

End Times

Slough Nov 2014

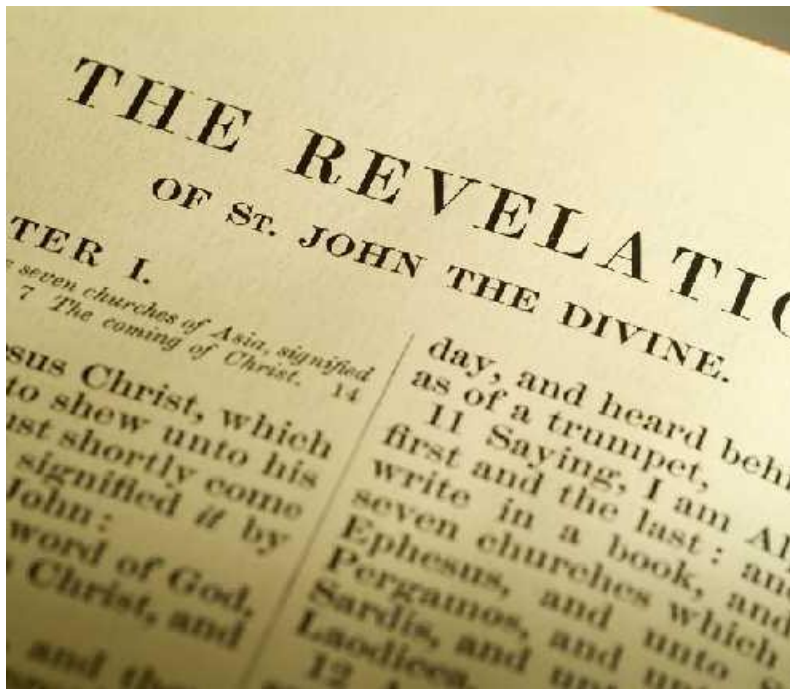


Why teach Eschatology?

- ◆ Encouragement
 - ◆ For the hopeless
- ◆ Happy ending
- ◆ Revelation 1:3
- ◆ The time is near!

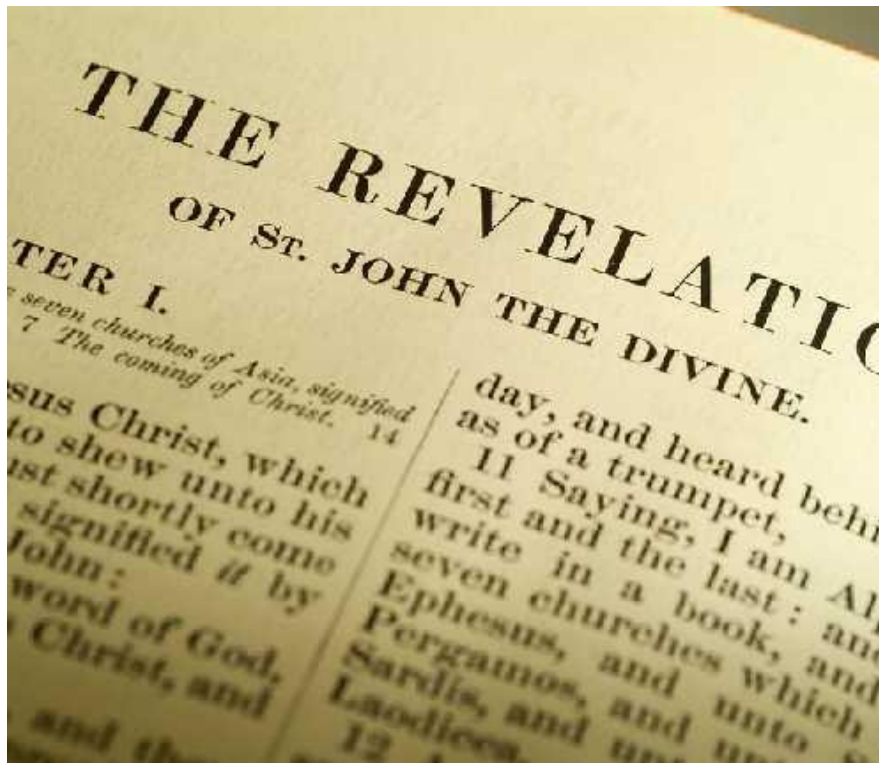


What is Revelation



- ◆ Unique!
- ◆ Apocalypse - Rev 1:1
 - ◆ A revelation of Jesus
- ◆ Prophetic – Rev 1:1
- ◆ Letter – Rev 1:4

