

**THE WAR ROOM**

**Episode Five: Revelation 4**

In turbulent times, people like St. John and we wonder if God is in control. In Revelation 4, a door is opened to us. We see a throne, and Someone sitting on it. This is a war room from which awesome celestial warriors are dispatched, the Horsemen of the Apocalypse gallop forth, bowls of wrath are poured out, and battle trumpets are sounded. This is the war of the worlds; the war to end all wars; our great God destroying his and our enemies, while redeeming the Bride, and restoring a far more glorious Paradise than Adam and Eve lost.

1. The **historical context is critical**: The World Order [with the face of Babylon and the heart of the Beast] has declared war on the Bride of Christ. John, the last of the Apostles, is now a prisoner on the Isle of Patmos, a prison camp in the Roman gulag. The church has lost her moral compass and is, humanly-speaking, hanging by a thread. [Rev. 1:9-11] In reality, the Beast has declared war on heaven by attacking her citizens on earth.
2. “After this I looked…” [Rev. 4:1]. We must always look again to see the reality behind the illusion. “…and there before me was a door standing open in heaven…” [Rev. 4s1; Ephesians 6:12]. The real war is fought by spiritual forces in heavenly realms. We must see that reality, not the pseudo-reality we see with eyes of flesh. “At once, I was in the Spirit…” [Rev. 4:2] We can only see heavenly reality through the eyes of the Spirit.
3. The Throne Room is really a **War Room**. Our Triune God is jealous for the Bride [chosen by the Father, redeemed by the Son, and sanctified by the Spirit], and will unleash all heaven’s arsenal to defend , avenge, and glorify her [Zechariah 2:7&8]
4. **Everything is under control**. “A Throne” [vs. 2] The first thing we need to see: someone is in charge, and everything ultimately makes sense. “…with someone sitting on it.” [vs. 2] Siting, kicked back and relaxed, not pacing, wringing his hands, or distressed.
5. That “Someone” is your awesome and all-powerful God [vv. 3-5] Look at him and know that all will be well.
6. Twenty-four thrones & twenty-four elders. [vs. 4; Ephesians 2:6] Even, when in a cave amongst the salt mines of a barren island in the Roman gulag, you are already ruling with God in heavenly realms. We need to act now what we are going to be later.
7. “…in front of the throne there was what looked like a sea of glass, as clear as crystal.” [vs. 8] Though the winds blow hurricane force, and tsunamis come crashing in upon us, before the throne, our hearts can be as calm as crystal glass seas.
8. “…four living creatures…” [vv. 6&7] All of Creation never stops praising its Creator, day or night 24/7. [vs. 8; Ps.19:1&2] Surely we should too.
9. “…Holy, holy, holy…” [vs. 8] Holiness demands the warrior and the war.
10. Warfare in worship [vv. 9-11; 2 Chronicles 20] Worship brings down heaven’s firepower.