



The Revelation Revealed

A view from a sojourner...

A study from the heart.

Last week: Revelation: Various Schools of Interpretation

- **Preterist**

Latin meaning “past.” Revelation has already been fulfilled in the early history of the church. They feel that the entire book was fulfilled by the time of Constantine, A.D. 312

- **Continuous Historical**

Panoramic view of the history of the Church---from the days of John to the end of the age.

Note: They believe the book is being fulfilled throughout the whole Christian era.

- **Idealist/Pictorial View:**

Pictorial unfolding of great principles in constant conflict.

No actual events recorded. It merely portrays the age long struggle between good and evil. They believe most of the book is allegory.

- **Futurist or Plain Interpretation:**

From chapter 4 on...as yet to be fulfilled (In the future). They do not claim to be able to explain every detail with certainty. They believe Revelation is to be understood only when we do not try to bring our own speculations into interpreting it...and therefore, letting the Spirit reveal the truth. Just understand that Jesus is the one that is revealing to the church as to what to look for in the church today...and what to look forward to in the future.

***Some areas to be in “Alert Control” when studying Revelation:
The Christian scholar must keep a watchful eye and have spiritual discernment whenever referring to source material outside of Scripture, especially in regard to the attitudes and assumptions of the writers of commentaries on Revelation.***

- ***Even those who think of themselves as fundamentally conservative in outlook and upholders of evangelical distinctives (e.g., divine inspiration and inerrancy of Scripture) may be found proposing ideas which are at odds with these foundational understandings of the Scriptures.***
- ***Whenever evangelical principles are compromised, there will always be serious consequences and repercussions.***
 - ✓ ***As is often the case where Satan is prowling around trying to deceive the Christian, the results are typically subtle and take time to come to full fruition—like introducing a small amount of a poisonous concoction into a fresh cool drink which the drinker doesn't detect until it eventually takes its deadly toll.***
 - ✓ ***Nowhere is this implicit denial of evangelical distinctives more evident than in 'historical-critical' discussions of authorship, the dependency of source material, and appeal to extra-biblical literature as the key to understanding the divine message.***
 - ✓ ***The problem is not with the historical-critical approach itself, but with the bias of those who practice it. "Historical-critical interpretation in and of itself is not bad, it is an intelligent, research-oriented approach to the determination of Scripture. Many of the scholars who have employed this method, however, have held an anti-supernatural bias." (Mel Couch, Classical Evangelical Hermeneutics).***

When a writer or one who publicizes a commentary fails to see the supernatural powers of Jesus found in Scripture, Revelation included...and that writer believes that the supernatural works of God are not possible today, then Satan has convinced the writer that the basic and fundamental work of the Spirit has been lost and is not relevant for study. This is not only tragic, but demonic and should be treated as such.

Trash the writing and do not give it a 2nd thought!

Throughout Revelation, we are going to see the supernatural workings of the Trinity (God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit).

"He who has ears to hear, let him hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches." (Quoted times in Scriptures throughout the Bible...especially Revelation).

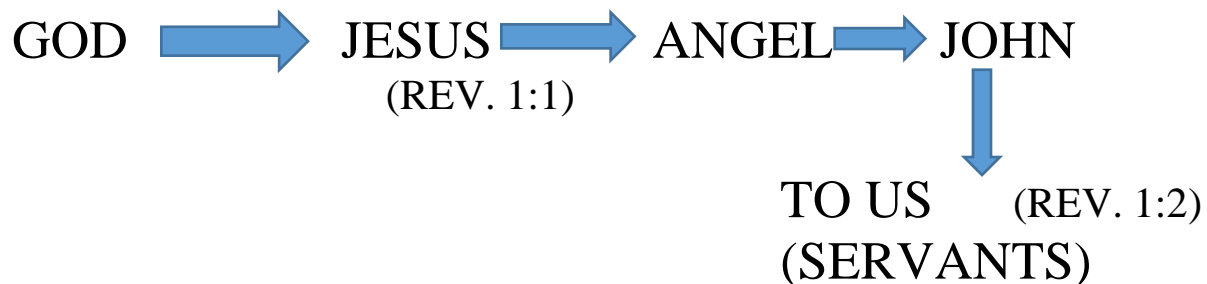
Never interpret Scripture through the eyes of mere man...without first consulting the Holy Spirit to give you the spirit of discernment. (Only given by the Holy Spirit)

