

EP52 Revelation 4 verses 8-11

In our last podcast we covered the amazing prophetic unveiling of the meaning of the Four living beings that surround the throne of God and the 24-Elders. The whole thing was mind-blowing and beyond fascinating. Now, let's pick back up with the worship by the Four.

The Worship by the Four

Revelation 4:8

... and day and night they do not cease to now be saying, "HOLY, HOLY, HOLY is THE LORD GOD, THE ALMIGHTY, WHO WAS AND WHO IS BEING AND WHO IS NOW CHOOSING TO BE COMING."

Holy, Holy, Holy

This is a beautiful and powerful proclamation that they do not now cease to be saying.¹ Three times (the number of perfection) they declare the holiness of God as if they are crying out on behalf of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. The word translated as "Holy" literally means to be set apart. Hence, **Yahweh** is perfectly set apart from all others. No one is like Him; He is absolutely, incomparably unique. Thus, He alone is the Lord God Almighty.

Lord God Almighty

Here we have a string of nouns making a declarative statement on who He is. A Hebrew version of this statement would be rendered as **Adonai El Shaddai**. The Four acknowledge that there is only one Lord God Almighty. Throughout the **Revelation** narrative, we will be introduced to many demi-gods (powerful demonic creatures), but there is only one Almighty—**Adonai** (the Lord) whose name is **Yahweh**, expressed in the Father (Holy), the Son (Holy), and the Spirit (Holy). This title **Adonai El Shaddai** (Lord God Almighty) separates **Yahweh** from every other so-called god that people tend to worship.

Adonai (the **Lord**) means that He is sovereign: a very hands-on God who is, without exception, over **all** the little details of our lives.² He is our only Lord and Master. He calls the shots in this world and all things happen just as He decided long ago.³ The title "Lord" addresses His absolute unqualified sovereignty as He is the most-high, over all the affairs of man, over the heavens—the angels and demons, over all creation (including the actions of animals), and over all minutia, even seeming incidentals like the toss of the dice.⁴ There is truly only one Lord. By the way, if you have yet to dig into the footnotes, you just might

¹ "cease" is rendered in the *present active indicative*, and "say" is rendered in the *present active participle*, hence, should be translated as "saying."

² **Psalm 139:1-6, 37:23-24**

³ **Ephesians 1:11; 3:11; Romans 8:28; 9:10-24; Hebrews 6:17-18**

⁴ See: **Genesis 8:22, 45:5, 50:20; Exodus 4:21; Numbers 22:28; Deuteronomy 32:39-40; Judges 14:1-4; 1 Samuel 2:6-8, 16:14-15; 1 Kings 17:4, 22:19-37; 1 Chronicles 21:1/2 Samuel 24:1; 1 Chronicles 29:11-14; 2 Chronicles 20:6; Job 1:6-12, 9:21-24, 12:12-25; Psalm 24:1-2, 29:9-10, 33:11, 48:1, 76:1-10, 97:9, 103:19-22; 104:4, 104:5-35, 115:3; 135:6; Proverbs 16:1, 4, 9-10, 33, 21:1; Ecclesiastes 9:1; Isaiah 14:24; 30:26, 40:23, 44:24-28, 45:1-7;**

want to in terms of this claim of His absolute sovereignty, it will lead you through a fascinating journey all across the **Codex**.

“El” simply means God and it declares that He sits outside of time and therefore knows everything from beginning to end. He is all powerful, all knowing, and all present, all the time. This title is fitting since He is the **I AM**, the self-existent one, from who comes all things.⁵ He is the one who was, who is being, and who is now choosing to be coming.

By the way, I have heard famous Bible teachers proclaim that the Bible never says directly that God sits outside of time and that this notion is just a construct of our clever religious ideas. And although it does not use those words, the fact that He reveals things that have been, things that are, and things that will be, by definition, means that He must be outside of time. The fact that He is both the Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the End, the One who sees the start through the finish and declares it in advance, means that He is either lucky, given His accuracy rate to date, or He does sit outside of time, a construct which He created. The prophetic aspect of the **Codex** gives us assurance that He sits above it all and knows everything that will happen. And we can rest in this truth given all the prophetic events that have occurred precisely as He declared.

