Supreme Headquarters Ray Stedman

I. Introduction.

- A. Text: Revelation 4:1-11.
- B. John saw into heaven as others had before him, but he entered into it as well.
- C. What John sees is from heaven's point of view that is not subject to the limitations of time.

II. What John saw.

- A. A throne, which is the control room of the universe.
- B. John saw incredible colors at the throne.
 - 1. The jasper pictures God's holiness.
 - 2. The sardis pictures Jesus' death
 - 3. The rainbow emerald pictures the Holy Spirit
- C. The companions of God.
 - 1. The elders represent the court of heaven. (Daniel 4)
 - 2. There are angelic beings that serve as God's counsel. (Daniel 9, Psalm 89)
- D. The sounds and sights of Sinai.

1. There was lighting, thunder, and trumpets that were associated with judgment. (Revelation 8:5; 11:13; 16:18)

2. Other sounds and sights speak to God's holiness, etc.

D. The cherubim and seraphim picture the God's government over natural creation. (Isaiah 6)

E. God is worshiped by the heavenly creatures for His work in creation and redemption.

III. Worship changes a person.

A. God is put in His proper place, and the worshipper discovers the center of life.

B. When one worships, he is in agreement with God and others about the great themes of creation and redemption.

Application questions:

1. How would you respond to someone who says that heaven is nothing more than sitting on a cloud? Explain.

2. What stood out to you about the portrayal of heaven in Revelation? Why does it strike you?

3. What impact does worship have on a person? How can one make true worship a central part of his or her daily life?
