

## **The Book of Revelation**

Week 1 – Introduction and Overview

August 13, 2024

### **Introduction**

#### **Goals**

1. To encourage believers with the basic theme and structure of Revelation.
2. To help you understand the meaning and significance of the book's broad contours and specific texts.
3. To equip you to read the Bible more faithfully and humbly.
4. To stir your worship of God, appreciation for His Word, and longing for the consummation of all things in Christ.
5. To challenge our zeal (or lack of it) for evangelizing those around us.

“God, in His own time and in His own way, will bring the world to its appropriate end. According to His promise, Jesus Christ will return personally and visibly in glory to the earth; the dead will be raised; and Christ will judge all men in righteousness. The unrighteous will be consigned to Hell, the place of everlasting punishment. The righteous in their resurrected and glorified bodies will receive their reward and will dwell forever in Heaven with the Lord.” BF&M2K

What are some questions you have that you're hoping will be answered this semester?

#### **Preliminaries**

- Authorship
  - John, the Hebrew Prophet
- Recipients
- Date
- Purpose – Written to encourage believers under times of intense persecution.

#### **Ancient Hebrew Form**

## **Prophecy**

- Prophecy – Strident, authoritative presentations of the will and words of God.
  - Features of OT Prophecy...
    1. The prophets were the covenant enforcement mediators.
    2. The prophets' message was not their own, but God's.
    3. The prophets were God's direct representatives.

## **Apocalyptic Literature**

- *Features of Apocalyptic Literature*
  - Narrative Framework
  - Discourse Cycles.
  - Schematization of history
  - Given by heavenly messenger
  - God's eye-view of history
  - Colorful Metaphors
  - Recital of History.
  - Future Hope and Present Trouble
- *Characteristics of Apocalyptic Literature*

## **Hermeneutical Principles**

## **Eschatology and the Covenants**

### **Inaugurated Eschatology**

#### **Four Approaches to Interpretation**

1. Preterism
2. Historicism
3. Futurism
4. Idealism

#### **Millennial Views**

1. *Premillennialism*
2. *Postmillennialism*
3. *Amillennialism*

#### **Competing Biblical-Theological Systems**

1. Dispensationalism
2. Covenant Theology
3. Progressive Covenantalism