1 Corinthians 12, "Brothers and sisters, I want you to know about the gifts of the Holy Spirit. ...There are different kinds of gifts. But they are all given to believers by the same Spirit...The Holy Spirit is given to each of us in a special way. That is for the good of all. ¹¹ All the gifts are produced by one and the same Spirit. He gives gifts to each person, just as he decides.

Revelation 1:1-2, "The revelation from Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show his servants what must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John, ² who testifies to everything he saw—that is, the word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ."

God's Revelation is revealed to mankind---especially to the Church

HOW WAS IT REVEALED?



GOD

*Almighty
Eternal God
Father of Lights
Fortress
Heavenly Father
Holy One of Israel
I Am
Jehovah
Living God
Lord of Hosts
Most High
Father*

JESUS

*Advocate; Alpha & Omega
Author and Finisher of Our faith
Beginning of Creation
Beloved Son Branch
Bread of Life Cornerstone
Chief Shepherd Creator
Dayspring Deliverer
Judge Door Glory of God
Good Shepherd Great High Priest
Holy One I Am
Horn of Salvation Image of God
Immanuel Just One
Lamb of God*

As we study Revelation, we want everyone to know it is part of God's Word of which Jesus is the center of attention.

Jesus is glorified...His character and His appeal to the world is given with very distinct detail.

Jesus is King of Kings, Lord of Lords, and He will be the final Judge as He presents each of us to the Father God.

We are either washed and made whole in the blood of the Lamb...or, we are judged by our own choices to reject the greatest gift ever given.

Know this: There will be some who rebel to the end. There will be some who blame God for not making it more clear as to what is meant as to being “born again.”

Who wrote the Book of Revelation?

John (vs. 1:1, 1:4) wrote the Book of Revelation

- ✓ **Most scholars believe that this was John, the Apostle, the one who wrote the Gospel of John and the 3 Epistles.**

HOWEVER, some don't believe he was John the Apostle.

Why?

Their reasoning/theory: From Barclay:

Written by a man called John.

- *The kind of Greek he writes is vivid, powerful, and pictorial...but, terrible grammar. Unlike the near perfect Greek of the 4th gospel, written by John, the Apostle.*
- *Claimed to be a prophet (10:11). John, the Apostle, never claimed to be a prophet.*
- *He speaks of the apostles as if he was looking back on them as great foundations of the Church (i.e. 12 foundations of the Holy City and then says, “and on them were the 12 names of the 12 apostles of the Lamb.” He would have hardly spoken of the apostles like that if he himself was one of them.*
- *Author of the 4th gospel avoids any mention of his name (“the disciple whom Jesus loved”)*

Revelation repeatedly mentions his name.

Now...Let's get real! Why John the Apostle?

- **The vocabularies of John's gospel and the apocalypse (Revelation to John).**
 - ✓ *Term, logos- “the Word”...referring to Jesus Christ (nowhere else in Scripture...except with the gospel and the Book of Revelation).*
 - ✓ *The Lamb...not just emblem or symbol, but Christ himself is peculiar to John.*
 - ✓ *Alethinos---“that which is true” or valid. Used 10 times in Revelation, 9 times in gospel, 4 times in the epistles of John. Only one time in Pauline epistles.*
 - ✓ *Nikos---“he who overcomes”, a favorite expression of John in the epistles...and used in Revelation.*
 - ✓ *Sheenoo (verb) ---“to tabernacle” or dwell. Only found in John's writings.*

One thing for sure we know...It is the inspired Word of God and is infallible, without error.