

## Revelation -12

### Notes on symbolism, imagery, etc. in Revelation 4-5

4:1...a door represents an opening allowing John to see into the heavenly scene.

...the first voice as it were of a trumpet, must be connected to Rev. 1:10. The Lord's voice is represented as a trumpet and this should alert one for a fuller understanding of the last trump of 1 Corinthians 15...not to be thought of as the seventh trumpet of Revelation.

4:2...in the spirit, may be understood as "by the Spirit I was shown these things" or as "in my spirit I was allowed to see these things."

4:3...a jasper, a sardine stone a rainbow round about...like unto an emerald. The jasper was likely clear, the sardine likely red and the emerald likely green. Forgive me for the "likely" notes but it is very difficult to accurately discover what the precious stones were...most of them have a Hebrew background, transliterated into Greek, and the stone values and colors are not clear to us until the Latin age. The colors suggested would go into the rainbow and it is symbolic of God's mercy on the earth as after the Noahic flood. The suggestion is: God is going to again judge the earth but with purpose and His characteristic wisdom. (Might note that the study of the precious stones,, particularly as they affect the Old Testament priesthood and later the New Jerusalem...is a rewarding study but not easily undertaken.)

4:4...white raiment...symbolizes ceremonial purity (see Zechariah 3)...crowns of gold...identifies the persons as partakers in majesty

4:5...seven lamps, seven spirits...seven apparently is used consistently in these passages to indicate completeness or perfection.

4:6...sea of glass indicates the purity of the setting and the absolute absence of what might defile.

...full of eyes...the living creatures are marked by great intelligence.. so symbolized by the eyes

4:7...like a lion, marked by power, like a calf, marked by service, like a man, marked by intelligence, like an eagle, marked by effortless quickness. The living creatures are quite remarkable.

4:8...Remarkable with six wings as in Isaiah 6...covering walk, witness and worship, full of eyes as in vs. 6, marked by intelligence (omniscience?)

4:10..their crowns...hard to understand I think, but whatever the elders had of merit it is cast before the Lord in worship.

5:1...the right hand is the position of action or authority as in 1:16

5:5...the Lion of the tribe of Judah indicates the fulfillment of the prophecy of Genesis 49:10, the Root of David completes the ideas in the prophetic identification of Isaiah 11:10, et al. These two phrases position Christ as Lawgiver and King.