



W E L C O M E

— THE STUDY OF — REVELATION

WHICH IS, WHICH WAS, AND WHICH IS TO COME

Revelation 3: 14 (NASB)

"To the angel of the church in Laodicea write:

The Amen, the faithful and true Witness, the Origin of the creation of God, says this:

Laodicea

The Laodicean's produced a glossy, black wool that was prized by the wealthy all over the world. In fact, they cornered the market in this commodity, producing tremendous wealth.

Laodicea

Laodicea had one of the most renowned medical schools in the world, and with it came all of its associated industries like pharmaceuticals. They produced a world-famous salve, reputed to cure many kinds of eye diseases.

Laodicea

Because of the great wealth generated by their textile and medical industries Laodicea became a center of currency exchange and money lending.

Laodicea

Laodicea was so wealthy that it was the only city that refused Rome's financial help and rebuilt the city with their own funds when it was destroyed by a first-century earthquake.

Laodicea

Laodicea was seen by the world as:

1. Rich
2. Having great sight (healing eye salve)
3. Clothed with the most elegant clothing

We will now see how Jesus sees them

Revelation 3: 15 (NASB)

'I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot; I wish that you were cold or hot.

I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot.

What does this mean to you?

I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot.

This is another example of a church that has allowed society to influence it rather than the church influencing society. As a result of this influence the church doctrine has become watered down which is useless and sickening to Christ.



Hierapolis



Colossae



The ancient city of Colossae was known for its cold water. Located about eleven miles from Laodicea, Colossae was built at the foot of Mt. Cadmus, which towered more than nine thousand feet high.

Colossae

Colossae was known for it's many, ice-cold snow-and-rain-fed streams that rushed down from the snow-covered peak of Mt. Cadmus.

People in the fertile Lycus River Valley commonly talked about this wonderful, invigorating water.

Laodicea Water Supply

Laodicea was not established near an adequate, river or water supply. More driven by trade, its builders located it where the roads crossed. As a result the only water they had was foul, dirty, warm water that flowed for miles through an underground aqueduct.

Laodicea Water Supply

The lukewarm water was spoiled and teaming with bacteria, it was absolutely useless. Any visitor who came there who wasn't used to the stuff would put it in his mouth and immediately spit it out.



Revelation 3: 16 (NASB)

So because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will vomit you out of My mouth.

Revelation 3: 17 (NASB)

Because you say, "I am rich, and have become wealthy, and have no need of anything," and you do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked,

Laodicea

Laodicea was seen by society as:

1. Rich
2. Having great sight (healing eye slave)
3. Clothed with the most elegant clothing

Laodicea

Laodicea was seen by Jesus as:

1. wretched, miserable, poor
2. blind
3. naked

Revelation 3: 18 (NASB)

I advise you to buy from Me gold refined by fire so that you may become rich, and white garments so that you may clothe yourself and the shame of your nakedness will not be revealed; and eye salve to apply to your eyes so that you may see.

*buy from Me gold refined by fire so that
you may become rich*

What does this mean to you?

Psalm 19:9-10 (NASB)

*The fear of the Lord is clean,
enduring forever; The judgments of
the Lord are true; they are
righteous altogether.*

*They are more desirable than gold,
yes, than much pure gold; Sweeter
also than honey and drippings of
the honeycomb.*

*buy from Me gold refined by fire so that
you may become rich*

Christ is saying this Church needs
to follow God's words again to
find true riches instead of chasing
the riches of the world.

Revelation 3: 18 (NASB)

I advise you to buy from Me gold refined by fire so that you may become rich, and white garments so that you may clothe yourself and the shame of your nakedness will not be revealed; and eye salve to apply to your eyes so that you may see.

*white garments so that you may clothe
yourself*

What does it mean if members in
the church are not clothed in
white?

*white garments so that you may clothe
yourself*

Again we see a church with members who have not been clothed in Christ.

Revelation 3: 18 (NASB)

I advise you to buy from Me gold refined by fire so that you may become rich, and white garments so that you may clothe yourself and the shame of your nakedness will not be revealed; and eye salve to apply to your eyes so that you may see.

Revelation 3: 18 (NASB)

I advise you to buy from Me gold refined by fire so that you may become rich, and white garments so that you may clothe yourself and the shame of your nakedness will not be revealed; and eye salve to apply to your eyes so that you may see.

