**The Book of Revelation 4:1-11**

**Opening Questions**

1. Name several common misconceptions people have about heaven.
2. Imagine actually seeing Jesus and being in His presence for eternity. What thoughts and feelings come to mind?
3. What does it mean to you to worship God?

**Basic Facts**

* The first voice that John heard was like that of a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* John saw a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ around the throne.
* There were \_\_\_\_\_ additional thrones around the throne.
* Before the throne was a sea of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* The first living creature John saw was a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* John saw \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ living creatures around the throne.
* \_\_\_\_\_ elders fell down before Him.
* The elders cast their \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ before the throne.
* The elders call the Lord \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**Key Phrases**

* *Things which must take place after this:* This begins the third and final section of the book, describing the events that will follow in the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* *Throne:* This refers not so much to a piece of furniture as it does to a symbol of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. It is the focus of chapter four, occurring thirteen times, with eleven times referring to God’s throne.
* *Jasper:* John later describes this stone as “crystal clear”, probably referring to a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, which refracts all the colors of the spectrum in wonderous brilliance.
* *Sardius:* A fiery bright \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ stone named for the city near which it was found.
* *Emerald:* A cool, emerald-green hue dominates the multi-colored \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ surrounding God’s throne.
* *Lightnings, thunderings:* Not the fury of nature, but the firestorm of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ about to come from an awesome, powerful God upon a sinful world.
* *Seven spirits of God:* The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* *Sea of Glass:* There is no sea in heaven, but the crystal pavement that serves as the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ stretches out like a great, glistening sea.
* *Full of eyes:* Although not omniscient-an attribute reserved for God alone-these four living creatures, angels, have a comprehensive \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Nothing escapes their scrutiny.
* *First…like a lion:* Symbolic of a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* *Second…like a calf:* Symbolic of a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* *Third…face like a man:* Symbolic of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* *Fourth…like a flying eagle:* Symbolic of a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* *Holy, holy, holy:* Often God is extoled for His holiness in this threefold form, because it is the summation of all that He is-His most prominent attribute-\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* *Cast their crowns:* Aware that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is responsible for the rewards they have received, they divest themselves of all honor and cast it at the feet of their King.
* *You created all things:* It is the Creator God who set out to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ His creation.

**Discussion Questions**

1. What creatures did John see around the throne? What were they doing?
2. What feeling do you get when you read these descriptions of symbolic heavenly scenes? What is the tone?
3. What do you learn about worship from these passages?
4. Read Psalm 96:1-4. Many scenes in Revelation are filled with praise and singing. What part does singing praises play in worshiping God? Why is it such an integral part?
5. How can glimpsing true worship in heaven help us better worship here on earth?
6. Describe your own habits of worship. Is it passionate and exuberant? Or is it restrained and distracted? Why?