

**GLENVIEW NEW CHURCH SUNDAY MORNING PROGRAM**  
**Primary Lessons: Phase 2, Lesson 25**  
**The Throne in Heaven (Revelation 4:1-8)**

**I. Underlying Ideas for the Teacher**

- A. The book of Revelation is a book of prophecies about the state of heaven and of the church near the end of the Christian Church when the Last Judgment takes place. (AE 5)
- B. Every particular recorded in the book of Revelation, as well as every particular in the prophetic parts of the Word elsewhere, has an internal sense. (AE 87)
- C. John's visions recorded in Revelation can be divided into two groups:
  - 1. First: pictures or symbols of how the Christian Church was doing in the world and in men's hearts, and how it was going to fare in the future.
  - 2. Later: how the Lord would build up a new church.
- D. Every detail of the vision in Chapter 4 has to do with the beauty and power of truth.
- E. John needed this vision of the glory and power of the truth. He was to see terrible things portrayed, but he knew from the beginning that the armies of evil would inevitably fail.
- F. Basic correspondences:
  - 1. A trumpet = the power of truth speaking
  - 2. A throne = judgment

**II. Story Circle**

- A. Introduction
  - 1. Who remembers the name of the book of the Word that we're studying now? (Revelation)
  - 2. And where in the Word do we find the book of Revelation? (At the end)
  - 3. Revelation is a book of prophecies from the Lord. Do you remember what a prophecy is? (A prediction of something that is going to happen in the future)
  - 4. The prophecies in Revelation are about what was going to happen to the Christian Church and about the beginning of the New Church. Who was the prophet who wrote down the book of Revelation as the Lord instructed him to do? (John - the apostle [or disciple] whom the Lord had loved most when He was in the world)

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5. Do you remember where John was when the Lord opened his spiritual eyes and ears so he could see and hear in the spiritual world? (On the Isle of Patmos, in the middle of the sea, where he had been banished)
6. What was the first thing John was shown in the spiritual world? Last week's lesson was about this vision. (The Lord among the 7 golden lampstands)
7. The Lord showed John wonderful things in the other world many times, and John wrote them down in the book of Revelation. Today's lesson comes from Chapter 4 of Revelation. Listen while I read it to you, and see if you can figure out who is on the throne.

### B. Tell/Read the Story

1. Read Rev. 4:1-8 in its entirety.
2. Interject at the appropriate points the following information:
  - a. Jasper - a white precious stone
  - b. Sardius - a red precious stone
  - c. Emerald rainbow— green, not multicolored as in this world (see AR 232)

### C. Ideas to Discuss

1. What was the first thing John saw after the door opened in heaven? (A throne and One sat on it) Who do you think was the One who sat on the throne? (The Lord)
2. What were the names and colors of the 2 stones mentioned in the reading? (Jasper - white; Sardius - red) What color was the rainbow around the throne? (Green - like emerald)
3. How many elders were sitting on thrones around the Lord's throne? (24)
4. How were they dressed? (White robes, gold crowns)
5. What 3 things proceeded from [came out from] the throne? (Lightnings, thunderings, voices)
6. How many lamps were burning in front of the throne? (7)
7. There was a sea before the throne. What was it made of? (Glass, like crystal)
8. How many living creatures were around the throne? (4) And what were they full of, "around and within"? (Eyes)
9. Do you remember what these 4 creatures were saying, day and night, with no rest? ("Holy, holy, holy. Lord God Almighty, Who was and is and is to come!")

### D. Further Ideas

1. Last week you learned that all the light and bright things in John's vision of the Lord had a correspondence, or a special spiritual meaning. Do you remember what light's hidden meaning is? [Hint:

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Light for our eyes shows us the way to go. What lights our minds so we can see how to live a good life?] (True ideas)

2. The reading for today's lesson is full of special spiritual meanings. Actually, every little thing in the whole Word has a special spiritual meaning, or correspondence. We won't talk about all the spiritual meanings in John's vision of the Lord on the throne in heaven, but we will learn about some of them.
3. The special spiritual meaning of the throne is judgment. Judgment means deciding between good and bad things. Can you figure out why a throne would mean judgment? Do you remember a story from the Old Testament about someone who sat on a throne and was known for making wise decisions, or wise judgments? [King Solomon; e.g. I Kings 3: 16-28]
  - a. A throne is where a king sits, and a king's job is to make decisions, or judgments, between good and bad things.
  - b. The Lord is the King of heaven.
4. Can you guess what all the eyes mean that the 4 living creatures were full of? What are eyes for? (Seeing) If you had lots of eyes, all over you, you could see in all directions at once.
5. The beasts being full of eyes is a picture of the Lord seeing everything, things that are happening now, things that have happened in the past, and things that are going to happen in the future.

### III. Enrichment Activities

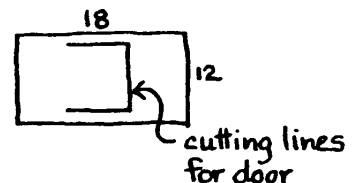
#### A. Music

1. "Revelation," LORI'S SONGS FROM THE WORD II, Side 2, first song. (Words attached to Lesson #1.)

#### B. Activities

#### C. Project: THE DOOR STANDING OPEN IN HEAVEN

1. Photocopy the picture of the Lord on the throne surrounded by the 24 elders and 4 living creatures from Rev. Fred Schnarr's 8th grade Revelation course book (copy attached) for the children to color with colored pencils or fine point felt markers; or distribute white drawing paper for them to do their own drawing. If the latter, it would be better to concentrate on fewer details, perhaps including only the Lord on the throne, the sea before the throne, the 7 burning lamps, and the emerald rainbow.
2. Each child will need a 12 X 18 sheet of colored construction paper laid long side horizontally, on which the teacher has drawn ahead of time lines



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for a door large enough to show the whole picture which the child has drawn or colored.

3. Have the children cut along the door lines and crease the door's "hinges" gently. Then the picture they have colored can be taped onto the back of the construction paper with the colored side showing through the door standing open. Children could draw in doorknob, etc., if they like.
4. A text slip could be glued onto the door: "And behold, a door standing open in heaven." Or, "Holy, holy, holy. Lord God Almighty. Who was and is and is to come!"

### IV. Teaching Aids

### V. Further Reading for the Teacher

A. Dole's *Bible Study Notes*. Vol. 6, "John's Vision of the Throne— Revelation 4," pp. 197-211.

B. AR 232 (concerning the emerald rainbow)