



THE REVELATION


The Heavenly Perspective
Michael Christie





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REVELATION**





Now faith is confidence in what
we hope for and assurance about
what we do not see.

- HEBREWS 11:1



Where there is no revelation,
people cast off restraint. (NIV)

Where there is no vision, the
people perish. (KJV)

- PROVERBS 29:18



REVELATION 4:1-11


¹ After this I looked, and there before me was a door standing open in heaven. And the voice I had first heard speaking to me like a trumpet said, “Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this.” ² At once I was in the Spirit, and there before me was a throne in heaven with someone sitting on it.

³ And the one who sat there had the appearance of jasper and ruby. A rainbow that shone like an emerald encircled the throne. ⁴ Surrounding the throne were twenty-four other thrones, and seated on them were twenty-four elders. They were dressed in white and had crowns of gold on their heads. ⁵ From the throne came flashes of lightning, rumblings and peals of thunder.




In front of the throne, seven lamps were blazing. These are the seven spirits of God. ⁶ Also in front of the throne there was what looked like a sea of glass, clear as crystal. In the center, around the throne, were four living creatures, and they were covered with eyes, in front and in back. ⁷ The first living creature was like a lion, the second was like an ox, the third had a face like a man, the fourth was like a flying eagle.



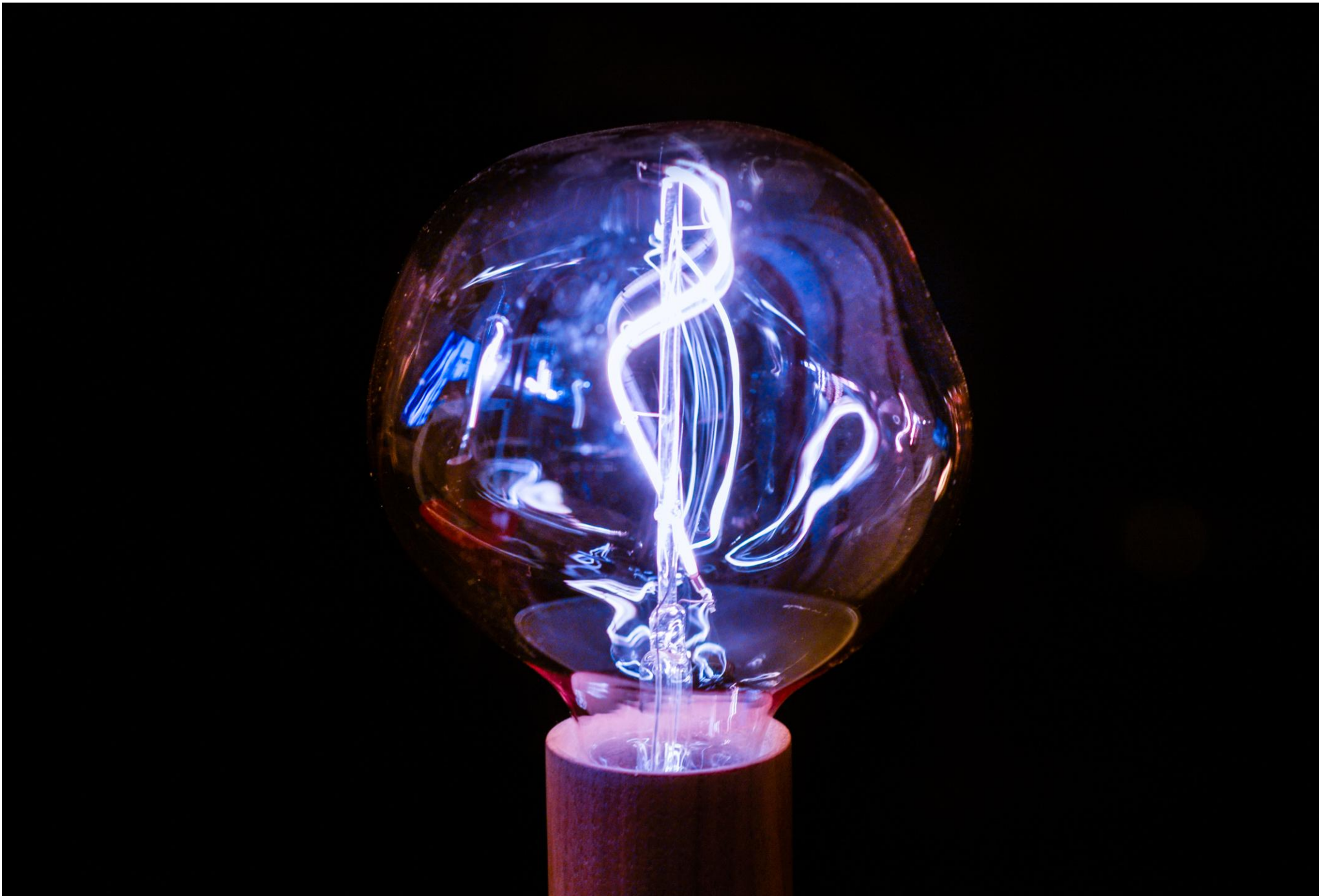


⁸ Each of the four living creatures had six wings and was covered with eyes all around, even under its wings. Day and night they never stop saying: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was, and is, and is to come."

⁹ Whenever the living creatures give glory, honor and thanks to him who sits on the throne and who lives for ever and ever,



¹⁰ the twenty-four elders fall down before him who sits on the throne and worship him who lives for ever and ever. They lay their crowns before the throne and say: ¹¹ “You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being.”





God Enthroned

At once I was in the Spirit, and there before me was a throne in heaven with someone sitting on it. And the one who sat there had the appearance of jasper and ruby. A rainbow that shone like an emerald encircled the throne.

- REVELATION 4:2-3



The LORD has established his throne in
heaven, and his kingdom rules over all.

- PSALM 103:19



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**From the throne came flashes of lightning,
rumblings and peals of thunder.**

- REVELATION 4:5



[People with] great thoughts of man,
have as a rule small thoughts of God.
When the man in the Church, let
alone the man in the street, uses the
