

## How To Study The Book Of Revelation

### **The Book Of Revelation Is A Neglected Study**



Some give up due to a lack of understanding and the difficulty of piecing the parts together

### Romans 15:4

“For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.”

### Opening The Door To The Fallible Ideas And Theories Of Man

- **Eisegesis:** Interpreting the Scripture according one's own ideas, i.e. reading into the Book of Revelation and the word of God with our own opinions
- Eisegesis unlocks the door to man's ideas



### **Eisegesis Results In Making The Word Of God Of No Effect**

- "8 For laying aside the commandment of God, **you hold the tradition of men**.... 9 All too well you reject the commandment of God, **that you may keep your tradition**...13 **making the word of God of no effect through your tradition** which you have handed down. And many such things you do."--Mark 7:8,9,13

### **Opening The Door To God's Word**

- **Exegesis: Reading out** of the Scripture and letting the Book of Revelation and the word of God speak for itself within its context
- Exegesis unlocks the door to understanding God's word



### **Exegesis Results In The Word Of God Being Effective In The Life Of The Believer**

For this reason we also thank God without ceasing, because when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you welcomed it **not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which also effectively works in you who believe.** -- 1 Thess 2:13

### **As We Study**

- Recognize that **The Holy Spirit will teach** us as we study
- Recognize that **God desires us to understand** the Book of Revelation
- Recognize that **God means what He says, and says what He means**. He is not trying to confuse us
- Recognize that **the Bible is an integrated whole** and should be interpreted that way

### The Three Distinct Groups

- The Bible is written to **the Jews, the Gentiles, and the Church of God**
- Keep in mind when reading the New Testament which group of persons the context is addressing
- The Bible is written to a particular people at a particular time in a particular context, but its application is for all people for all time

### Some Major Theories Concerning The Second Coming

- The Second coming was spiritual and was fulfilled at Pentecost
- The Second Coming is the conversion of the sinner
- The Second coming is when a man dies
- The Second coming was the destruction of Jerusalem
- The Second coming is the spreading of Christianity
- These theories of the Second Coming are not based on the Bible but are fabricated by man's own ideas

### The Great Tribulation

- Known in The Scriptures as **The Time of Jacob's Trouble**
- The tribulation concern's itself primarily with Israel before Jesus will set up His Millennial Reign
- It's main feature is the out pouring of God's wrath upon the **whole** world
- Luke 4:18-19 ; Is 61:1-2
- Jeremiah. 30:4-7
- Daniel 12:1
- Matthew. 24:19-22; Isaiah 45:4;Romans. 11:25-29

### Israel Is Returned In The Last Days To face Their Time Of Tribulation

- Isaiah 43:5-6 **(740-680 B.C.)**
- Jeremiah. 31:8-11 **(627-586 B.C.)**
- Ezekiel. 37:21-22 **(592-560 B.C.)**
- Jeremiah. 23:7-8
- Isaiah 11:11-12
- Zechariah 14: 1-2 **(520-470 B.C.)**
- Ezekiel. 22:18-22

### **Isaiah 11:11-12**

- "It shall come to pass in that day That the Lord shall set His hand again the second time To recover the remnant of His people who are left, From Assyria and Egypt, From Pathros and Cush, From Elam and Shinar, From Hamath and the islands of the sea. He will set up a banner for the nations, And will assemble the outcasts of Israel, And gather together the dispersed of Judah From the four corners of the earth."
- God had not restored Israel the first time let alone the second (1st 435 BC, 2nd 1948)

### **Isaiah 43:5-6**

- "Fear not, for I am with you; I will bring your descendants from the east, And gather you from the west; I will say to the north, 'Give them up!' And to the south, 'Do not keep them back!' Bring My sons from afar, And My daughters from the ends of the earth"
- "The 1990-1991 drama of the civil war was forever overshadowed on Friday-Saturday, May 24 and 25, when Israel airlifted thousands of Ethiopian Jews from Addis Ababa in a lightning operation before the rebels closed in on the capital.

