3.14.21
3.11.21

Throne Room of God, Justice First

5.

Revelation

Revelation 4:1 (NKJV)
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."

1. The Restrainer who is the Holy Spirit in church age believers is removed from the earth:

A. To deliver the saints from the wrath to come:

By way of protection

In our context the church age believers (**being filled with the Holy Spirit**) quickly and suddenly **abandon** the earth at the rapture; **making way** for that man of sin to be revealed, and

thus God's final judgments begin

2 Thessalonians 2:1 (NKJV)
1 Now, brethren, concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ **and** our **gathering together** to Him, we ask you,

describes what happens at the Rapture

2191 ἐπισυναγωγή (**episynagōgē**), ῆς (ēs), ἡ (hē): n.fem.; = Str 1997; TDNT 7.841—**1.** LN 15.126 **gathering together** (2Th 2:1+); **2.** LN 15.128 **assembling**, meeting (Heb 10:25+)

an assembly of believers in the clouds with the Lord

2 not to be soon shaken in mind or troubled, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as if from us, **as though** the day of Christ **had come.**
past tense
3 Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come **unless** the **falling away** comes **first**

Unless there is a **departure** of the church, or **an abandonment** of the earth, first

686 ἀποστασία (**apostasia**), ας (as), ἡ (hē): n.fem.; = Str 646; TDNT 1.513—LN 39.34 **rebellion**, **an abandonment**, an apostasy (Ac 21:21; 2Th 2:3+)

It's core lexical meaning is "**departure**" It has to do with leaving somewhere and going somewhere.

and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition,

4 who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.
5 Do you not remember that when I was still with you I told you these things?
6 And now you know what is **restraining**, that he may be revealed in his own time.
7 For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only **He who now restrains** will do so **until He is taken out of the way**.

8 And **then** the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming.

Revelation 3:7–11 (NKJV)
7 "And to the angel of the church in **Philadelphia** write, 'These things says He who is holy, He who is true, "He who has the key of David, He who opens and no one shuts, and shuts and no one opens":
8 "I know your works. See, I have set before you **an open door**, and no one can shut it; for you have a little strength, and have kept My word, and have not denied My name.

In the English translations **due to poor punctuation** the following two verses indicate a works-based **stage 1 salvation**

9 Indeed I will make those of the synagogue of Satan, who say they are Jews and are not, but lie—indeed I will make them come and worship before your feet, and to know that I have loved you. ← The sentence does not end here

10 Because you have kept My command to persevere, ← Comma indicates a period should be placed here

New sentence

I also will keep you from **the hour of trial** which shall come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth.

A Bible translation is just that; on occasion theological bias will pop up

Earth dwellers is a technical term for unbelievers

Imminent

11 **Behold, I am coming quickly!** Hold fast what you have, **that no one may take your crown**.

Don't let anyone take your reward that you will receive at the judgment seat of Christ

Imminent

1 Thessalonians 1:10 (NASB95)
10 and to **wait for His Son from heaven**, whom He raised from the dead, that is Jesus,

who **rescues** us from the wrath to come.

Jesus rescues us from God's judgment **in time**; this is not referring to eternal judgment. Eternal judgment is after the millennial reign of Christ

The Great White Judgment Throne

John calls the Pharisees the seed of Satan

Matthew 3:7 (NASB95)
7 But when he saw many of **the Pharisees and Sadducees** coming for baptism, he said to them, **"You brood of vipers, who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?**

1165 γέννημα (**gennēma**), ατος (atos), τό (to): n.neu.; = DBLHebr 7262, 9311; Str 1081—**1.** LN 23.53 **offspring, brood of a snake**

Luke 3:7 (NASB95)
7 So he began saying to the crowds who were going out to be baptized by him, **"You brood of vipers, who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?**

Genesis 3:14–15 (NASB95)
14 The Lord God said to **the serpent**, "Because you have done this, Cursed are you more than all cattle, And more than every beast of the field; On your belly you will go, And dust you will eat All the days of your life;

15 And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between **your seed** and her seed; He shall bruise you on the head, And you shall bruise him on the heel."

2. Seven copies of Revelation; one for each of the seven churches in Asia:

A. When did John make the copies of **the book of Revelation**?

Revelation 10:4 (NKJV)
4 Now when the seven thunders uttered their voices, **I was about to write**; but I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, "Seal up the things which the seven thunders uttered, and do not write them."

John had passed through that door which was standing open in heaven; **he was in heaven when he was writing**

Revelation 22:6–11 (NKJV)
6 Then he said to me, "These words are faithful and true." And the Lord God of the holy prophets sent His angel to show His servants the things which must shortly take place.
7 "Behold, I am coming quickly! Blessed is he who keeps the words of the prophecy of **this book**."
8 Now I, John, saw and heard these things. And when I heard and saw, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel who showed me these things.
9 Then he said to me, "See that you do not do that. For I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren the prophets, and of those who keep **the words of this book**. Worship God."
10 And he said to me, "**Do not seal the words of the prophecy of this book**, for the time is at hand.
11 He who is unjust, let him be unjust still; he who is filthy, let him be filthy still; he who is righteous, let him be righteous still; he who is holy, let him be holy still."

3. The Openings of Revelation:

A. The **open** door:

One thing to keep in mind when studying through the book of revelation is that the events are not always in chronological order.

The seventh seal judgment reveals the trumpet judgments, and **the seventh trumpet judgment** reveals the **bowl judgments**

Revelation 4:1–11 (NKJV)
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**."