“**Shaddai**” means “Almighty.” Hence, no one is bigger or more powerful than **Yahweh**; therefore, no one can thwart His will; accordingly, everything happens just as He planned. He is at the top. He is, and what He says or does is accomplished without exception, as He is the Amen!⁶

This perfect cry of adoration, Holy, Holy, Holy, ascribes the fundamental character and nature of God to the entirety of the Godhead. Thus, even though He is completely sovereign over all the affairs of mankind, and we do not understand so much of what He does or allows to be done on this earth, we can trust that it all stems from His perfect holiness (Him being set apart from all others).

And this is the reason why He declares “*For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways,*” declares the Lord. *For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts.*”⁷ In other words, this passage gives meat to the bone on what it means to be holy. It means He is so far above and separate and unique and far beyond anything we can understand; and that is why the Four can never now stop saying “*Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is being and is even now choosing to be coming!*”

Here is another point of fine distinction, again, the details matter. It is fascinating that the Four refer to the one who sits on the throne as “*the Lord God Almighty,*” but we will discover that the saints of God, His Chosen ones, refer to Him as the “*Lord **our** God Almighty.*”⁸ When it comes to God and the bride, it is always personal, which is an interesting twist from the relationship He has with the rest of creation. We are His beautiful, lovely, and precious woman, and He is the Lord **our** God Almighty!

Jeremiah 5:22, 8:7, 27:5-11, 21-22, 31:35, 32:17-30, 40; Lamentations 3:37-38; Ezekiel 32:4; Daniel 6:22; Hosea 6:1-3; Amos 3:6; Mark 4:39; John 3:27, 15:16; Acts 2:22-24, 4:23-28; Romans 8:29; Ephesians 1:11, 2:10, 4:6; Philippians 2:9-13

⁵ **Exodus 3:13-15**

⁶ **See Psalm 33:6-11; Lamentations 3:37-38; Amos 3:7-8**

⁷ **Isaiah 55:8-9**

⁸ **Revelation 19:6**

Who Was, Who Is Being, and Who Is Now Choosing to Be Coming

Unlike the phrase the Lord God Almighty, which is a string of nouns, next we are presented with a string of verbs, addressing who He is through what He does. This phrase takes us all the way back to the beginning in **Revelation 1:8**, it is just that the arrangement of these descriptors is slightly different than previously.

Jesus initially introduced Himself by saying, "*I am the Alpha and the Omega*," says the Lord God, "*who is and who was and who now chooses to be coming, the Almighty*." But in this instance, the Four switch it up a bit and declare that He was and who is being, and who is now choosing to be coming.

"Who was" speaks of His incarnation, or His life on the Earth as a man, including His death and resurrection in bodily form.

"Who is Being" speaks of Jesus being the *Hayah*.⁹ Being rendered in the *present active participle* (a verb and not a noun), it speaks beyond His eternal self-existent nature and to Him being our ever-present answer, our source, and our solution to our ever-present need (He is our **"I AM"**).

Sometimes we feel as if this world is just spinning around and life just happens around us and to us, but this declaration militates against that wrong belief. He is now being for He is the eternal self-existent one that is ever present and ever active in our lives—the one who initiates all things (the **Alpha**) and the one who brings all things to fruition in accordance with His will (the **Omega**). He is always active for all things are from Him, through Him, and to Him (or for His purposes alone).¹⁰ And it is only in Him that we live and move and exist.¹¹ Thus, this truth declares that it is all Him, all the time, from beginning to the end.

"Who now chooses to be coming" For the most part, our knee-jerk response to this phrase is to think about His promised "Second Coming." Something that will happen in the future. Therefore, we should find it odd that this statement is not rendered in the *future* tense as something He will do or will be doing; rather, it is rendered in the *present middle participle*, something He is now doing. He now chooses to be coming. This make sense in light of the fact that He is the one who is now being; thus, everything about Him is a present and ongoing reality. To Him there is no future, for He sits outside of time, and He is now being.

We also discovered in the letters to the seven churches that this idea of His "now coming" speaks to more than His Second Coming, it addresses how He even now chooses to be coming to us in our times of need, as our ever-present source for all we need (as our **"I AM"**); and He expects us to even now be ready for His coming.