- The 21-hour airlift of about 17,000 Falashas was launched in secrecy with military censors barring all news reports from Israel until after the last plane took off from Addis. Military sources said the 'Lost Jews' were flown out in 30 unmarked civilian and air force planes, under the code name, Operation Solomon. The first great airlift in 1984 had been dubbed Operation Moses. However, the greatest regret was they had left behind the Ark of the Covenant, still "resting" in a church in the northern town of Aksum." [http://www wnd com/news/article asp?ARTICLE\\_ID=14052](http://www wnd com/news/article asp?ARTICLE_ID=14052)

### **Jeremiah 23:7-8**

7 "Therefore, behold, the days are coming," says the LORD, "that they shall no longer say, 'As the LORD lives who brought up the children of Israel from the land of Egypt,'" 8 but, 'As the LORD lives who brought up and led the descendants of the house of Israel from the north country and from all the countries where I had driven them.' And they shall dwell in their own land."

### **Ezekiel 22:14-22**

14 Can your heart endure, or can your hands remain strong, in the days when I shall deal with you? I, the LORD, have spoken, and will do it. 15 I will scatter you among the nations, disperse you throughout the countries, and remove your filthiness completely from you. 16 You shall defile yourself in the sight of the nations; then you shall know that I am the LORD."'" 17 The word of the LORD came to me, saying, 18 "Son of man, the house of Israel has become dross to Me; they are all bronze, tin, iron, and lead, in the midst of a furnace; they have become dross from silver.

19 Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: 'Because you have all become dross, therefore behold, I will gather you into the midst of Jerusalem. 20 As men gather silver, bronze, iron, lead, and tin into the midst of a furnace, to blow fire on it, to melt it; so I will gather you in My anger and in My fury, and I will leave you there and melt you. 21 Yes, I will gather you and blow on you with the fire of My wrath, and you shall be melted in its midst. 22 As silver is melted in the midst of a furnace, so shall you be melted in its midst; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have poured out My fury on you."-- Ez. 22:13-22

### **God's Wrath In The Last Days Covers The Whole Earth**

"Come, my people, enter your chambers, and shut your doors behind you; hide yourself, as it were, for a little moment, until the indignation is past. 21 For behold, the LORD comes out of His place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity; the earth will also disclose her blood, and will no more cover her slain."-- Isaiah 26:20-21

### **The Day Of The Lord**

"6 Wail, for the day of the LORD is at hand! It will come as destruction from the Almighty. 7 Therefore all hands will be limp, every man's heart will melt, 8 And they will be afraid. Pangs and sorrows will take hold of them; they will be in pain as a woman in childbirth; they will be amazed at one another; their faces will be like flames. 9 Behold, the day of the LORD comes, cruel, with both wrath and fierce anger, to lay the land desolate; and He will destroy its sinners from it. 10 For the stars of heaven and their constellations will not give their light; the sun will be darkened in its going forth, and the moon will not cause its light to shine."-- Isaiah 13:6-10

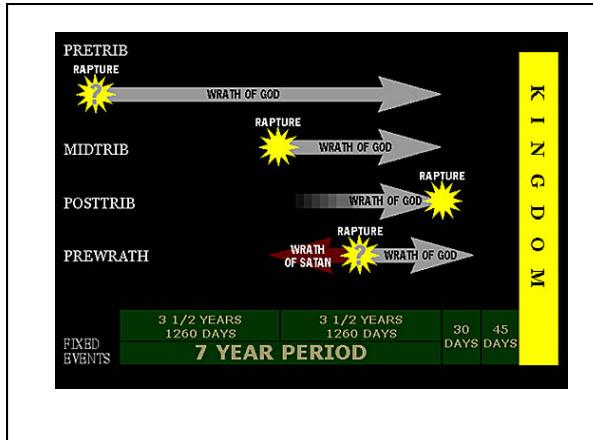
- "Then the fourth angel sounded: And a third of the sun was struck, a third of the moon, and a third of the stars, so that a third of them were darkened. A third of the day did not shine, and likewise the night." -- Rev 8:12
- "But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its desolation is near. 21 Then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains, let those who are in the midst of her depart, and let not those who are in the country enter her. 22 For these are the days of vengeance, that all things which are written may be fulfilled." - Luke 21:20-22

### **The Believer And The Wrath Of God**

"But concerning the times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need that I should write to you. For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night. For when they say, "Peace and safety!" then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape. But you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief.