John's description of God's throne room of judgment reveals the preliminary arrangements for the outworking of God's justice upon the earth

Correction
In relation to **the door standing open** verse 2–11 have already occurred
This door ... open until chapter 6

The rest of this chapter is **a description of the heavenly courtroom scene:**

2 Immediately I was in the Spirit; and behold, a throne set in heaven, and One sat on the throne.
3 And 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.
description 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.
description 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.
6 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.
7 The 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.
8 The 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!"
9 Whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits on the throne, who lives forever and ever,
10 the 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 "You 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."

The scroll is the deed that gives ownership of the kingdom to Jesus Christ, he will activate his right to the kingdom by opening the seals:

The first **open** precedes the judgment of the scroll

Revelation 5:1–2 (NKJV)
1 And I saw in the right hand of Him who sat on the throne **a scroll** written inside and on the back, sealed with seven seals.
2 Then I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, "Who is worthy to open **the scroll** and to loose its seals?"

The second **open** precedes the next intensification of divides judgment

Revelation 11:19 (NKJV)
19 Then **the temple of God was opened in heaven**, and the ark of His covenant was seen in His temple. And there were lightnings, noises, thunderings, an earthquake, and great hail.

The third **open in heaven** precedes yet another intensification of 7 bowl judgments

Revelation 15:5–7 (NKJV)
5 After these things I looked, and behold, **the temple of the tabernacle of the testimony in heaven was opened**.
6 And out of the temple came the seven angels having the seven plagues, clothed in pure bright linen, and having their chests girded with golden bands.
7 Then one of the four living creatures gave to the seven angels seven golden bowls full of the wrath of God who lives forever and ever.

The fourth and final **open in heaven** precedes yet another intensification of judgments

Revelation 19:11–16 (NKJV)
11 Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war.
12 His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself.
13 He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God.
14 And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses.
15 Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.
16 And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

4. The throne room of God and divine justice:

A. Divine justice has been violated first by Satan and the angels, and then by Man:

God wants church age believers to understand that justice must be dealt with first, that God must bring resolution to evil before the thousand year kingdom reign of Christ, and before He creates the new heavens and earth, for our eternal abode.

So God has given this book to the Church to motivate us to be prepared for the judgment seat of Christ, and so that we will understand (**before we arrive in heaven**) the judgments on the earth that will immediately take place.

This is why John's Revelation of future things begins with the judgment seat of Christ:

Revelation 4:1–11 (NKJV)
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."
2 Immediately I was in the Spirit; and behold, a **THRONE** set in heaven, and One sat on the **THRONE**.
3 And 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.
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.
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.
6 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.
7 The 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.
8 The 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!"
9 Whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits on the **THRONE**, who lives forever and ever,
10 the 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 "You 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."

5.

6. The last days:

A. Distinguish between the last times of the church age; and the time of the end, of Daniel's 70th week:

Daniel 12:7 (NKJV)
7 Then I heard the man clothed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, when he held up his right hand and his left hand to heaven, and swore by Him who lives forever, that **it shall be for a time, times, and half a time;** and when the power of the holy people has been completely shattered, all these things shall be finished.

The church age has always been thought of as **the last times** because of **the imminent return of Christ; Jesus Christ could return for the church at any time**

1 Peter 1:20–21 (NASB95)
20 For He was foreknown before the foundation of the world, but has appeared **in these last times** for the sake of you
21 who through Him are believers in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and **hope** are in God.

Hebrews 1:1–2 (NASB95)
1 God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways,
2 **in these last days** has spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world.

1 John 2:18 (NASB95)
18 Children, **it is the last hour**; and just as you heard that **antichrist is coming**, even now many antichrists have appeared; **from this we know** that **it is the last hour**.
this is the evidence

1 Timothy 4:1–7 (NASB95)
1 But the Spirit explicitly says that **in later times** some will **fall away** from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons,

2 by means of the hypocrisy of liars seared in their own conscience as with a branding iron,
3 men who forbid marriage and advocate abstaining from foods which God has created to be gratefully shared in by those who believe and know the truth.
4 For everything created by God is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with gratitude;
5 for it is sanctified by means of the word of God and prayer.
6 In pointing out these things to the brethren, you will be a good servant of Christ Jesus, constantly nourished on the words of the faith and of the sound doctrine which you have been following.
7 But have nothing to do with worldly fables fit only for old women. On the other hand, discipline yourself for the purpose of godliness;

2 Peter 3:1–9 (NKJV)
1 Beloved, I now write to you this second epistle (in both of which I stir up your pure minds **by way of reminder**),
2 that you may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us, the apostles of the Lord and Savior,
3 knowing this first: that **scoffers** will come **in the last days**, walking according to their own lusts,
4 and saying, "Where is **the promise of His coming**? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation."

Remember, there were scoffers before Noah's flood, and **there will be scoffers in these last days**

5 For this they willfully forget: that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of water and in the water,
6 by which the world that then existed perished, being flooded with water.
7 But the heavens and the earth which are now preserved by the same word, are reserved for fire until the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.

8 But, beloved, do not forget this one thing, **that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.**

God is timeless, He is eternal.

That means that God is not subject to time.

God doesn't have days, He has one eternal present.

There are successions of His creatures but as far as God is concerned He is eternal and timeless.

So this is just a simple statement that God is timeless; **we should not try to fit God's timing into our temporal frame of reference; which is what these scoffers we're doing**

9 The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

7.