressed in white and had crowns of gold on their heads. 5
From the throne came flashes of lightning, rumblings and
peals of thunder. Before the throne, seven lamps were
blazing. These are the seven spirits of God.

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Revelation Chapter 4

6 Also before the throne there was what looked like
a sea of glass, clear as crystal. In the center,
around the throne, were four living creatures, and
they were covered with eyes, in front and in back.
7 The first living creature was like a lion, the second
was like an ox, the third had a face like a man, the
fourth was like a flying eagle. 8 Each of the four
living creatures had six wings and was covered
with eyes all around, even under his wings. Day
and night they never stop saying:

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

Revelation Chapter 4

9 Whenever the living creatures give glory,
honor and thanks to him who sits on the throne
and who lives for ever and ever, 10 the twenty-
four elders fall down before him who sits on the
throne, and worship him who lives for ever and
ever. They lay their crowns before the throne
and say:

11 "You are worthy, our Lord and God,
to receive glory and honor and power,
for you created all things,
and by your will they were created
and have their being."

Revelation Ch. 4&5

Revelation Chapter 5

1 Then I saw in the right hand of him who sat on the throne a
scroll with writing on both sides and sealed with seven seals. 2
And I saw a mighty angel proclaiming in a loud voice, "Who is
worthy to break the seals and open the scroll?" 3 But no one in
heaven or on earth or under the earth could open the scroll or
even look inside it. 4 I wept and wept because no one was
found who was worthy to open the scroll or look inside. 5 Then
one of the elders said to me, "Do not weep! See, the Lion of the
tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has triumphed. He is able to
open the scroll and its seven seals." 6 Then I saw a Lamb,
looking as if it had been slain, standing in the center of the
throne, encircled by the four living creatures and the elders. He
had seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of
God sent out into all the earth. 7 He came and took the scroll
from the right hand of him who sat on the throne.

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Revelation Chapter 5

8 And when he had taken it, the four living creatures
and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb.
Each one had a harp and they were holding golden
bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the
saints. 9 And they sang a new song:

"You are worthy to take the scroll
and to open its seals,
because you were slain,
and with your blood you purchased men for God
from every tribe and language and people and nation.
10 You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to
serve our God,
and they will reign on the earth."

Revelation Ch. 4&5

Revelation Chapter 5

11 Then I looked and heard the voice of many angels,
numbering thousands upon thousands, and ten thousand times
ten thousand. They encircled the throne and the living
creatures and the elders. 12 In a loud voice they sang:

"Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain,
to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength
and honor and glory and praise!"

13 Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and
under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, singing:

"To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb
be praise and honor and glory and power,
for ever and ever!"

14 The four living creatures said, "Amen," and the elders fell
down and worshiped.

Highlights of Chapters 4 & 5

- ✓ John is transported into heaven.
- ✓ The throne of God is seen.
- ✓ God Himself is seen holding a book which contains the destiny of the world in the end times. However the book is sealed, and no one is found worthy to open and reveal the contents of the book.

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Highlights of Chapters 4 & 5

- ✓ This discourages John, for the possibility of seeing the destiny of the world had excited him.
- ✓ But just as John despairs, One steps forward who is worthy to open the book.
- ✓ That Person is the Lamb of God, the Lamb slain before the foundation of the earth, Jesus Christ Himself.

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Next Week:

- ✓ Revelation Chapter 6
  - The first 6 seals of the book that we saw today will be opened
  - As each seal is opened, a different judgment will be poured out upon the earth
  - Those who have not gone in the rapture will have to suffer all of these judgments, in addition to the trumpet and bowl judgments
  - You do not want to be here on this earth when these judgments are poured out – be ready!