You are all sons of light and sons of the day. We are not of the night nor of darkness. Therefore let us not sleep, as others do, but let us watch and be sober. For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk are drunk at night. But let us who are of the day be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet the hope of salvation. For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, that whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with Him. Therefore comfort each other and edify one--1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

### **Major Views Of The End Times**



### Pre-Tribulation View

- Christ's second coming ushers in the millennium period. The second coming and rapture are at different events
- Rapture of the church will occur before the seven year period of tribulation
- No one knows the day or the hour of the rapture. It is imminent.
- Church will not experience the tribulation period
- Church will return with Christ at The Second Coming which is after the seven year period
- Seven year period will involve the Anti-Christ, and tribulation of the inhabitants of the earth

- Death to those who profess Christ and do not receive the mark of the beast
- There will be a second resurrection where all who died before and during the tribulation and did not know Jesus will be raised at the end of the millennium. Those who died and didn't know Jesus will be judged eternally
- Those who were martyred during the seven years will enter the millennial reign with Christ after the seven years.
- The prophetic destiny of Israel is at the center. The Bible indicates that the entire world is going to go to war over this issue ( Zech 12; Ps. 2)

### Mid-Tribulation

- The rapture occurs mid way through the Great Tribulation
- The time of the Great Tribulation is limited to the last 3 1/2 years
- They believe believers should suffer a little
- They use the land of Goshen in Exodus as an example of God protecting His people during the Great Tribulation
- It denies the literacy of Scripture by stating that the tribulation begins in Rev 11 not Rev 6
- It destroys the imminence of Christ's return at any moment and leads to setting dates

### **Post-Tribulation**

- Jesus will return after the millennium
- There will not be a literal 1,000 years
- Church age develops gradually and morally by the conversion of each individual
- When Matt. 24:14 is fulfilled the end will come
- Compare 24:14 with Is. 49:6
- Fundamental point is that Christ returns after the tribulation

- Christ's reign is in the hearts of believers
- As people are converted the world will keep getting better.
- The realities of the 20th century have rendered this view obsolete with a few changes
- No literal interpretation of Scripture

### **Some Other Views**

- Pan-Millennium
- A-Millennium:
- No literal reign
- Satan bound at first coming
- Eternal state immediately follows second coming

- Jews have no role in the end times
- Jews lost it when they denied Jesus
- Thus, no Abraham covenant, Land covenant, Davidic covenant, New covenant with Israel
- Requires an allegorical interpretation of the scriptures.
- Began with Augustine (A.D. 345-430), creates a foundation for anti-Semitism

## **The Millennium Period**

- Millennialism--1,000 year reign of Christ--Revelation 20:1-6
- Mille--1000; annum--year
- Christ will reign over the nations of the earth and Israel will enjoy the blessings promised through the prophets. There is more prophecy in the scripture concerning the millennium than any other period.
- God's purpose on earth will be fully realized during the millennial period

## **Why Study The Millennium?**

- Because how we view the millennium will affect our world view about end time things as noted above with the different theories.
- There is a great amount of Scripture devoted to this period.
- Promised to David by God (2 Sam 7:12-17;23:5) under oath (Ps 89:34-37) that David's seed would sit on the throne of Israel and the world

- Predicted in the Psalms and the Prophets (Ps 2; 45; 110; Is 2:1-5; 4:1-6; 11:1-9; 12:1-6; 30:18-26; 35:1-10; 60, 61:3-62, 66; Jer 23:3-8; 32:37-44; Ez 40-48; Dan 2:44-45; 7:13-14; 12:2-3; Mic 4:1-8; Zech 12:12:10-14:21).
- Promised to Mary ( Lk 1:32; Mic 5:2; Isa 9:6,7; Dan 2:44)
- Reaffirmed to the Apostles ( Lk 22:29-30)

