

Introduction to Revelation



Daniel's Accurate Prophecies

- 4 Great Empires
- Messiah born during 4th Empire
- Church persecuted during Roman Empire (4th)
- Church continues, not Empires

Revelation - Background

- God is the author
- John the Apostle is the writer
- Patmos – Ephesus 96 AD

Roman History

- Persecutions
 - Nero: 64-67 AD
 - Domitian: 95-96 AD
 - Trajan: 98-117 AD
- Final persecution Diocletian 284-305 AD
- Edict of Milan – 313 AD (Constantine)

Apocalyptic Literature Features:

- Persecution & suffering
- Despair in present, salvation in future
- Symbolic language, dreams, visions

Apocalyptic Literature Features:

- Celestial characters
- Catastrophic judgment /
Supernatural salvation
- Historical characters for pen names

Revelation - Content

- Rome is model for book
 - Beast, Mark, Babylon
- Christians recognized Rome as model

Many "Schools of Interpretation"

- Preterist
- Idealist
- Historicist
- Futurist

Many interpretations of "1,000 Years"

- Post-Millennial
- A-Millennial
- Pre-Millennial

Revelation

1. Prologue - Christ Communicates - 1:1-8
2. Vision I - Christ & the Church - 1:9-3:22
3. Vision II - Christ in Heaven - 4:1-16:21

Revelation

4. **Vision III - Christ in Conquest - 17:1-21:8**
5. **Vision IV - Christ & Church in Heaven -
21:9-22:5**
6. **Christ and His Challenge - 22:6-21**

Revelation was given to:

1. Show an ongoing cycle of struggle that the church would experience throughout history.

Revelation was given to:

2. Insure the readers that Christ would always be with His church and ultimately save her.