Revelation 3: 19 (NASB)

Those whom I love, I rebuke and discipline; therefore be zealous and repent.

Question?

Why is Jesus rebuking this
Church?

Revelation 3: 20 (NASB)

Behold, I stand at the door and knock, if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and will dine with him, and he with Me.

I stand at the door and knock

Where is Christ in relationship to
this Church, inside the church or
on the outside?

I stand at the door and knock

What does this mean?

Revelation 3: 21-22 (NASB)

The one who overcomes, I will grant to him to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat with My Father on His throne. The one who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches."

Question?

Who is typically allowed to sit on
the throne of a king with the king?

Jesus	Ephesus	Smyrna	Pergamos	Thyatira	Sardis	Philadelphia	Laodiceans
<i>Commendation/ Encouragement/ Promise</i>	Works, labor, perseverance, patience. You cannot stand those that are evil. Found false apostles liars. Labored for my Name and not become weary. You hate the deeds of the Nicolaitans (which I also hate).	Works, tribulation, poverty. I know the blasphemy of those who say they are Jews but are a synagogue of Satan. You are physically poor but spiritually rich.	Works, You hold fast to my Name and did not deny My faith, even in the face of martyrdom. I know your works, and where you dwell, where Satan's throne is.	Works, love, service, faith, perseverance. Your works now are more than the first.	You have a few names who have not defiled their garments.	I know your works. You have a little strength, have kept My Word, and not denied My Name. You will be vindicated and rule with Me. Since you've kept My command to persevere, I will keep you from the Grt. Trib.	NONE Promise: I am knocking. I will come in to him who hears My voice and opens the door. Enc: As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Be zealous and repent.
<i>Rebuke</i>	You've left your first love.	NONE	You have those who hold the doctrine of Balaam (idolatry and sexual immorality). Nicolaitans.	You allow Jezebel (false prophetess) to teach and seduce My servants to commit sexual immorality and idolatry. She did not repent- no longer may.	Your faith is not complete before God.	NONE	Because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth. You are wretched, miserable, poor, blind and naked.
<i>Admonition</i>	Remember from where you've fallen; repent, and do the first works.	Do not fear what you will suffer. Some will be imprisoned to be tested and have tribulation. Be faithful to death and I will give you life.	Repent	Repent or I will judge you according to your works. To the faithful: hold fast what you have until I come.	Be watchful and strengthen what little remains. Remember what you have received and heard, hold fast and repent.	My return is imminent. Hold fast what you have, that no one may take your crown.	Repent and get true faith, justification by faith, so that your sin is removed and you may see the truth.
<i>Ultimatum</i>	Repent or your church will be removed from its place.	NONE	Repent or I will fight against them with the sword of My mouth.	Tribulation, unless you repent of your deeds	If you will not watch, I will come upon you as a thief.	NONE	Be zealous and repent, or be vomited out of My mouth.
<i>To those who overcome</i>	I will give to eat from the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God.	You shall not be hurt by the second death.	I will give some of the hidden manna to eat and a white stone with a new name written on it which no one knows but him who receives it.	I will give ruling power over the nations, as I also have received from My Father. And I will give him the Morning Star.	He will be clothed in white garments. I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life; but will confess his name before My Father and His angels.	You will be a pillar in the temple of My God. You will go out no more. I will write on you the name of God, the City of God and My New Name.	I will grant to sit with Me on My Throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne.

Revelation 4: 1 (NASB)

After these things I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven, and the first voice which I had heard, like the sound of a trumpet speaking with me, said, "Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after these things."

Question

After what things?

After the last letter to the Churches. This is where some believe the Churches also represent eras in time. Regardless this is telling us we are now going to see things that are yet to come. From here on out John is getting ready to step into not only his future but our future also.

The Things Which Are - The Seven Churches

Ephesus



Rev 2.1-7

Smyrna



Rev 2.8-11

Pergamos



Rev 2.12-17

Thyatira



Rev 2.18-29

Sardis



Rev 3.1-6

Philadelphia



Rev 3.7-13

Laodicea



Rev 3.14-22

Alexandrian School Of Thought

First
Church Age

33 - 100 AD
Death of Christ
1st & 2nd Persecution

Second
Church Age

100-312 AD
The Caesars
2nd - 10th
Persecutions

Third
Church Age

312 - 590 AD
Constantine
The Political Church

Fourth
Church Age

590 - 1517 AD
Middle Dark Ages
The Idolatrous Church
Catholic Church

Fifth
Church Age

1517 - 1750 AD
Reformation
Protestantism

Sixth
Church Age

1750 - 1925 AD
Missionary
Movement

Seventh
Church Age

1925 AD - End
Apostate Church

Antiochian School Of Thought

Revelation 4: 1 (NASB)

After these things I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven, and the first voice which I had heard, like the sound of a trumpet speaking with me, said, "Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after these things."