- Lord's prayer "Thy kingdom come"; (Matt 6:10,13; Acts 1:6; Ps 45, 46, 47,48).
- Rule (Ps 2:110) with a "rod of iron" (Rev 12:5;19:15).
- Every knee will bow during the millennium (Phil 2:6-11)
- A millennial temple (Isa 3:17, 22;Ez 43:7; 44:2; 46:1-3)
- The Lord will reign from Jerusalem (Is 2:2-4;Jer 23:3-6)

## The Davidic Covenant is a Messianic Covenant

- In Genesis 3:15 God promised that a "seed" would come that would crush the Devil
- In the Abrahamic covenant God promised a nation from Abraham that all the nations would be blessed through Abraham's "seed"
- In the Davidic Covenant God promises that David's "seed" would rule forever as a king
- These covenants were for the coming reign of Jesus "the son of David, the son of Abraham"--Matt. 1:1

- "The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham"--Matt 1:1
- "Paul, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, separated to the gospel of God 2 which He promised before through His prophets in the Holy Scriptures, 3 concerning His Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who was born of the seed of David according to the flesh"-- Rom 1:1-3
- "So I wept much, because no one was found worthy to open and read the scroll, or to look at it. But one of the elders said to me, "Do not weep. Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has prevailed to open the scroll and to loose its seven seals."--- Rev 5:4-5

## David Makes Jerusalem the Capital of Israel

- God's Love For Jerusalem
- "Yet I have chosen Jerusalem, that My name may be there....for now I have chosen and sanctified this house, that My name may be there forever; and My eyes and My heart will be there perpetually....Jerusalem, which I have chosen out of all the tribes of Israel, I will put My name forever"

----2 Chronicles 6:6;7:16;33:7

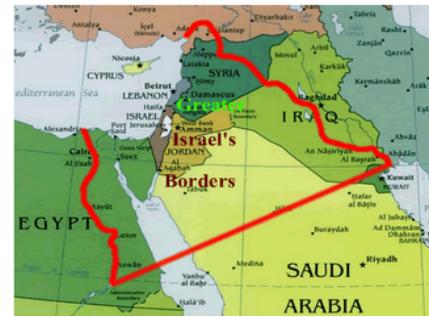
## The United Kingdom



### The Divided Kingdom



### The Promised Messianic Kingdom



### What Will The Millennium Be Like?

- The entire creation will be changed
- Physical changes ( Zech. 4:9,10; Is 35:1-10)
- Man and animals live in harmony (Is 11:6-9)
- Creation redeemed ( Gen 3,Rom 8:20-22)
- Earth full of the knowledge of the Lord (Is 11:9; Hab 2:14)
- Yet it is not eternity: death, sin (Is 65:20); each to have land (Mic 4:15), Fruitful (Amos 9:13) (Zech 14:6-11; 16-21)

### Five Classes Of Participants

- The Jews (Dan 12:1-4; Is 25:8-9)
- The Church (Rev 5:10; 2:26-28;3:12,21; 1Thess 4:13-18; 2 Tim 2:12)
- The tribulation martyrs (Rev 6:9)
- The tribulation believers that are living but did not worship the beast.
- Everyone left that came against Jerusalem (Zech. 14:16)

### The Rapture

- Rapture : used in terms of being “caught up” to heaven
- Rapture is not used in the scripture
- “harpazio” 1Thess 5:17 ;2 Cor 12:4-- snatched away, pluck, pull, take (by force) (Strong's)

### What Will The Rapture Be Like?

- It will include both bodily resurrection and the changing of those who are alive.
- It will be instantaneous, immediate
- It will be final
- It will include all believers not just some of us
- The church will be caught up in the air, to meet Jesus
- There will be a reunion that is twofold: With loved ones and the Church with Jesus

- The truth of the rapture is the comfort for all believers,
- There is no hope in going through the tribulation period.
- It also motivates the believer to holy living
- It also motivates evangelism since the rapture can happen at any moment

### Titus 2:11-15

For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, 12 teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, 13 looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, 14 who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works.