The Fullness of the Godhead

As with the triad, "Holy, Holy, Holy," this triad, "*who was who is being and who is now choosing to be coming*," points to the fact that it pleased the Father that the fullness of the Godhead would dwell in Jesus.¹² It is a statement about God expressed through the person of Jesus Christ who is sitting on the

⁹ See **Exodus 3:13-15**

¹⁰ **Romans 11:36**

¹¹ **Acts 17:28; 1 Corinthians 8:6**

¹² **Colossians 1:19**

throne.

As such, when Jesus comes to us in our now, He comes with the presence of the Father and the Spirit. Thus, when we see the image of the One who is now sitting on the throne, we see the full manifestation of the Godhead through the person of Jesus Christ. And when He returns in His physical body at His Second Coming, the entire Godhead comes with Him and will be present and made manifest in His personhood.¹³

Now this should not surprise us, since that is what He communicated when **“He was”**. During His first visit to earth as a man, He told Phillip, His disciple, *“Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father is in Me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on My own initiative, but the Father abiding in me does His work. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; otherwise, believe because of the works themselves.”*¹⁴ Similarly, He told His disciples, *“It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing; the words that I have spoken to you are Spirit and are life.”*¹⁵

Yes, with Jesus comes the fullness of the Godhead, which is why He is set apart from all others and like the Father and the Spirit, He too is holy.

Dual Realities

This scene that John has been describing is a view from within the heavenly realms where time is not as we know it, it is not linear, if it exists at all. And this passage helps us understand that even though the spiritual folds over into the physical, it does not always bear the same relationship to time. This will become noticeably clear in the next scene where there are *future* and *present* actions all connected in the same image. The point is that a true believers reality exists in two places at the same time, in the heavenly realms (hence, the 24 thrones), and in this life within time, here on earth.

With that said, we are going to get another glimpse of the **24 Elders** who are now sitting on thrones and have chosen to be continually clothed in white garments. This is their present experience before the throne of **Yahweh**.

Worship of the Elders

In this next passage, the Holy Spirit links the two experiences together, to provide us a clear picture of our future—both physically and spiritually.

Revelation 4:9-11

And when the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to Him who is now choosing to be sitting on the throne, to Him who is now living forever and ever, the twenty-four elders will choose to fall down before Him who is now choosing to be sitting on the throne, and will worship Him who is now living forever and ever, and will cast their crowns before the throne, now saying, "Worthy are You, our Lord and our God, to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things, and because of Your will they existed, and were created."

¹³ *Colossians 2:9*

¹⁴ *John 14:10-11*; see also *John 10:38*

¹⁵ *John 6:63*

When the Four “give glory and honor and thanks,” it is rendered in the *future* tense, so this phrase pushes us forward in our linear time frame. The Four give a trifacta of praise: glory, honor, and thanks. And it is offered up to Him who is choosing to now and continually be sitting on the throne, to Him who now and continually is living.¹⁶

Coinciding with the worship of the Four, the twenty-four elders **will** choose to fall (*future* tense)¹⁷ before Him who chooses to now be sitting on the throne,¹⁸ and they **will** worship (*future* tense) Him who now and continually is living¹⁹ forever and ever, and they **will** cast their crowns (*future* tense)²⁰ before the throne, now saying,²¹

"Worthy are You, our Lord and our God, to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things, and because of Your will they existed, and were created."

With the trifacta of praise initiated by the Four, the twenty-four elders follow suit and offer up their own trifacta of praise as they **will** fall, they **will** worship, and they **will** cast their crowns (all rendered in the *future* tense).

**THE SPIRIT IS MAKING SURE WE ALL KNOW THAT THIS IS THE DESTINY FOR THE
CHOSEN OF GOD—THOSE WHO SIT WITH HIM ON HIS THRONE
AND RULE WITH HIM FOR ALL ETERNITY.**

In terms of the **dual reality** of true believers, even though fall, worship, and cast are all rendered in the *future* tense and coincide with the worship of the Four, what the elders are **saying** is occurring even now, as it is rendered in the *present active participle*.

Thus, even though this scene points us forward to the gathering of the church of Jesus Christ, the true Israel of God, comprised of both Jews and Gentiles, an event yet to happen, this same group (imaged by 24-Elders who are now sitting on thrones and have chosen to be continually clothed in white garments) are even **now saying** one of the most beautiful declarations about **Yahweh**:

"Worthy are You, our Lord and our God, to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things, and because of Your will they existed, and were created."

