



# Daily Reflections

**November 16, 2016**

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## Scripture

### **Revelations 4:1-11**

I, John, had a vision of an open door to heaven,  
and I heard the trumpetlike voice  
that had spoken to me before, saying,  
“Come up here and I will show you what must happen afterwards.”  
At once I was caught up in spirit.  
A throne was there in heaven, and on the throne sat one  
whose appearance sparkled like jasper and carnelian.  
Around the throne was a halo as brilliant as an emerald.  
Surrounding the throne I saw twenty-four other thrones  
on which twenty-four elders sat,  
dressed in white garments and with gold crowns on their heads.  
From the throne came flashes of lightning,  
rumblings, and peals of thunder.  
Seven flaming torches burned in front of the throne,  
which are the seven spirits of God.

In front of the throne was something that resembled a sea of glass like crystal.

In the center and around the throne, there were four living creatures covered with eyes in front and in back.

The first creature resembled a lion, the second was like a calf, the third had a face like that of a man, and the fourth looked like an eagle in flight.

The four living creatures, each of them with six wings, were covered with eyes inside and out.

Day and night they do not stop exclaiming:

“Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God almighty, who was, and who is, and who is to come.”

Whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to the one who sits on the throne, who lives forever and ever, the twenty-four elders fall down before the one who sits on the throne and worship him, who lives forever and ever.

They throw down their crowns before the throne, exclaiming:

“Worthy are you, Lord our God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things; because of your will they came to be and were created.”

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## **Our Scripture Reflection**

In today's text, John describes a vision of the glory of God who is sitting on His royal throne. The four creatures symbolize all of the created order, all of whom worship and honor God. It is fitting that all of God's creation shows Him glory and praise. Isn't it interesting and sad that in modern times we've reversed the order? Man tends to worship man and the creature, including the earth, rather than God, the Creator.

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## **Food for your Journey**

The 12th-century mystic, Hildegard of Bingen, once told a little parable:

“Listen, there was once a king sitting on his throne. Around him stood great and wonderfully beautiful columns ornamented with ivory, bearing the banners of the king with great honor. Then it pleased the king to raise a small feather from the ground and he commanded it to fly. The feather flew, not because of anything in itself but because the air bore it along. Thus, I am a feather on the breath of God.”

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## **Prayer from the Heart**

Dear Lord, Make me humble and grateful so that I will never miss an opportunity to acknowledge and glorify the greatness of God. Amen.