Question

What did John See?
A door

Where was it at?
In Heaven

a door standing open in heaven

We see John is now on earth
looking up into heaven.

Revelation 4: 1 (NASB)

After these things I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven, and the first voice which I had heard, like the sound of a trumpet speaking with me, said, "Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after these things."

*and the first voice which I had heard,
like the sound of a trumpet*

What does John hear?

A voice like a trumpet. This is Christ calling to John but it is very important to understanding what is going on.

Come up here

John hears a shout to come up here. Where is here?

This is a command and not a request. This is a voice like a trumpet taking John away to a new location.

Question

Does this sound familiar?



Turn to: 1 Thessalonians 4: 16-17

1 Thessalonians 4: 16-17(NASB)

For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God and the dead in Christ will rise first.

1 Thessalonians 4: 16-17(NASB)

Then we who are alive, who remain, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord.

Revelation 4: 1 (NASB)

After these things I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven, and the first voice which I had heard, like the sound of a trumpet speaking with me, said, "Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after these things."

Question

How is John going to get there?



Turn to: 1 Corinthians 15: 50-53

1 Corinthians 15: 50-53 (NASB)

Now I say this, brothers and sisters, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. Behold, I am telling you a mystery; we will not all sleep, but we will all be changed,

1 Corinthians 15: 50-53 (NASB)

in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet; for the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. For this perishable must put on the imperishable, and this mortal must put on immortality.

Revelation 4: 2 (NASB)

Immediately I was in the Spirit
and behold, a throne was standing
in heaven, and someone was
sitting on the throne.

Question?

"Immediately I was in the Spirit".

Why does John say this? Wasn't he already in the spirit?

Revelation 1: 10-11 (NASB)

I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like the sound of a trumpet, saying, "Write on a scroll what you see, and send it to the seven churches: to Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, and Laodicea."

Question?

When is this in time?

We have to understand that John is transported in the blink of an eye to a different location and a different time.

Put It All Together

I believe all these tie together perfectly. Jesus is allowing John to see his return, although in spirit and viewing from a different time.

Put It All Together

John has been called or raptured into heaven and is now in the spiritual realm, in a new time and new location. The Church is no longer mentioned on earth from this point on in Revelation. Remember God exists outside of time.

Put It All Together

From here on out John is witnessing the events on earth by looking down from heaven.

Put It All Together

It is important that we understand John is now seeing the spiritual world, which we cannot see in the flesh.

This may also explain Jesus' statement in John 21: 20-23

John 21: 20-23 (NASB)

Peter turned around and saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following them—the one who also had leaned back on His chest at the supper and said, "Lord, who is the one who is betraying You?"

John 21: 20-23 (NASB)

So Peter, upon seeing him, said to Jesus, "Lord, and what about this man?" Jesus said to him, "If I want him to remain until I come, what is that to you? You follow Me!"

Question?

Who is John referring to?

John 21: 20-23 (NASB)

*Peter turned around and saw the
disciple whom Jesus loved
following them—the one who also
had leaned back on His chest at
the supper and said, "Lord, who is
the one who is betraying You?"*

John 21: 20-23 (NASB)

So Peter, upon seeing him, said to Jesus, "Lord, and what about this man?" Jesus said to him, "If I want him to remain until I come, what is that to you? You follow Me!"

John 21: 20-23 (NASB)

Therefore this account went out among the brothers, that that disciple would not die; yet Jesus did not say to him that he would not die, but only, "If I want him to remain until I come, what is that to you?"

Question?

