

Revelation 1:1-8

Review

1. The subject of the Revelation (vs. 1)
2. The method of the Revelation (vss.1-2)
3. The blessing of the Revelation (vs. 3)
4. The recipients of the Revelation (vss. 4-8)
 - Jesus' beloved church (vs. 4)
 - Encouraged by His glory (vss. 4-5)
 - Encouraged by His love (vss. 5-6).
 - Encouraged by His coming (vs. 7)
 - Encouraged by His power (vs. 8)

The Critical Link between Origins and Last Things

Four interpretations of the Book of Revelation

- **Preterists**

Preterist believe that the prophecies in the Revelation have already been fulfilled during the first 300 years church history. They see the prophecies as having been fulfilled in context to the destruction of Jerusalem and the fall of Rome in the first 3 centuries after Christ.

- **Historicists**

Historicists interpret Revelation as a progressive unfolding of Church history from the Book of Acts until the Second Coming. They usually view the prophecies as partly fulfilled and partly to be fulfilled in the generation that the Lord returns. They feel it is one continual unfolding.

- **Idealists**

Idealists do not see historical or prophetic meaning in the Book of Revelation. They interpret it as simply giving us an allegory depicting the spiritual conflict of good and evil that is true through all times with good winning in the end. They feel the Book is symbolic of spiritual realities.

- **Futurists**

Futurist view Revelation 1-3 as already fulfilled, and the remainder are yet future meaning Revelation 4-5 take place in Heaven after the Rapture of the Church and Revelation 6-22 as referring to the coming End-Time events released at Jesus' Second Advent.

Understanding the Rapture (The Appearing of the Lord) and Second Advent

- Jesus on the Rapture (John 14:1-3)
- Paul on the Rapture (1Corinthians 15:50-54, 1Thessalonians 4:13-18, 2 Timothy 4:8, Titus 2:13)

Why the Rapture before the Tribulation

- We are not appointed unto wrath (1Thessalonians 5:1-10)

Contrasts Between Rapture and 2nd Advent

Rapture/Translation

- 1 Translation of all believers
- 2 Translated saints go to heaven
- 3 Earth not judged
- 4 Imminent, any-moment, signless
- 5 Not in the Old Testament
- 6 Believers only
- 7 Before the day of wrath
- 8 No reference to Satan
- 9 Christ comes for His own
- 10 He comes in the air
- 11 He claims His bride
- 12 Only His own see Him
- 13 Tribulation begins

2nd Advent / Establish Kingdom

- 1 No translation at all
- 2 Translated saints return to earth
- 3 Earth judged & righteousness established
- 4 Follows definite predicted signs including tribulation
- 5 Predicted often in Old Testament
- 6 Affects all humanity
- 7 Concluding the day of wrath
- 8 Satan bound
- 9 Christ comes with His own
- 10 He comes to the earth
- 11 He comes with His bride
- 12 Every eye shall see Him
- 13 Millennial Kingdom begins

The Distinction between Israel and the Church