word 'God,' the thought in his mind is
rarely of divine majesty.

- J.I. PACKER
Knowing God



Wonder is not cheap amusement that brings a smile to your face. It is an encounter with reality – with God – that brings awe to your heart. You are overwhelmed with an emotion that is a mixture of gratitude, adoration, reverence, fear, and love. You are not looking for explanations; you are lost in the wonder of God.


- WARREN WIERSBE
Real Worship



God Encircled


Surrounding the throne were twenty-four other thrones, and seated on them were twenty-four elders... around the throne, were four living creatures... The first living creature was like a lion, the second was like an ox, the third had a face like a man, the fourth was like a flying eagle.

- REVELATION 4:4, 6-7




To the one who is victorious, I will give the right to sit with me on my throne, just as I was victorious and sat down with my Father on his throne.

- REVELATION 3:21



God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus.

- EPHESIANS 2:6-7



God now rests too inconsequentially upon the church... His truth is too distant, his grace is too ordinary, his judgment is too benign, his gospel is too easy, and his Christ is too common. His Christ, if he is seen at all, is impoverished, thin, pale, and scarcely capable of inspiring awe, and his riches are entirely searchable... It is God that the church needs most—God in his grace and truth, God in his awesome and holy presence.

- DAVID WELLS
God in the Wasteland




God Exalted

Day and night they never stop saying: “Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty,’ who was, and is, and is to come.” Whenever the living creatures give glory, honour and thanks to him... the twenty-four elders fall down before him who sits on the throne and worship him... They lay their crowns before the throne and say: “You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honour and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being.

- REVELATION 4:8-11




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Today God is calling his Church back to worship... It is as if God is saying, "I want the hearts of my people back!" And if we long to go where God is going and do what God is doing, we will move into deeper, more authentic worship.

- RICHARD FOSTER



So often when my worship has dried up, it's because I haven't been fuelling the fire. I haven't set aside any time to soak myself under the showers of God's revelation. Often, time is the key factor. But if we can find space to soak ourselves in God's Word, his presence, his creation and spend time with other believers, then we'll find that the revelation floods back into our lives; and our hearts will respond with a blaze of worship once more.

- MATT REDMAN

The Unquenchable Worshipper, Coming Back to the Heart of Worship