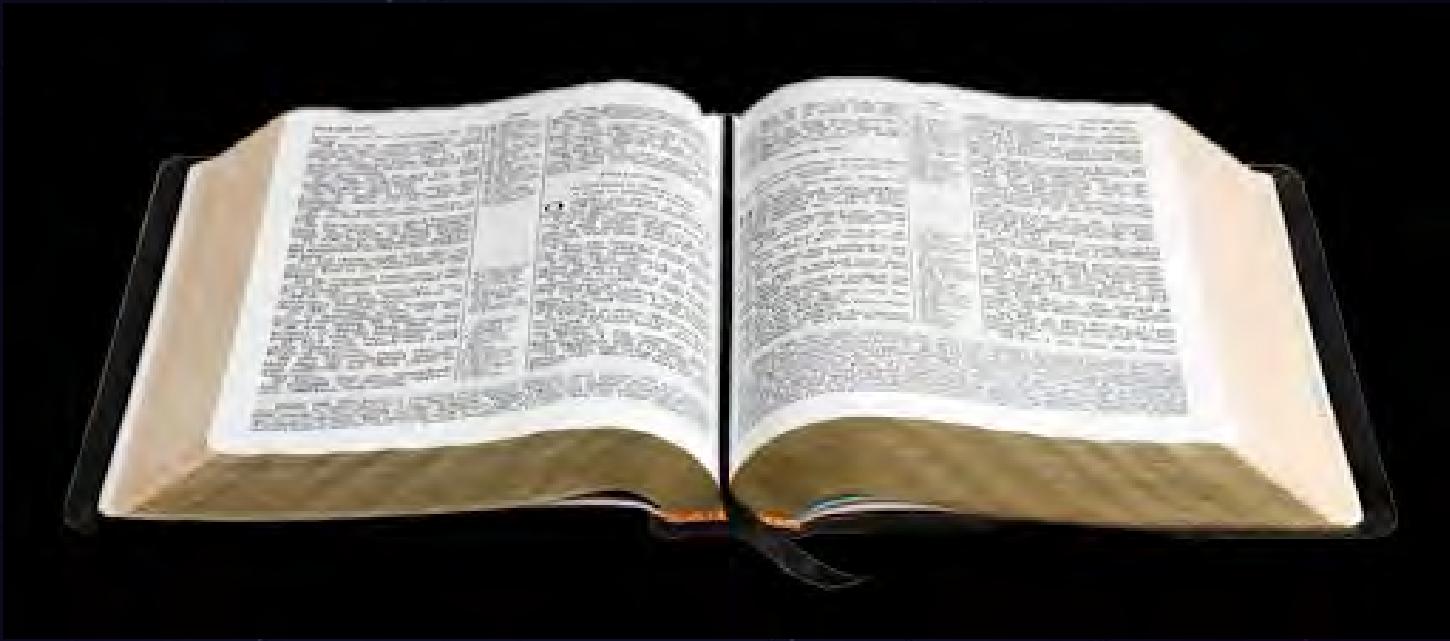
Why did they think that John would not die?

THIS IS EXCITING!!!

As Christians we will all witness the events in Revelation in from here on out as John describes them in heaven. We will see exactly what John is describing and he is actually going to describe seeing all of us together later on in Revelation!

THIS IS EXCITING!!!

We will be an active participant in what we are reading as John describes what he is seeing in the future in heaven!!!



Turn to: Titus 2: 11-14

Titus 2: 11-14 (NASB)

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all people, instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously, and in a godly manner in the present age,

Titus 2: 11-14 (NASB)

*looking for the blessed hope and
the appearing of the glory of our
great God and Savior, Christ Jesus,
who gave Himself for us to redeem
us from every lawless deed, and to
purify for Himself a people for His
own possession, eager for good
deeds.*

Revelation 4:3 (NASB)

And He who was sitting was like a jasper stone and a sardius in appearance; and there was a rainbow around the throne, like an emerald in appearance.

Exodus 28:17-21

Birth Order	Tribe	Majority Stone ¹⁴	Alternate Stones
1	Reuben	sardius	ruby (NASB95, NIV, NET), carnelian (NRSV, TNK)
2	Simeon	topaz	chrysolite (NRSV, TNK)
3	Levi	carbuncle	emerald (DBY, NASB95, NKJV, NRSV, TNK), beryl (NET, NIV)
4	Judah	emerald	turquoise (NASB95, NET, NKJV, NRSV, TNK), carbuncle (DBY)
5	Dan	sapphire	-
6	Naphtali	diamond	emerald (NET, NIV), moonstone (NRSV), amethyst (TNK)
7	Gad	jacinth	opal (DBY, MKJV, YLT), ligure (KJV)
8	Asher	agate	-
9	Issachar	amethyst	crystal (TNK)
10	Zebulun	beryl	chrysolite (DBY, NET, NIV, MKJV)
11	Joseph	onyx	lapis lazuli (TNK)
12	Benjamin	jasper	-

Interesting Facts

Benjamin means :The Son of Righteousness

Reuben means: Behold the Son

Galatians 3:29-*And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's descendants, heirs according to promise.*

This is Exciting!

