

Structure of the Second Vision

Rev 4:5-8

4:1-16:21, Coming Judgments

4-8:5, The Seven Seals

4-5, Introduction: Heavenly Actors

6, Six (!) Seals

7, Prep for Trumpets: Faithful Multitudes

8:5, Seventh Seal

8:6-11:19, The Seven Trumpets

8:6-9:21, Six (!) Trumpets

10:1-11:13, Prep for Vials: Witnesses

11:13-19, Seventh Trumpet

12-16, The Seven Vials

12-14, Introduction: Satanic Actors

15-16, Seven Vials

What did John see
in ch. 4?

2, a throne

3, glory of God

4, 24 throned
elders

5a, thunder,
lightening, voices

5b, seven Spirits

6-8a four living
creatures

8b, praise from
living creatures

9-11, praise from
elders

What's missing?

5b seven lamps ... seven Spirits of God

Rev. 1:4 John to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace be unto you, and peace, from him which is, and which was, and which is to come; and from **the seven Spirits which are before his throne**; 5 And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth.

Rev. 5:6 And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns and **seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth.**

Zec 4:10 For who hath despised the day of small things? for they shall rejoice, and shall see the plummet in the hand of Zerubbabel with **those seven** [lamps]; they are **the eyes of the LORD, which run to and fro through the whole earth.**

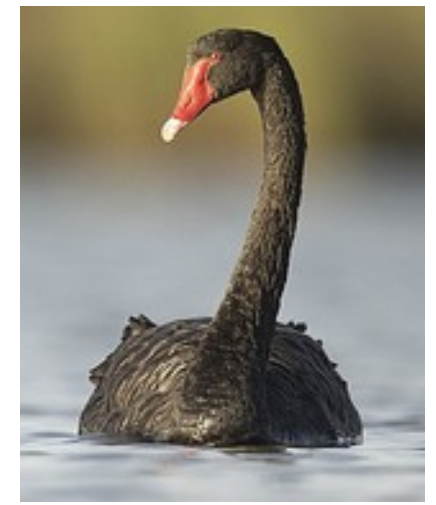
Psa 139:7 **Whither shall I go from thy spirit?** or whither shall I flee from thy presence? 8 If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there. ...

What John and Ezekiel Saw

Ezek. 1:4 And I looked, and, behold, a whirlwind came out of the north, a great cloud, and a fire infolding itself, and a brightness was about it, and out of the midst thereof as the colour of amber, out of the midst of the fire. 5 Also out of the midst thereof came the likeness of four living creatures.

Revelation 4	Ezekiel 1
6 And before the throne there was a sea of glass like unto crystal	22 And the likeness of the firmament ... was as the colour of the terrible crystal , stretched forth over their heads above.
and in the midst of the throne, and round about the throne, were four beasts [living creatures]	5 Also out of the midst thereof came the likeness of four living creatures
full of eyes before and behind. [8, full of eyes within]	18 As for their rings [rims], they were so high that they were dreadful; and their rings were full of eyes round about them four.
7 And the first beast was like a lion , and the second beast like a calf , and the third beast had a face as a man , and the fourth beast was like a flying eagle .	10 As for the likeness of their faces, they four had the face of a man , and the face of a lion , on the right side: and they four had the face of an ox on the left side; they four also had the face of an eagle .

Cherubim? Seraphim? or ... ?



Is. 6:1 In the year that king Uzziah died I saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and his train filled the temple. 2 **Above it stood the seraphims:** each one had **six wings**; with twain he **covered his face**, and with twain he covered his feet, and with twain he did fly. 3 And one cried unto another, and said, **Holy, holy, holy**, is the LORD of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory.

Feature	Cherubim (Ezekiel 1, 10)	Seraphim (Isaiah 6)	Living Creatures (Rev 4-5)
Position	Below the throne	Above the throne	Beside the throne
# Wings	Four	Six	Six
Four Faces	Each creature has all four	Not seen	One per creature
Eyes	Wheel rims full of eyes	Faces covered	Full of eyes
Meaning	Akkadian <i>karabu</i> “to bless” Also called “living creatures”	Burning ones—purifiers	“Living creatures”
Utterance	None	“Holy, holy, holy” + “whole earth”	“Holy, holy, holy” + “was, is, is to come”



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Praise from the Living Creatures and the Elders

	Living Creatures	Elders
Praise	The Lord is Holy	The Lord is Worthy
Motivation	Person: Eternal	Works: Creates all
Cross-Reference	9 give glory and honor and thanks	10 him that liveth for ever and ever

Rev. 14:11 And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and **they have no rest day nor night**, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name.

Phil. 2:10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, **and things under the earth**; 11 And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Holy, Holy, Holy

Isa 6:3	Rev 4:8
Holy, holy, holy,	Holy, holy, holy,
is the LORD of hosts:	Lord God Almighty,
the whole earth is full of his glory.	which was, and is, and is to come

Past, Present, Future

Rev. 1:4 John to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace be unto you, and peace, from him **which is, and which was, and which is to come**; and from the seven Spirits which are before his throne; 5 And from Jesus Christ, [cf. 1:8]

Isa 57:15 For thus saith the high and lofty One that **inhabiteh eternity**, whose **name is Holy**; I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones.

Emphatic Triplets

Rev 8:13 And I beheld, and heard an angel flying through the midst of heaven, saying with a loud voice, **Woe, woe, woe**, to the inhabiters of the earth by reason of the other voices of the trumpet of the three angels, which are yet to sound!

Jer 22:29 O **earth, earth, earth**, hear the word of the LORD.

Ezek 21:17 I will **overturn, overturn, overturn**, it: and it shall be no more, until he come whose right it is; and I will give it him.