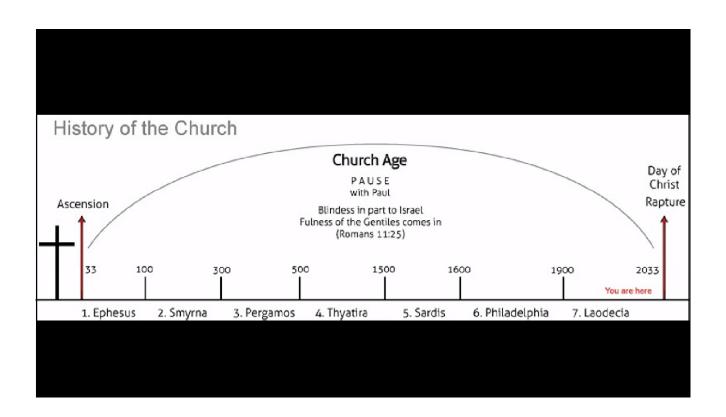




In Rev 1:19. John was instructed to write down the things which.

- " He had seen (chapter 1 . the glorified Christ)
- " Are (chapter 2-3. the churches)
- Will take place after this (chapters 4-22. the things after the churches)



Ephesus: the church that lost its first love (33-100 AD)

Smyrna: the persecuted church (100-300)

Pergamos: the church that married the world (300-500)

Thyatira: the church run by the pastor's wife (500-1500)

Sardis: the church with the faithful remnant (1500-1600)

Philadelphia: the evangelical church (1600-1900)

Laodicea: the lukewarm church (1900-rapture)

4:1. Called up

Rev 4:1 After these things I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven. And the first voice which I heard was like a trumpet speaking with me, saying, Come up here, and I will show you things which must take place after this.+

- After these things: the churches
- " An open door:

Heb 4:16 Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

A voice like a trumpet saying "come up here":

1 Thess 4:15-17 For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. ¹⁶For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.

4:2-3. The throne

"in the Spirit":

Rev 4:2-3 Immediately I was in the Spirit; and behold, a throne set in heaven, and One sat on the throne. ³And He who sat there was like a jasper and a sardius stone in appearance; and there was a rainbow around the throne, in appearance like an emerald.

2 Cor 12:3-4 And I know such a man. whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows. ⁴how he was caught up into Paradise and heard inexpressible words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter.

Rev 1:10 I was in the Spirit on the Lord's Day

The One on the throne: Dan 7:9-10

%watched till thrones were put in place, and the Ancient of Days was seated; His garment was white as snow, and the hair of His head was like pure wool. His throne was a fiery flame, its wheels a burning fire; ¹⁰A fiery stream issued and came forth from before Him. A thousand thousands ministered to Him; ten thousand times ten thousand stood before Him.

10:5-6 I lifted my eyes and looked, and behold, a certain man clothed in linen, whose waist was girded with gold of Uphaz! ⁶His body was like beryl, his face like the appearance of lightning, his eyes like torches of fire, his arms and feet like burnished bronze in color, and the sound of his words like the voice of a multitude.

" Jasper (diamond): hard

Ps 2:9 You shall break them with a rod of iron; You shall dash them to pieces like a potter s vessel.

Sardius: red

Deut 4:24 our god is a consuming fire (Heb 12:29)

Heb 10:31 It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

Emerald rainbow: Gen 9:13-17

4:4. The elders

Rev. 4:4 Around the throne were twenty-four thrones, and on the thrones I saw twenty-four elders sitting, clothed in white robes; and they had crowns of gold on their heads.

" 24 thrones: Rev 20:4

Matt 19:28 Assuredly I say to you, that in the regeneration, when the Son of Man sits on the throne of His glory, you who have followed Me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

2 Tim 2:12 If we endure, we shall also reign with Him. If we deny Him, He also will deny us.

" 24 elders

" white robes: 3:5,18; 19:8

" crowns:

- 2:10 Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.
- 1 Cor 9:25 And everyone who competes for the prize is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a perishable crown, but we for an imperishable crown.
- 2 Tim 4:8 Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.
- Js 1:12 crown of life from enduring temptation
- 1 Pet 5:4 and when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away.

4:5. God's awesomeness

Rev 4:5 And from the throne proceeded lightnings, thunderings, and voices. Seven lamps of fire were burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God.

- Thunder & lightning: Ex 19:16, Ezk 1:13, Rev 11:19,16:18
- 7 Spirits: The Holy Spirit? (Is 11)

4:6-8. Before the throne

Rev 4:6-8 Before the throne there was a sea of glass, like crystal. And in the midst of the throne, and around the throne, were four living creatures full of eyes in front and in back. ⁷The first living creature was like a lion, the second living creature like a calf, the third living creature had a face like a man, and the fourth living creature was like a flying eagle. ⁸The four living creatures, each having six wings, were full of eyes around and within. And they do not rest day or night, saying: %Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, Who was and is and is to come!+

- " Crystal sea: Ex 24:10, Ezk 1:22,26
- 4 living creatures: Ezk 1:4-25, 10:15

Is 6:2 Above it stood seraphim; each one had six wings: with two he covered his face, with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew.

" Heaven's worship:

Is 6:3 And one cried to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory!"

4:9-11 . Casting crowns

Rev 4:9-11 Whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits on the throne, who lives forever and ever, ¹⁰the twenty-four elders fall down before Him who sits on the throne and worship Him who lives forever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying: ¹¹‰ou are worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things, and by Your will they exist and were created.+

Col 1:16-17 For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. ¹⁷And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist.

The elders fall down and worship:

Rom 14:11 For it is written: "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to Me, and every tongue shall confess to God."

Eph 3:14 For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ

- 2 Cor 5:10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.
- 1 Cor 3:12-15 Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, ¹³each ones work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each ones work, of what sort it is. ¹⁴If anyones work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward. ¹⁵If anyones work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.

- They cast their crowns before Him:
- 1 Cor 3:14 If anyone's work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward.
- Creation matters in eternity:

Rom 8:20-22 For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it in hope; ²¹because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. ²²For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now.