If we are adopted children of Abraham,
which tribe do we belong?

The tribe of Judah because we are children
of God through Christ who is of the tribe of
Judah

Do you remember what stone represents the
tribe of Judah in the original Hebrew?

Emerald!

What is the rainbow surrounding the throne?

Put it all Together

The Throne of God is surrounded
by all the adopted children of God
from the tribe of Judah!

Revelation 4: 4 (NASB)

Around the throne were twenty-four thrones; and upon the thrones I saw twenty-four elders sitting clothed in white garments, and golden crowns on their heads.

Question?

Who are these elders?

Question?

Why did Jesus choose twelve apostles?

Who are these elders?

Revelation 21:12- *It had a great, high wall with twelve gates, and with twelve angels at the gates. On the gates were written the names of the twelve tribes of Israel.*

Revelation 21:14- *The wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.*

Most Biblical scholars are in agreement that the 24 elders are representative of all believers throughout time. The Old Testament Saints as well as the New Testament Church (which includes you and I as Christians).

This demonstrates the direct access we will have to the throne of God.

Revelation 4: 4 (NASB)

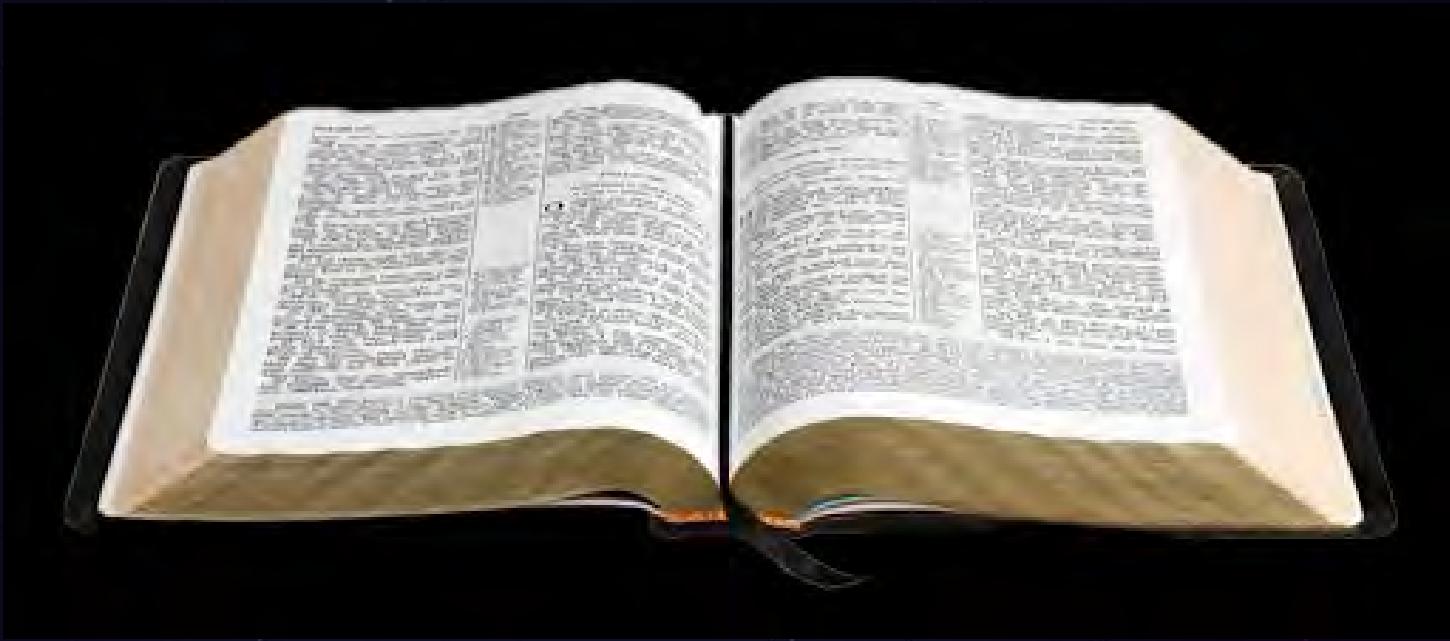
Around the throne were twenty-four thrones; and upon the thrones I saw twenty-four elders sitting clothed in white garments, and golden crowns on their heads.

