Final Countdown: The Book Of Revelation "The Ultimate Throne" #10 Cornerstone Church of Poway Pastor Ed Turley October 11, 2020

Big Idea: God extends His mercy with a final countdown before He judges the World.

"Therefore write the things which you have **seen**, and the things which **are**, and the things which will **take place after these things**." **Revelation 1:19 (NASB)**

"For even though they **knew God**, they **did not honor Him as God** or **give thanks**, but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing to be wise, they became fools, and **exchanged** the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man and of birds and fourfooted animals and crawling creatures." **Romans 1:21-23 (NASB)**

Five Truths About The Ultimate Throne:

1. God Is Ruling On The Throne In Heaven

"After these things I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven, and the first voice which I had heard, like *the sound* of a trumpet speaking with me, said, "Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after these things." Immediately I was in the Spirit; and behold, a throne was standing in heaven, and One sitting on the throne." Revelation 4:1-2 (NASB)

Notes:

2. The Throne Is A Place Of The Promises Of God

"And He who was sitting *was* like a **jasper** stone and a **sardius** in appearance; and *there was* a **rainbow** around the throne, like an **emerald** in appearance. Around the throne *were* **twenty-four thrones**; and upon the thrones *I saw* **twenty-four elders** sitting, clothed in **white garments**, and **golden crowns** on their heads." **Revelation 4:3-4 (NASB)**

Notes:

3. The Throne Is A Place Of Judgement

"Out from the throne come flashes of **lightning** and sounds and peals of **thunder**. And *there were* **seven lamps of fire** burning before the throne, which are the **seven Spirits of God**;" **Revelation 4:5 (NASB)**

"Then I saw a **great white throne** and Him who sat upon it, from whose presence earth and heaven fled away, and no place was found for them." **Revelation 20:11 (NASB)** "Yet God, with undeserved kindness, declares that we are righteous. He did this through Christ Jesus when he freed us from the penalty for our sins. For God presented Jesus as the sacrifice for sin. People are made right with God when they believe that Jesus sacrificed his life, shedding his blood. This sacrifice shows that God was being fair when he held back and did not punish those who sinned in times past, for he was looking ahead and including them in what he would do in this present time. God did this to demonstrate his righteousness, for he himself is fair and just, and he declares sinners to be right in his sight when they believe in Jesus."

Romans 3:24-26 (NLT2)

Notes:

4. The Throne Is A Place Of Holiness

"and before the throne *there was something* like a sea of glass, like crystal; and in the center and around the throne, four living creatures full of eyes in front and behind. The first creature *was* like a lion, and the second creature like a calf, and the third creature had a face like that of a man, and the fourth creature *was* like a flying eagle. And the four living creatures, each one of them having six wings, are full of eyes around and within; and day and night they do not cease to say, "HOLY, HOLY, HOLY *is* THE LORD GOD, THE ALMIGHTY, WHO WAS AND WHO IS AND WHO IS TO COME." Revelation 4:6-8 (NASB)

Notes: _____

5. The Throne Is A Place Of Worship

"And when the living creatures **give glory** and **honor** and **thanks** to Him who sits on the throne, to Him who lives forever and ever, the **twenty-four elders will fall down** before Him who sits on the throne, and will **worship Him** who lives forever and ever, and will **cast their crowns** before the throne, saying, "**Worthy** are You, our Lord and our God, **to receive glory** and **honor** and **power**; for You **created** all things, and because of **Your will** they existed, and were created."

Revelation 4:9-11 (NASB)

Jesus replied: "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment." **Matthew 22:37-38 (NIV)**

Notes:

> How does my life reflect God being on His Throne?

My next right step, I will:

- [] Worship with abandon
- [] Accept Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior
- [] Share my story of faith
- [] Join our Zoom Bible Study on the Book of Revelation-Tuesdays 6:30 pm

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Family Corner: [Choose one day this week to ask questions to go deeper in faith as a family. Try this over dinner. Keep it under 12 minutes.]

Small Groups: [Choose as many questions that honor your group's time commitment]

Open in Prayer:

> What thoughts from this week's message encourage you to live like Jesus?

Icebreaker: What is the most memorable storm you have ever seen?

Review the Remember Verse "Blessed is the one who **reads** the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who **hear** it and **take to heart** what is written in it, because the time is near." **Revelation 1:3 (NIV)**

How has God blessed you so far in this study of God's Word?

Romans 1:21-23

What is the result of failing to give honor and thanks to God?

What are some ways to give thanks and honor to God?

Five Truths About The Ultimate Throne: 1. <u>God Is Ruling</u> On The Throne In Heaven Revelation 4:1-2 Who is the figure on the throne?

Why is this important?

2. The Throne Is A Place Of The Promises Of God

The 24 elders seem to represent all of God's people from the 12 tribes of Israel and the 12 apostles.

Read Revelation 21:12-14

What is the significance of the white garments and the golden crowns? Revelation 2:10; Revelation 3:4-5, 11, 21

3. The Throne Is <u>Place Of Judgement</u> Read Revelation 4:5

How do you respond when you hear and see lightning and thunder? **Read Exodus 19:16-17** What do you notice about this passage? **Read Isaiah 11:2** What do you learn about the Holy Spirit?

Read Revelation 20:11 What do you learn about the coming judgment? **Read Romans 3:24-26** How does God's Judgement and mercy work together?

4. The Throne Is A <u>Place Of Holiness</u> Read Revelation 4:6-8

These are strange angelic beings, but what is obvious about them?

What do you see that causes you to cry out that God is holy?

5. The Throne Is A <u>Place Of Worship</u> Read Revelation 4:9-11

Imagine you are in heaven with John. What aspect of God's creation best demonstrates God's glory? How might this vision enhance your worship life?

Read Swindoll's Living Insights New Testament Commentary - Revelation.

Following the lead of the "four living creatures" (4:9), the twenty-four elders joined in the worship, falling down before God and casting down their golden crowns of reward at His feet (4:10). Although the elders apparently earned their rewards, they acknowledged that everything they had was from God. Everything they achieved in life was by His strength. Everything they had done was for His glory. Therefore, He alone deserves the glory, honor, power, and thanks (4:9, 11). Thus, in this fourth chapter of Revelation we hear what might be called a glorious hymn of creation. The twenty-four elders praised God as the eternal and almighty Creator: "You created all things, and because of Your will they existed, and were created" (4:11). In the next chapter we'll hear the second movement of this great symphony of praise, in which all creation worships God with a hymn of redemption.

In the midst of the flashes of lightning, flaming torches, crashing thunder, beating wings, and loud antiphonal praises reverberating throughout the heavenly throne room, the apostle John stood in absolute awe. We who dwell in the earthly sphere can scarcely imagine what that must be like. Yet we look forward to that day when we join that heavenly throng standing before God's awesome throne, gathering with other saints and singing praises to that same awesome God who created all things.

Read Matthew 22:37-38

How can we express loving God with our all?

Close in prayer.