Again, this brings us both into the future and into the now. John is seeing the future at the same time it is folded over upon the now. **They will and they are—both are true!** There will be a day when they will choose to fall before Him, they will worship Him, and they will cast their crowns down at His feet before the throne. Yet even now, they are declaring His utmost worth.

¹⁶ “sits” is rendered in the *present middle participle*; “lives” is rendered *present active participle*

¹⁷ “fall down” is rendered in the *future middle indicative*

¹⁸ “sits” is rendered in the *present middle participle*

¹⁹ “lives” is rendered in the *present active participle*

²⁰ “cast” is rendered in the *future active indicative*

²¹ “saying” is rendered in the *present active participle*

Sitting & Living

“... to Him who is now living forever and ever.” This passage raises some interesting questions. Why is the phrase regarding the One who chooses to now be sitting on the throne and who is now living repeated? Is the Spirit making a point, or is this just colorful prose? By repeating Himself 2x, the Spirit is making a clear-cut point to both those who dwell in heaven and those who dwell on the earth, and it is a point of **division** and **witness**, which, according to the **Code**, is the meaning of the number 2.²² He is the only one who is now living forever and ever.

For all those who dwell in the heavenly realms (the angels and demons, of all rank and authority) and all those who now are dwelling on the earth (both spirits of wickedness and humanity), take note. The rule and reign of Satan (the dragon), the Beast (the demonic spirit who possesses the man we call the Antichrist), and the False Prophet (the demonic spirit who is the cohort of the Beast and who even now causes people to worship the Beast), will **NOT** be forever and ever. Their time sitting on their thrones of authority will be brief, and unlike **Yahweh**, they will **NOT** live forever and ever. They will know the **Second Death**.

The Elders are clear in what they are now saying, “*for You created all things, and because of Your will they existed, and were created.*” Yes, Satan, the Beast, the False prophet are created beings. Jesus, **Yahweh**, the One who now chooses to be sitting on the throne, created them. And they exist only because of His will to carry out His purposes and His alone. But they are doomed! Unlike **Yahweh**, they will not be living forever and ever. They are appointed for the **Second Death**. It is just a matter of time! And this DECLARATION is stated 2x, with 2 being the number of division and witness.

THERE IS NO ONE LIKE THE ONE WHO IS NOW SITTING ON THE THRONE. HE IS NOW LIVING FOREVER AND EVER. HE IS NOW CHOOSING TO BE SITTING ON THE THRONE THAT IS POSITIONED AT THE CENTER OF ALL CREATION. IN CONTRAST, THE KINGDOMS OF SATAN, THE BEAST, AND THE FALSE PROPHET WILL ALL BE TERMINATED, ALONG WITH THEIR LIVES AND ALL THOSE WHO FOLLOWED THEIR LIES.

THERE IS, AND WILL BE, ONLY ONE!

Thanks & Power

Thanks

The trifacta of praise of the Four is like the trifacta of praise of the Elders, except for the last word. The Four give glory and honor and **thanks**, whereas the Elders speak of glory and honor and **power**. Why the difference? Why are the Four thankful?

Perhaps it is because they are thankful that the 24-Elders are even **NOW** “sitting” with Him who is now sitting on the throne. By the **power** of God, the Chosen have been raised up with Christ and have taken their rightful place on the thrones that have been prepared for them.²³ And the Four, having responsibility

²² The number 2 is **Code** for division and witness.

²³ Perhaps this is an allusion to **Colossians 3:1-3** and true believers having been raised up with Christ with their life

throughout time for the protection and care of the 24-Elders, are now filled with thankfulness that the lives of the 24-Elders are safely hidden with Christ in God.

Power

In contrast to the Four, the Elders cap-off their trifecta of praise with “**power**,” a word which points to their triumph in Christ and to the future defeat of those who dared to think they could supplant **Yahweh**, His will, or the ultimate victory of His conquering ones—those who are now overcoming.

Going forward, I will refer to this collection of darkness comprised of Satan (the dragon), the Beast (the demon who will possess the man we call the Antichrist), and the False Prophet (the demon who is the “right-hand” of the Beast), and all their hordes of demons as the **Evil Ones**.