Question:

What were the elders doing?

Sitting.

What does that represent?



Turn to: Hebrews 1: 3

Hebrews 1: 3 (NASB)

And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power. When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

Sitting demonstrates that our work
is finished. We have entered
God's rest.

Revelation 4: 4 (NASB)

Around the throne were twenty-four thrones; and upon the thrones I saw twenty-four elders sitting, clothed in white garments, and golden crowns on their heads.

clothed in white garments

This demonstrates they are holy and pure, clothed in Christ. As a Christian we are all washed white as snow through the Blood of Christ.

Revelation 4: 4 (NASB)

Around the throne were twenty-four thrones; and upon the thrones I saw twenty-four elders sitting, clothed in white garments, and golden crowns on their heads.

golden crowns on their heads

2 Timothy 4: 8

Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

golden crowns on their heads

James 1: 12- *Blessed is a man who perseveres under trial; for once he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him.*

golden crowns on their heads

1 Peter 5: 4- And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away.

Crowns

Revelation 4:4



stephanous

στεφάνους

crowns

N-AMP



Crowns

Revelation 19:12



1238 [e]

diadēmata

διαδήματα

diadems

N-NNP

Revelation 4: 5 (NASB)

*Out from the throne came flashes
of lightning and sounds and peals
of thunder. And there were seven
lamps of fire burning before the
throne, which are the seven spirits
of God;*

In Scripture lighting and thunder are indications of approaching judgments.

The thunder and lighting emanating from the throne are audio and visual demonstrations of God's power and coming judgment.

This indicates to John that the great judgement of Jesus Christ is about to begin soon.

Psalm 97:1-4 (NASB)

*The Lord reigns, may the earth
rejoice; May the many islands be
joyful. Clouds and thick darkness
surround Him; Righteousness and
justice are the foundation of His
throne.*

Psalm 97:1-4 (NASB)

*Fire goes before Him
And burns up His enemies all
around. His lightning lit up the
world;
The earth saw it and trembled.*

Revelation 4: 5 (NASB)

*Out from the throne came flashes
of lightning and sounds and peals
of thunder. And there were seven
lamps of fire burning before the
throne, which are the seven spirits
of God*

the seven spirits of God.

The Holy Spirit was present in
front of the throne!

Revelation 4: 6a (NASB)

and before the throne there was something like a sea of glass, like crystal;

Homework assignment- Read Hebrews 8-10

You will see how God modeled Solomon's temple after the throne room in heaven. God's home on earth was a small replica of his home in heaven.

Hebrews 9: 23-24 (NASB)

Therefore it was necessary for the copies of the things in the heavens to be cleansed with these things, but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these.

Hebrews 9: 23-24 (NASB)

For Christ did not enter a holy place made by hands, a mere copy of the true one, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us;



Turn to: 1 Kings 7: 23-26

1 Kings 7: 23-26 (NASB)

He also he made the Sea of cast metal ten cubits from brim to brim, circular in shape, and its height was five cubits, and [c]it was [d]thirty cubits in circumference.

