

<p>Re 此後，我觀看，見天上有門開了。我初 4:1 次聽見好像吹號的聲音，對我說：你上到這裡來，我要將以後必成的事指示你。</p>	<p>1After this I looked, and there before me was a door standing open in heaven. And the voice I had first heard speaking to me like a trumpet said, "Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this."</p>
<p>“此後”指約翰看見 1-3 章的異象之後 (after the visions of the preceding chapters)。 “好像吹號的聲音”象徵主基督的大聲音 (參 1 : 10)。 “你上到這裡來”保羅也有類三重天的經驗 我認得一個在基督裡的人、他前十四年被提到第三層天上去。或在身內、我不知道。或在身外、我也不知道。只有神知道 (林後 12 : 2)。</p>	
<p>Re 我立刻被聖靈感動，見有一個寶座安 4:2 置在天上，又有一位坐在寶座上。</p>	<p>2At once I was in the Spirit, and there before me was a throne in heaven with someone sitting on it.</p>
<p>“被聖靈感動”意指在聖靈的權柄之下，約翰進入更高、超自然的意識狀態 (a state of spiritual exaltation best described as a trance)，在那裡得到神的啟示。因此，異象的源頭是從神而來的 (the source of his vision was God)。 “有一位坐在寶座上”那是指父神自己坐在寶坐上。</p>	
<p>Re 看那坐著的，好像碧玉和紅寶石；又 4:3 有虹圍著寶座，好像綠寶石。</p>	<p>3And the one who sat there had the appearance of jasper and carnelian. A rainbow, resembling an emerald, encircled the throne.</p>
<p>“好像碧玉和紅寶石；又有虹圍著寶座，好像綠寶石”當約翰看見父神時，他無法用人有限的觀感和言語來形容父神 (因為神不是屬於物質、有形態的世界)，他只能用世上極貴重的寶物，來形容父神反影出來的榮美和尊貴。“碧玉”(有說是鑽石)意表神的聖潔無瑕。“紅寶石”形容神是烈火，是可畏的，意表神的公義。“虹”意表神的恩慈。</p>	
<p>Re 寶座的周圍又有二十四個座位；其上 4:4 坐著二十四位長老，身穿白衣，頭上戴著金冠冕。</p>	<p>4Surrounding the throne were twenty-four other thrones, and seated on them were twenty-four elders. They were dressed in white and had crowns of gold on their heads.</p>
<p>對於“二十四位長老”的解說有很多。總括而言，他們是從地上來、忠心愛主的屬靈長者，他們代表真正屬神的人，在寶座前負責敬拜和讚美父神。 “身穿白衣”意表他們在地上過的是聖潔的生活 (參 3 : 4)。 “頭上戴著金冠冕”意表他們是得勝的，他們因忠心事主愛主而得的賞賜 (參 2 : 10)。</p>	
<p>Re 有閃電、聲音、雷轟、從寶座中發 4:5 出。又有七盞火燈在寶座前點著、這七燈就是神的七靈。</p>	<p>5From the throne came flashes of lightning, rumblings and peals of thunder. Before the throne, seven lamps were blazing. These are the seven spirits^[a] of God.</p>
<p>“閃電、聲音、雷轟”意表神的臨在是何等威嚴 (參出 19 : 16)。 “神的七靈”(參 1 : 4)。</p>	

<p>Re 寶座前好像一個玻璃海如同水晶。寶 4:6 座中、和寶座周圍有四個活物、前後 遍體都滿了眼睛。</p>	<p>6Also before the throne there was what looked like a sea of glass, clear as crystal. In the center, around the throne, were four living creatures, and they were covered with eyes, in front and in back.</p>
<p>“一個玻璃海如同水晶”意指在寶座前有一範圍，是平靜穩定，一望無際的，晶瑩剔透的（tranquil and peaceful, wide and deep, pure and clear, transparent and still），並反射出坐在寶座上的父神的威榮、聖潔，超然。得勝的人站在其上讚美敬拜神（參 15：2-3）。</p> <p>“四個活物”是靈界之受造物，可能是代表所有天使的特別等級天使（參賽 6：2-3，結 1：5-26，結 10），這四個活物是負責領導敬拜讚美和守護天上寶座（參 4：8-9），並傳達父神的命令（6：1-7）。</p> <p>“前後遍體都滿了眼睛”象徵無所不知（omniscience or comprehensive knowledge）。或有洞察的能力（penetrating intelligence），有做醒的意思（參結 10：12）。</p>	
<p>Re 第一個活物像獅子、第二個像牛犢、 4:7 第三個臉面像人、第四個像飛鷹。</p>	<p>7The first living creature was like a lion, the second was like an ox, the third had a face like a man, the fourth was like a flying eagle.</p>
<p>可能與以西結所見的活物相同（參結 1：10，結 10：14）。</p> <p>“獅子”代表野獸中最兇猛、最強壯的。</p> <p>“牛犢”代表家畜中氣力最大、最服役殷勤的。</p> <p>“人”代表管理神造地上萬物，是地上有形態中最有智慧的。</p> <p>“飛鷹”代表飛禽中最威嚴、最敏捷的。</p>	
<p>Re 四活物各有六個翅膀、遍體內外都滿了 4:8 眼睛。他們晝夜不住的說、聖哉、聖 哉、聖哉、主神。是昔在今在以後永 在的全能者。</p>	<p>8Each of the four living creatures had six wings and was covered with eyes all around, even under his wings. Day and night they never stop saying: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was, and is, and is to come."</p>
<p>這四活物敬拜的焦點在於神的聖潔，神的全能，和神的永恆性（the focus of their worship is on God's holiness, His omnipotence, and His eternity）。</p>	
<p>Re 每逢四活物將榮耀、尊貴、感謝、歸 4:9 給那坐在寶座上、活到永永遠遠者的 時候、</p>	<p>9Whenever the living creatures give glory, honor and thanks to him who sits on the throne and who lives for ever and ever,</p>
<p>Re 那二十四位長老、就俯伏在坐寶座的 4:10 面前、敬拜那活到永永遠遠的、又把 他們的冠冕放在寶座前、說、</p>	<p>10the twenty-four elders fall down before him who sits on the throne, and worship him who lives for ever and ever. They lay their crowns before the throne and say:</p>
<p>這是二十四位長老對敬拜神的和應。</p> <p>“把他們的冠冕放在寶座前”意指這些屬靈長者謙卑地降服於神的至高無上權柄。</p>	
<p>Re 我們的主、我們的神、你是配得榮 4:11 耀尊貴權柄的。因為你創造了萬物、 並且萬物因你的旨意被創造而有的。</p>	<p>11"You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being."</p>

這是第 4 章的中心，是對寶座前的父神之敬拜，這敬拜強烈地顯出上帝的榮耀和主權。