The point is that the Evil Ones will lose and the bondservants of God, which are now overcoming, will triumph. In fact, those who were deceived into believing they had some sort of intrinsic power have lost the war before the battle has even begun. The truth is that only **Yahweh** has the power, for only **Yahweh** is **Adonai El Shaddai**—the Lord **our** God Almighty who created all things.

The Evil Ones are created beings, they are not God and never will be. They have no intrinsic power derived from their own position or existence. ALL the power the Evil Ones possess has been granted to them by **Yahweh**, but He has granted it for a limited duration and for a limited and specific purpose.

Moreover, it is only because of **Yahweh’s** will, or His pleasure, that the Evil Ones even exist and were created in the first place, it was all for His purposes.²⁴ Accordingly, they are not a challenge, nor are they rivals. They are just tools which **Yahweh** uses to fulfill the amazing plans He has for His Chosen ones.

The “Why” of it All

This truth raises a more than significant question? If the Evil Ones are so destructive and hell-bent on hurting the Chosen of God, **WHY** did **Yahweh** create them in the first place, and then let them exist in their rampage of hatred and evil.²⁵ The same question goes for all those who have exerted their God given power and authority and have purposed to hurt and damage the Chosen of God.

The Power of Love

Given the context of **Revelation** and all that transpires, it is easy to miss the truth that this is an unfolding love story. In fact, the entire **Codex** is an unfolding love story which takes us on a journey of the Father choosing a bride for His Son—a bride that was given the option of choosing anything or anyone in this world to love, but willingly, volitionally, set it all aside and is now choosing to love the Son.

This is evidenced in the fact that the 24 Elders are even NOW declaring, “**Worthy are You, our Lord and our God.**”²⁶ This is a very personal and intimate proclamation and is centered on **Yahweh’s** inherent worth. The words are beautiful, “**our** Lord and **our** God”.

Later, we will find His bride singing the song of Moses, a worship song which speaks of God’s righteousness revealed in all He has done. “*Great and Marvelous are your deeds...Righteous and true are*

being hidden with Christ in God.

²⁴ **Revelation 4:11; Colossians 1:16-20**

²⁵ Note: “exist” is rendered in the technical past tense—*imperfect passive indicative*. God allowed them to exist.

²⁶ “saying” is rendered in the *present active participle*

your ways...Your righteous acts have been revealed."

When it is all said and done, His righteous acts will declare His glory and be a testament to His worth. On that day, all the Chosen of God will know beyond any doubt that all He has ever done was good, pleasing, and perfect, because it was ALL an expression of His great love for His Chosen ones.²⁷

The Power of Choice

In short, evil is necessary for choice, expressed in unrestrained freedom, to be valid and for true love to be actualized. In that regard, the Evil Ones have been needed to act according to their nature (according to their choice) that they might lie, deceive, tempt, hurt, damage, and kill. Through it all, they offer the Chosen so many alternatives to the One who is now sitting on the throne, even another Christ. They offer up almost unlimited options to the narrow pathway of trouble and tribulation that the Chosen of God must walk through on their journey to life.²⁸

The Chosen are always free to choose what they want to love. God never displaces their *personal sovereignty*. He gave this power of choice to every human, just like He gave this same power to the angels, some of which chose poorly. Exercising their personal sovereignty, the Chosen of God are now choosing to be bondservants of Jesus Christ and are now choosing to live like little children dependent upon **Yahweh** for all things all the time. They are now having ears to hear what the Spirit says and are now overcoming. They are choosing wisely.

And so, we find that they will fall before the throne, and they will worship Him. This is a beautiful act of affection and adoration. **Yahweh** is so magnificent and glorious that they cannot help themselves. They just fall. And the Greek word we have translated "*to worship*" comes from the idea of a loving, affectionate kiss. It is akin to how a dog gently, intentionally, and affectionately licks their master. It is a picture of love secured and of ultimate adoration.

In contrast, there are many of whom the Father has called into His household to behold the Son for who He truly is (**Yahweh**), that freely, willingly, volitionally **refuse** to now be believing in the One whom they have beheld.²⁹ Rather, they choose to love the lie offered up by the Evil Ones, and in love, **Yahweh** lets them. They choose to depend upon their own wisdom, their own goodness, their own provision, and their own means to survive this life, and in love, **Yahweh** lets them.