1 Kings 7: 23-26 (NASB)

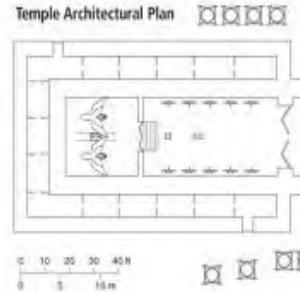
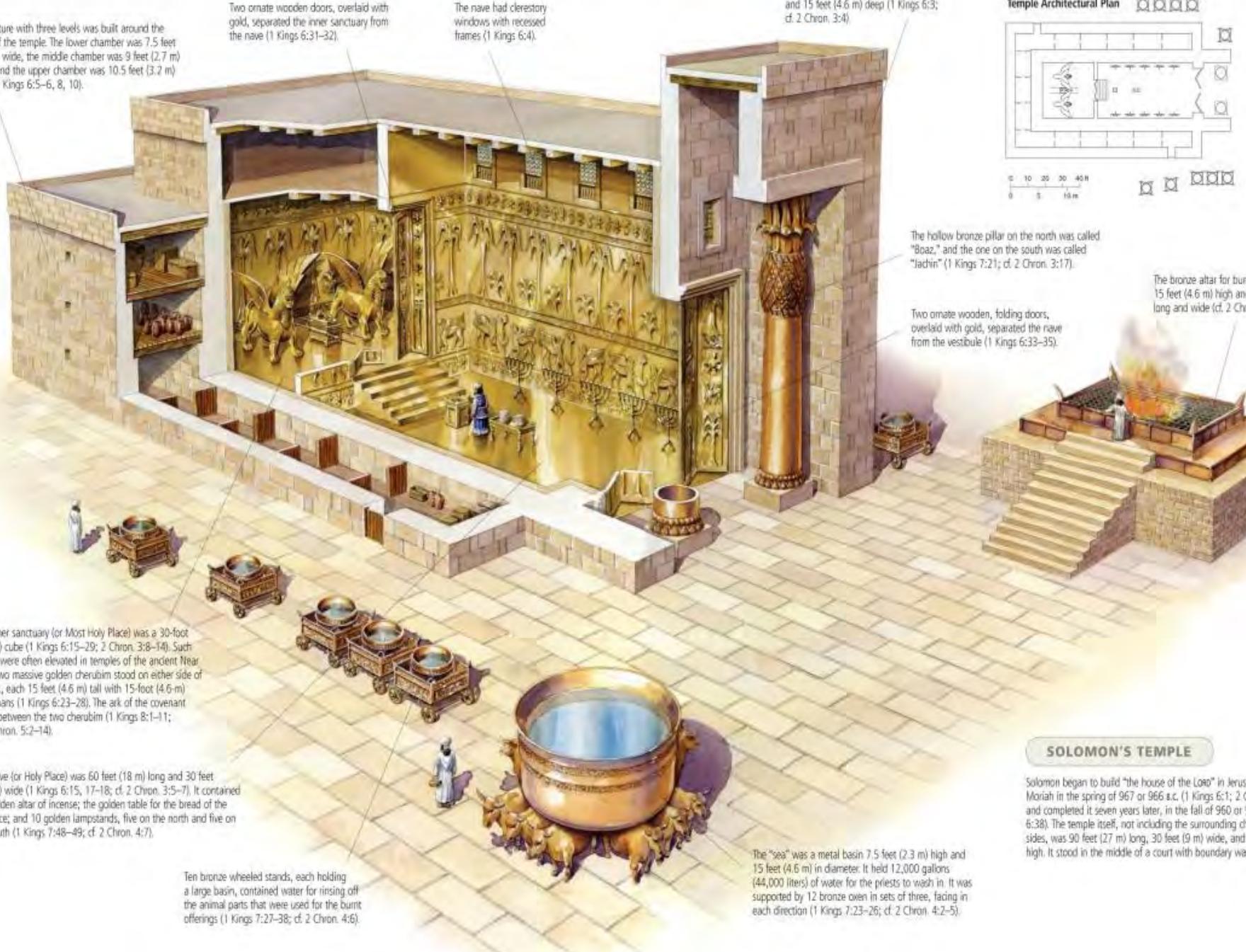
Under its brim gourds went around encircling it ten to a cubit, completely surrounding the Sea; the gourds were in two rows, cast with the rest.

1 Kings 7: 23-26 (NASB)

It was standing on twelve oxen, three facing north, three facing west, three facing south, and three facing east; and the Sea was set on top of them, and all their rear parts turned inward.

1 Kings 7: 23-26 (NASB)

And it was a hand width thick, and its brim was made like the brim of a cup, like a lily blossom; it could hold two thousand baths.



SOLOMON'S TEMPLE

Solomon began to build "the house of the Lord" in Jerusalem on Moriah in the spring of 967 or 966 B.C. (1 Kings 6:1; 2 Chron. 3:1) and completed it seven years later, in the fall of 960 or 959 (1 Kings 6:38). The temple itself, not including the surrounding chambers and sides, was 90 feet (27 m) long, 30 feet (9 m) wide, and 45 feet (13.7 m) high. It stood in the middle of a court with boundary walls.

The Sea

The purpose of the sea was it held the water for the ceremonial cleansing that was required to enter the sanctuary or temple of God. In heaven this sea is now solid glass so it is no longer liquid form as this demonstrates our direct access to God without having to cleanse in water.