1 - **The throne of God**

Revelation Chapter 4

2 - **Why The Vision Of The Throne?**

* **As the truly faithful are suffering persecution and need hope and assurance.** (1:9; 2:9-10;   
  cf., Romans 8:31-39; John 16:33)
* Like they, **we need to keep focused on the throne of God**. (Used 16 times in Chapters 4 & 5 and 46 times in the letter - from 1:4 - 22:3)
* Keep **looking straight ahead**! (Proverbs 4:23-25; Heb. 12:1-2; Colossians 3:1-2; Matthew 14:28-33)

3 - **The Description Of The One On The Throne**

Limited by human language to describe spiritual grandeur, God’s throne is described to illustrate **attributes of He who sits on the throne**. (vs. 3)

* **Jasper** - “crystal-clear” (21:11) representing God’s holiness and righteousness.
* **Sardius** - red in color perhaps representing God’s “fiery wrath” and judgment. (Fausset)

**Around the throne** -

* **A rainbow like an emerald** - since Genesis 6-7, symbolic of hope and mercy and God’s faithfulness.

4 - **The Description Of Those Around The Throne**

Those around the throne - (vs. 4)

* **24 elders sitting on 24 thrones** -   
  Note Revelation 21:12-14. (12 + 12) Referring to **all the faithful** under either covenant.
* **“Clothed in white garments”** - those **purified by the blood of Jesus Christ**. (cf., 3:4, 18; 7:9-14; 1 John 1:7)
* **“Golden crowns on their heads”** - Greek “stephanos”, “**the victors crown**… the symbol of triumph in the games” (Vine); (1 Corinthians 9:25; 2 Timothy 4:8; James 1:12; Rev. 2:10; 3:11 note Matthew 27:29)

5 - **What Does God Do On His Throne?**

* **He rules, reigns and has all authority**.
  + Not Caesar or any other ruler. (Daniel 4:34-35; Romans 13:1; John 19:11)
* **He judges**. (Psalms 9:7; 89:14; 96:1-13;   
  Revelation 11:17-18; 20:11-13)
* **He waits for us to “draw near”**. (Hebrews 4:14-16; 10:19-25; cf., Esther 4:11-5:2)

6 - **Who Shall Stand Before His Throne?**

* Those **purified by the blood of Christ**. (Revelation 7:13-14)
* The “**chaste**” and undefiled and “**follow the Lamb wherever He goes**”. (Revelation 14:3-4; Luke 9:57-62; 1 John 3:1-3; Matthew 16:24)
* Those **who offer their worship to God and the Lamb**. (Revelation 4:8-11; 5:14; 7:9-12)
  + Our worship now is a foretaste of our eternal life to come!
  + We will “**cast our crowns**” before Him.

**Those who overcome**! (Revelation 21:7; 12:11)

7 - **What Is Our Relationship To The Throne?**

* We need to **SUBJECT** ourselves to it. (Hebrews 12:9;   
  Psalms 46:10; Daniel 4:28-32)
* We need to **STAND** in the revelation that has come from the throne. (1 Corinthians 2:10-13; 1:10; John 17:20-23; Ephesians 3:2-5; 5:17; Jude 3)
* We need to **OFFER WORSHIP** before it. (Rev. 4:9-11; Esther 4:8-11; Hebrews 4:16)
* We will **PREPARE ourselves for JUDGEMENT** before it. (Revelation 20:11-15; Psalms 9:7; Isaiah 6:1-7; Genesis 3:8-13)