A Letter



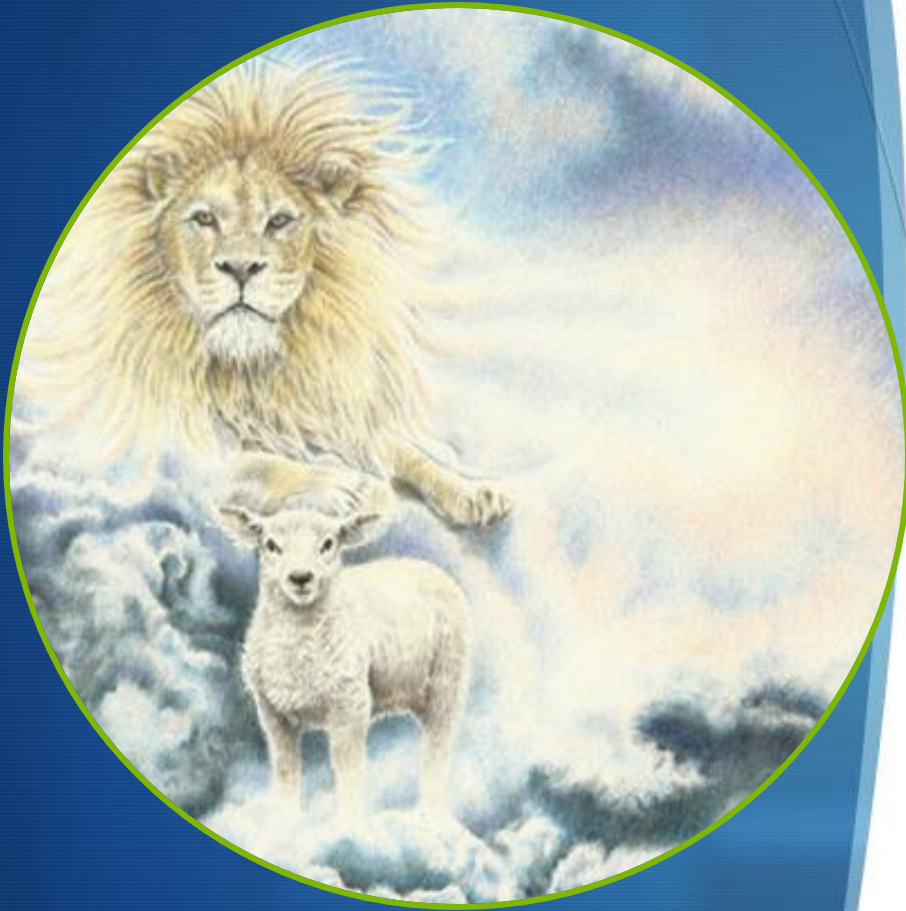
- ◆ From the Apostle John
 - ◆ Imprisoned
- ◆ To his churches – 1:4
 - ◆ And all churches!
 - ◆ 2/7 are faithful
 - ◆ 2:8-11, 3:7-13 & 11:1-14
- ◆ Great persecution - 2:9-10

Overview

- ◆ 1 – Revelation of Jesus
- ◆ 2-3 – Encouragement for the church
- ◆ 4-5 – Heaven's Hero, the Lamb
- ◆ 6-7 – The Seven Seals
- ◆ 8-11 – The Seven Trumpets
- ◆ 12-14 - War
- ◆ 15-16 – The Seven Bowls of Wrath
- ◆ 17-18 – The Fall of Babylon
- ◆ 19 – The Defeat of Evil
- ◆ 20 – Final Judgment
- ◆ 21-2 – New Heavens & Earth

Keys to Revelation

- ◆ Christ centred
- ◆ Alludes to OT Prophecy
- ◆ Numbers are symbolic
- ◆ The Lamb and His followers are victorious
- ◆ The divine romance



Christ Centered

- ◆ A Revelation of Jesus
- ◆ Victorious – 1:17-18
- ◆ With the Church – 1:13
- ◆ Worthy – 5:5-6
- ◆ A lion & a lamb!

Using the Old Testament

◆ The New Heaven & Earth

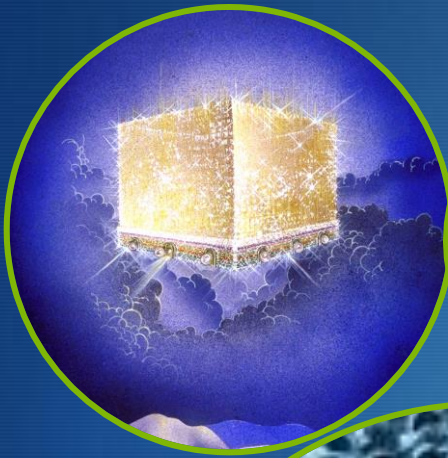
- ◆ Isaiah 65:17-25
- ◆ No mourning or crying – 19
- ◆ No pain – 25
- ◆ God is there – 24

◆ Babylon, the great enemy

- ◆ Now Rome!
- ◆ Enslaver of God's people
- ◆ Destroyer of the Temple

◆ Eden undone – 22:2





Numbers are always symbolic!

- 7 = complete, full, perfect
- 12 = the people of God
 - 144,000 get close – 7:4

The Lamb Wins

- ◆ Conqueror – 19:11-21
 - ◆ Not a bloody battle
 - ◆ Words are enough!
 - ◆ Our battle – 19:14



A Divine Romance

- ◆ A wedding – 19:7
 - ◆ God & Man
 - ◆ Living together – 21:3
 - ◆ Forever – 21:4
- ◆ Grotesque counterpart
 - ◆ Beast & Harlot
 - ◆ Power & pleasure



Helpful Thinking?



- ◆ Don't interpret detail
- ◆ We expect trials & persecution
- ◆ Worldly powers will fail
 - ◆ The Harlot – 18:2
 - ◆ The Beast – 19:20
 - ◆ The False Prophet – 19:20
- ◆ The Church overcomes
 - ◆ Rev 12:11, 19:19-20

When is Revelation?

Different interpretations

- ◆ Historicist
- ◆ Idealist
- ◆ Futurist
- ◆ Preterist

What will happen?

- ◆ The kingdom will keep growing!
- ◆ Christ will come again
 - ◆ When no-one is expecting Him
- ◆ The dead will be raised
- ◆ We all face judgment
 - ◆ Some perish – Rev 21:8
 - ◆ Many live – a huge city Rev 21:9-21
 - ◆ We receive rewards – 1 Cor 3:11-15
- ◆ The earth is renewed/fulfilled
- ◆ God lives with men