Casting Crowns

"... the twenty-four elders will choose to fall down before Him ... and will cast their crowns before the throne." The 24-Elders **will** (future tense) cast their crowns before the throne. The Chosen ones know and fully believe that Only God is Good!³⁰ They are fully convinced that they do not even deserve this amazing reward symbolizing their victory over the world and over the Beast. They know that Christ, the victor, always led them in victory.³¹ In casting their crowns before Him, they acknowledge that He is the one who enabled them and provisioned them for victory; they were just willing vessels. He was their **I AM**.

²⁷ **Romans 12:2**

²⁸ **Matthew 7:13-14; Luke 13:24**

²⁹ **See John 6:40**

³⁰ **Mark 10:18; Luke 18:19**

³¹ **1 Corinthians 15:57**

Substitution Principle.

The 24-Elders hold to the idea that when by faith we let Him possess us, He will do the will of the Father that is in heaven here on earth through our body (this is what I like to call the *Design Point* of true Christianity).³² It will be His work, and therefore, He is the one to get the glory.

As King David and the Prophet Isaiah declared, *"I have no good besides You."* *"Yahweh you will grant us peace, for all we have accomplished is really from you."*³³ The truth is that even our desire to obey God comes from the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives. *"... for it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure."*³⁴ Without the Spirit's active involvement, our base nature would still desire, nay demand, our disobedience and self-sufficiency.³⁵

In contrast, everything good (everything of any eternal value) comes from God and God alone. That is why if we ask anything in His name, He will do it. He will literally be the one who does the Father's will, He will just use our bodies to accomplish those deeds (again, that is the *Design Point*).³⁶ And it is for all these good works that He has done, in and through the lives of the 24-Elders, that they lay their crowns before Him and worship. Their victory is all due to His mercy and His grace (all that freely comes from His hands into our lives). Remember **grace** is a fixed equation, 100% Him and 0% us.

Only God is Good

Jesus was so harsh in His letters to Ephesus and Sardis because their religious works "for God" meant absolutely nothing to Him, regardless of their results in the lives of others. They were unworthy works—completely lawless or unauthorized. In fact, they were hideous blasphemous works, profane offerings, which resulted in their losing their churches. Hence these 2-churches represent the apostasy of those "Called" into His household who choose to live as slaves beholden to the law and not as sons who live in unrestrained freedom.

ONLY GOD IS GOOD; THEREFORE, ONLY GOD CAN DO GOOD WORKS.

Haggai makes it clear that that every attempt of God's people to be good and do good by the "**works of their hands**" is, in the eyes of God, unclean.³⁷ When we think we can "do good for God" in any aspect of our lives, we elevate ourselves to a place and a position that only **Yahweh** holds.

We are not the lord of our own lives. We are not God. Just like Satan, the Beast, and the False Prophet, we are created beings and we exist for His will and His pleasure. He is the one and only **Adonai El Shaddai**, the Lord **our** God Almighty. Hence, our life of faith is about trusting ourselves so completely to **Yahweh** that He is free to live in, possess, and work through our bodies such that when anyone meets us, they will have met Jesus. This is the pattern Jesus set forth for us when He told Thomas that anyone who has seen

³² See **Galatians 2:20; John 14:14**

³³ **Isaiah 26:12**. See also **Philippians 2:13; Ephesians 1:11; John 15:5; Galatians 2:20; 2 Corinthians 5:17**

³⁴ **Philippians 2:13**

³⁵ **Galatians 5:16-17**

³⁶ See **John 14:14**

³⁷ **Haggai 2:10-14**

Him has seen the Father.³⁸ Anything but Jesus' life in ours doing His good works will produce insufficient deeds, and the deeds that we do "for God," no matter how well intentioned or how impactful, will be as filthy rags.³⁹

Jesus alone deserves the praise. Jesus alone deserves the honor. Jesus alone deserves the glory. Jesus alone deserves the power. And before His throne the Elders know that to be true with their heart, mind, soul, and strength. Therefore, they will take their crowns which He has so graciously given them and put them at His feet, bow before Him, and worship.

**ONCE AGAIN, BOTH JUDE AND REVELATION TARGETS THOSE WITHIN THE
VISIBLE CHURCH WITH A MESSAGE WHICH SEPARATES THOSE WHO STAND
ONLY ON THE GOODNESS OF GOD FROM THOSE WHO ARE TRYING VERY HARD
TO BE GOOD FOR GOD.**

"Worthy are You, our Lord and our God, to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things, and because of Your will they existed, and were created."

