

GROUP 1

Throne in Heaven

Passages to guide discussion:

Gen 1:14-19 - the things in heaven rules the things on earth

Deu 32:1 (Compare with Deut 31:28-30) - Moses speaks to heaven & Earth
(ruling people and rulers of Israel)

2 Peter 3:5, 7, and 13 - the new heavens and earth - what are these?

Compare with rest of chapter.

Isaiah 65:17-18 - new heavens and new earth - what time is this speaking of?

Luke 1:32 - throne of David. When will this be established?

Jeremiah 3:17 - throne in Jerusalem the throne of Yahweh.

When will this be established?

Using the passages above what is the symbol of the throne in heaven
representing in **Revelation 4:2**

GROUP 2

The one sat on the throne

Passages to guide discussion:

Revelation 5:3&13-14 - all creatures in heaven, earth, under the earth and the sea worship him.

Phil 2:9-11 - every knee of those in heaven and on earth should bow to Jesus - why?

Revelation 4:3 - what was the appearance of this person?

Gen 49:24 - Jesus is the "stone" of Israel.

Jasper is a blue clear crystal - consider **Num 15:38-39** and **Rev 21:3&11**) - what could this be representing for us?

How does **Rev 21:11** connect with **Phil 2:9-11**?

Sardine is a red like colour (consider **Isa 1:18**) - what could this be representing for us?

Heb 4:15 - Jesus tempted in all points without sin. Discuss how this could fit with the meaning of the Jasper and Sardine stones.

Other discussion points if there is time:

Exo 28:17-20 - notice the order of the stones (comp. **Rev 1:8**)

Ezekiel 1:26-28 - same vision

Using the passages above who is being represented as the one that sits on the heavenly throne in **Revelation 4:2-3**

GROUP 3

Rainbow like an emerald

Passages to guide discussion:

Genesis 9:8-11 - what was the rainbow a token of?

Which covenant could this refer to - (consider Genesis 3:15, 6:18, & 17:2)

The ingredients of the rainbow:

Malachi 4:2 - the sun = Christ

Heb 12:1 - the clouds = Saints

Deu 32:2 & Psa 72:6 - the rain = God's word

When will all of these components come together?

Ezekiel 1:26-28 - this is a similar vision as Revelation 4-5 - how is the rainbow described?

Emeralds are green.

Isa 15:6 - no green thing

Psa 37:1-2 - evil does not green

Jer 17:7-8 - the righteous are green

Psa 1:3 - leaf not wither

What Biblical meaning can we attach to the colour green?

Using the passages above what is the rainbow signifying in **Revelation 4:3**?

GROUP 4

Twenty Four Elders

Passages to guide discussion:

1Ch 24:4-19 - 24 divisions of priests (see also **Amos 9:11** - David's systems a pattern of the future). What does this indicate to us in relation to the 24 elders?

Revelation 4:4

White raiment - see **Rev 19:8**

Crowns - these are not Kingly crowns but "stephanos" - given to the victorious. See **Rev 2:10, 3:11, 1Pe 5:4, Jas 1:12,**

Gold - see **1Pe 1:7**

What is the meaning we get from these different symbols?

Rev 5:8

Harp - see **1 Chron 25:1, 1Sa 10:5, Sa 16:16 & 23, Psa 33:2 49:3-4**

Golden Vials full of odours - (Odours = incense same word **Luke 1:10 & 11**)

Consider **Psa 141:2, Exodus 30:7-9, Phl 4:18, Heb 13:15**

Rev 5:10 - What do the 24 elders say they are? Which aspect best fits the meaning derived from the above passages?

Using the passages above what do the Twenty Four Elders represent in **Revelation 3** and what work does it emphasise?

GROUP 5

Four Living Ones

Passages to guide discussion:

Revelation 4:6-9 - There are four "beasts"
(Greek "zōon" meaning "living one" not "beasts" like in **Rev 13:1** which is the Greek thērion meaning "wild beast"). Where are they?

Revelation 3:21 - who will sit in the throne? (compare with **1 Samuel 2:8**).

Ezekiel 1:1-14 - four living creatures. What was driving these (see **v20**)?

Eze 10:15-22 - Ezekiel sees the same vision again.

What departed and stood over the Cherubim?

Ezek 43:1-6 What is restored to God's house?

What would you say the Cherubim were the "vehicles" of?

What did they do in **Gen 3:24**?

Isa 6:1-8 - "seraphim" means "burning one" - see **Jer 21:12** what does fire this represent?

Compare **Isa 6:3** with **Rev 4:8** - what conclusion can we draw from this?

What was "purged" by the work of the Seraphim in Isaiah 6?

See also **Isa 6:9-12** and compare with **John 12:37-41** - whose glory do the Seraphim represent?

What similarities can you spot between this prophecy, Ezekiel and Rev 4? Eg:

Wings **v6** with **Rev 4:8, Ezek 1:8-11**

"holy holy holy" **v3** with **Rev 4:8**.

Rev 5:8-10 - kings and priests

Using the passages above what are the four beasts representing in

Revelation 4?

GROUP 6

Sea of glass

Passages to guide discussion:

Isa 57:20 - wicked are a troubled sea

Isa 17:13 - nations = waters

Psa 65:7 - who stills the sea?

Mat 8:26-27 - who does the sea obey?

Rev 17:15 - waters = peoples

Rev 15:2 - sea of glass, what could this mean?

Rev 21:1 - no more sea, what could this mean?

Rev 5:13 - who are the creatures in the sea?

Using the passages above what is the "sea of glass" in **Revelation 4:6** symbolise?

GROUP 7

Lion of Tribe of Judah

Passages to guide discussion:

Start: **Revelation 5:5** - the Lion of the tribe of Judah & the Root of David
Genesis 49:9-10 - Judah, the kingly tribe a lion.

2Sa 2:4 - David was of the tribe of Judah

2Sa 7:12-13 - Christ the promised seed

Mat 1:1 - Christ son of David

Luke 1:32 - Christ to have the throne of David

Rom 1:3 - Christ of David

Rev 22:16 - Christ is of David

John 5:22 - Jesus the righteous judge

Isa 2:1-3 - the law giver in the future

Psa 72:1-4 - the righteous kingship of Christ

Using the passages above who does the the Lion of the tribe of Judah represent in **Revelation 5:5** and what work does it emphasise?

GROUP 8

Lamb

Passages to guide discussion:

Isa 53:7 - who is this speaking of?

John 1:29 & 36 - Jesus called a lamb - what was this lamb to do?

Acts 8:31-36 - Preaching of Jesus as the lamb

1Pe 1:18-19 - blood of Christ = lamb

Exodus 12:1-11 & 21-22 & 29 - the passover.

What did the blood of the lamb do?

Revelation 5:8-14 - What are the things the lamb is praised for?

Using the passages above who does the lamb represent in **Revelation 4 & 5** and what work does it emphasise?