The Revelation of Jesus Christ

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Introduction

The Revelation of Jesus Christ

- Aversion To Revelation
  - difficult to understand and interpret
- Attraction To Revelation
  - Captures the imagination
- Arguments Over Revelation
  - Should it be included in the canon?
  - What does it tell us?

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Interpretive Options

The Revelation of Jesus Christ

- Preterist View
  - Revelation refers to conditions and events in the first century
- Historicist View
  - Revelation describes major events that would take place during Church history
- Spiritualizing View
  - Revelation should be understood figuratively or metaphorically
- Futurist View
  - Revelation is prophecy of what is yet to come

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☑ Interpretive Options

The Revelation of Jesus Christ

The futurist approach to the book is the only one that grants sufficient recognition to the prophetic style of the book and a normal hermeneutical pattern of interpretation based on that style. It views the book as focusing on the last periods of world history and outlining the various events and their relationships to one another. This is the view that best accords with the principle of literal interpretation. The literal interpretation of Revelation is the one generally associated with the premillenial return of Christ and a view of inspiration that understands God to be the real author of every book of the Bible."

- Robert L. Thomas

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☑ Initial Overview

The Revelation of Jesus Christ

Prologue 1:1-8

I. "The things which you have seen" (1:9-20)

II. "The things which are" (2:1-3:22)

III. "The things which shall take place after these things" (4:1-22:21)

A. Prologue (4:1-5)

1. The Tribulation (6:1-19:21)
2. The Millennium (20:1-15)
3. The Eternal State (21:1-22:5)

B. Epilogue (22:6-21)

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☑ Initial Overview

The Revelation of Jesus Christ

Preparation in Heaven (4-5)

Interpretation from Heaven
4 Divine Explanations

1. about God's people (7)
2. about God's places (10:1-11:13)
3. About God's Purposes (12-14)
4. About God's Power (17-18)

Intervention On Earth
21 Divine Judgments

1. 7 Seal Judgments
2. 7 Trumpet Judgments
3. 7 Bowl Judgments

Victorious 2nd Coming of Christ (19-20)

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☑ Initial Overview

The Revelation of Jesus Christ

The Church in Heaven (Rev 4-5; 19:1-10) } Judgement Seat of Christ / Marriage of The Lamb

Rapture of the Church (1 Thess 4) ↑

Return of Jesus Christ (Rev 19:11-21) ↓

The Church On Earth (Rev 1-3) → Tribulation On Earth (Rev 6-18) → Kingdom On Earth (Rev 20:1-6) → Rebellion On Earth (Rev 20:7-15) → Eternal State (Rev 21-22)

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☑ Important Observation

The Revelation of Jesus Christ

Jesus Christ is the Focus of Revelation

- In Rev 1-3 Jesus is the exalted King and Priest
- In Rev 4-5 Jesus is the Glorified Lamb of God
- In Rev 6-18 Jesus is the Judge over all the Earth
- In Rev 19 Jesus is the King of Kings and Lord of lords
- In Rev 22 Jesus is the Alpha and the Omega

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☑ Revelation 1:1-8

The Revelation of Jesus Christ

I. The Subject of Revelation (1, 3)

II. The Signs/Symbols of Revelation (1)

III. The Scribe of Revelation (1, 4)

IV. The Spiritual Blessing of Revelation (3)

V. The Source of Revelation (1-2)

VI. The Salutation of Revelation (4-5a)

VII. The Savior of Revelation (5-8)

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