Because our God's deeds are great, marvelous, righteous, and true, it will be clear to all of creation (both in the seen and unseen world) that **Yahweh's** will, or His purposes in creation, causing all things to exist, even evil, was good, pleasing, and perfect. In fact, all will be convinced that there could have been no other way, for great and marvelous are His deeds.⁴⁰ And it is for this reason that every knee will bow, and every tongue will confess that Jesus is **Yahweh!**⁴¹

The Heavenly Tabernacle

In the book of **Hebrews**, we are told that the earthly tabernacle of the Old Testament was patterned after the tabernacle in heaven.⁴² And we are told in **1 Corinthians** that we are the "*naos*" or Sanctuary of God, so the pattern exists in heaven, on earth, and in our souls.⁴³ We have just seen a glimpse of the heavenly tabernacle, let us now examine these great and marvelous works of God on earth and in our souls.

Table of Comparison

³⁸ **John 14:9**

³⁹ **Isaiah 64:6**

⁴⁰ See **Isaiah 45:6**, God is the one creating both raw evil (*Ra* in the Hebrew) and peace (*Shalom* in Hebrew). This being a difficult truth, most translations render "evil" as calamity, but it is flat-out wrong and a biased translation. The Hebrew word for calamity or disaster is "*ed*."

⁴¹ **Philippians 2:9-10; Romans 14:11**

⁴² See **Hebrews 9:23**

⁴³ **1 Corinthians 3:16; 6:19; 2 Corinthians 6:16**. Note: The Temple was patterned after the tabernacle

<u>Earthly Tabernacle</u>	<u>Heavenly Tabernacle</u>	<u>Our Tabernacle</u>
Holy of Holies	Jesus' throne room	The New Creation where Jesus makes His abode within our being ⁴⁴
7-branched candlestick	7-torches of fire of the Spirit of God	The complete (7) indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit ⁴⁵
Bronze Basin (used by priests to wash and purify themselves)	Sea of Glass a symbol of holiness and purity	The righteousness of Christ imparted to us: we are declared to be holy as He is holy ⁴⁶
Cherubim over the mercy seat	The Four around the throne	We are protected by God for a salvation to be revealed in the last days ⁴⁷
Priests	24-Elders (kings and priests)	The Chosen of God are His royal priests ⁴⁸
Brazen Altar of Sacrifice	Altar of God, under which are the souls of those martyred ⁴⁹	We present ourselves to God as a living sacrifice ⁵⁰
Alter of Incense	Golden Alter of Incense for the prayer of the saints ⁵¹	Our intercessory prayer on behalf of others (as priests of God) and our sacrifice of praise to God are a fragrant aroma. ⁵²
Ark of the Covenant	Ark of the Covenant ⁵³	The New Creation , where God meets His people ⁵⁴

Everything we are comes from everything He is. "Worthy are You, **our** Lord (**Adonai**) and **our** God (**El**), to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things, and because of Your will they existed, and were created." Everything is because He desired it to be so.

Therefore, let us remember, that everything He has brought into existence is necessary and serves His purpose of drawing His Chosen ones deeper into intimacy and oneness with Him. We may not like it, and some of what He has created and set into motion may even be scary, but it is all good, pleasing, and

⁴⁴ **Colossians 1:27; Romans 8:10**

⁴⁵ **Romans 8:9; 1 Corinthians 3:16, 7:40**

⁴⁶ **Romans 3:21-22, 4:3, 5:17-18**

⁴⁷ **1 Peter 1:5**

⁴⁸ **1 Peter 2:9**

⁴⁹ **Revelation 6:9-11**

⁵⁰ **Romans 8:36, 12:1; 2 Corinthians 4:11**

⁵¹ **Revelation 8:3-5**

⁵² **Hebrews 13:15; Revelation 8:4; Ephesians 5:2; Philippians 4:18; 2 Corinthians 2:14-16**

⁵³ **Revelation 11:19**

⁵⁴ **2 Corinthians 5:17; Ephesians 2:10, 4:24; Colossians 3:10**

perfect, just like **Yahweh Adonai**. And one day we will know this to be true with our heart, mind, soul, and strength.