

#1064 The Door of Heaven and the Gate of God – It is extensively taught that the Rapture is seen in Revelation 4:1 because the Church is not seen in the Book of Revelation after Chapter 3

1 Thessalonians 4:16-17 (KJV) For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.



Key Understanding: *The rapture.* One of the most common teachings concerning the Book of Revelation is that the rapture of the Church of Jesus Christ is seen in Revelation 4:1 for these reasons:

- (i) The Church of Jesus Christ is not mentioned in the Book of Revelation past Revelation chapter 3.
- (ii) The wording of Revelation 4, and specifically Revelation 4:1, including the words “*a door was opened in heaven,*” is a clear indication of the rapture.
- (iii) The events of the Book of Revelation from chapters 4 through 19 take place within a 7-year tribulation period of time, evidenced by the fact that the Church of Jesus Christ is not seen in those chapters.
- (iv) The Church is not appointed to endure the wrath of God (1 Thessalonians 5:9) that is displayed during the 7-year tribulation, which encompasses Revelation chapters 6-19, commencing with the opening of the first seal in Revelation 6:1-2.

Revelation 4:1-2 (KJV) After this I looked, and, behold, A DOOR WAS OPENED in heaven: and the first voice which I heard was as it were of a trumpet talking with me; which said, Come up hither, and I will shew thee things which must be hereafter.

2 And immediately I was in the spirit: and, behold, a throne was set in heaven, and one sat on the throne.



This series of **The Door of Heaven and the Gate of God** will by its very nature further address why Revelation 4:1 is not fulfilled by – or a fulfillment of – the rapture.

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