

# BETWEEN THE LINES

## *A Deeper Look...*

### #843- APOCALYPSE FOREVER: Christ Unveiled

**The Response Of The Holy Ones:** You and I struggle with issues of holiness and reverence because we have been warped by completely living life in a place that is aberrant in the universe. This planet is in rebellion against God. The courts of Heaven are filled with those who have never relinquished their loyalty to His leadership.

Let's scan through the chapters of Revelation to find the sites where various heavenly beings are portrayed. If we do we might capture more than a sense of who they are and what they are like. We might, actually, catch a sense of how those who have never been separated from the sacred behave and respond to this holy God...

- 2/3: There are seven angels sponsoring or protecting seven churches on Christ's behalf.
- 4: A first introduction to four incredible creatures and 24 elders...all in awe of God.
- 5: Myriads of angels and the 24 sacred elders fall in worship as the four creatures oversee the vials that hold the prayers of God's children. It is difficult to know if they are more compelled to sing or to fall in awe.
- 6: The four holy creatures lead in the discovery of God's mysteries.
- 7: Four angels protect the earth under the command of another while a host of angels praise the Lamb and the four creatures speak to John of God's intentions.
- 8/9: At God's command seven angels blast their trumpets while a mighty one stands at the altar of prayer. Even in the horrors of the trumpets God cares for His own.
- 10: A majestic angel with the posture of thunder takes an oath upon God's existence.
- 11: The 24 elders testify to the vindication of God through all of the catastrophe.
- 14: 144,000 of His friends, the elders, the creatures, and more- all affirm His primacy and perfect justice as three angels shout to all creation their solemn warnings.
- 15: Victorious saints vindicate Him. The four creatures and seven angels accede.
- 16: Seven powerful angels enact His will upon a malignant world in rebellion.
- 18: A fourth angel pleads with the rebellious one last time.
- 19: The four creatures and 24 elders observe as the King rides forth with His host.
- 20: A single angel in the power of God is more than a match for Satan and his cronies.
- 21: An angel is privileged to host John in an introductory tour of the eternal Kingdom.

**In Conclusion:** Isn't this awesome? Holy ones, completely innocent, all honor Him, hold Him in deepest reverence, and count it a privilege to do His will. Maybe I need to be driven to my knees more often too!

~~~~~  
**My Favorite Ten:** If I was pinned to the wall to express my favorite ten images of Jesus in Revelation the list might look like this... (Although if you ask me tomorrow I might have to change the order!)

- #10- Chapter 12: The threatened Child who lives to reign.
- # 9- Chapter 6: The One who is worthy to reveal God's secrets and mysteries.
- # 8- Chapter 7: The Lamb who provides for His children.
- # 7- Chapter 14: The Lamb who is honored by the numberless multitude.
- # 6- Chapter 1: The glorified old Friend.
- # 5- Chapter 12: Michael, the mighty conqueror.
- # 4- Chapter 20: The One who reigns as co-regent with His children.
- # 3- Chapter 21: The *ner tamid* (eternal light) of His kingdom.
- # 2- Chapter 19: The majestic Groom who rides forth to war.
- # 1- Chapter 5: The mighty Lion who loses no power as a Lamb.

**Paradise From A Jewish Perspective:** We Christians are so ingrained with our view of Heaven that it might be fun to bounce them up against the expectations of those who come from the foundation of Christianity...

- *The world is like an inn. The World to come, like home* - Talmud Moed Katan 9b
- *People who are just, whatever their nation, will be rewarded in the World to come.*  
- Talmud Sanhedrin 105a
- *When a person departs this world, neither silver, gold, nor precious stones will accompany that person- only Torah and good deeds.* - Ethics of the Fathers 6:9
- *In the world to come there is neither eating nor drinking nor procreation nor business dealings nor jealousy nor hate nor competition. Rather, righteous persons sit with crowns on their heads and enjoy the radiance of the Divine Presence.* - Talmud Berakhot 17a
- *In the future the Holy One, blessed be He, will add to Jerusalem a thousand gardens, a thousand towers, a thousand fortresses, and a thousand passages, and each of them will be like Sephoris in its tranquil days.* - Babylonian Talmud Baba Bathra 75b
- *In the World to come... in each grape there will be thirty kegs of wine...*  
- Baba Ketuboth 111b
- *... and also rivers of wine... What will its source be like? ...it issues from the Holy of Holies...And the Angel of Death will not be able to cross it.* - Pirqe Mashiah, BhM 3:74
- *And Israel will sit and eat and drink and be fruitful and multiply and enjoy the radiance of the Shekhina. And the Holy One, blessed be He, will make the stature of each of them two hundred cubits tall... And in the future the Holy One, blessed be He, will make seven canopies for each pious man...* - Pirqe Mashiah, BhM 3:77
- *The Holy One, blessed be He, will in the future prepare a banquet for the pious from the meat of Leviathan... and they will divide the leftovers and make of them merchandise in the marketplace of Jerusalem... (He) will make a booth for the pious out of the skin of Leviathan... and the leftovers will He spread out over the walls of Jerusalem, and their radiance will shine from one end of the world to the other.* - Babylonian Talmud Baba Bathra 74b-75a
- *The Holy One, blessed be He, will act as the head dancer for the righteous in the Future to Come.*  
- Canticles Rabba 1, 3:3
- *And Israel will dwell in safety...and they will eat Behemoth and Leviathan and Ziz. They will slaughter Behemoth, and Ziz will tear Leviathan apart with its claws, and Moses will come and slaughter Ziz Sadai.* - R. Shim'on ben Yohai
- *And David will say, "It behooves me to say benediction, it behooves me to praise God." And he will rise and bless and praise and exalt with all kinds of songs... In that hour the Holy One, blessed be He, will take His crown and place it on the head of David and on the head of Messiah ben David, and speak of their praise and their piety until all generations.*  
- Pirqe Mashiah, BhM 3:77
- *In that hour ... He, sends away the Angel of Death who had brought accusations against Israel, and the Evil Inclination which pulled the heart of man to sin.*  
- S'udat Livyatan, BhM6:150-51
- *And some of them will face the Throne of Glory like the ministering angels... They will run like sparks and lightnings to serve the glory of their Creator, and will not be weary.*  
- Mid. Alpha Betot, Bate Misrashot 2:442
- *In the Future to Come, the Name, blessed be He, will reveal to us even the [meaning of] the blank spaces of the Torah... when our Righteous Messiah comes, we shall understand also the blank spaces in the Torah, quickly in our days. Amen!* - Levi Yitzhaq, Imre Tzaddiqim p. 10

## **BETWEEN THE LINES - Deeper Look Study Guide**

**Copyright © Between the Lines - PO Box 5400 - Peoria, AZ 85385 - USA - All rights reserved.**