

# THE PEOPLE OF GOD

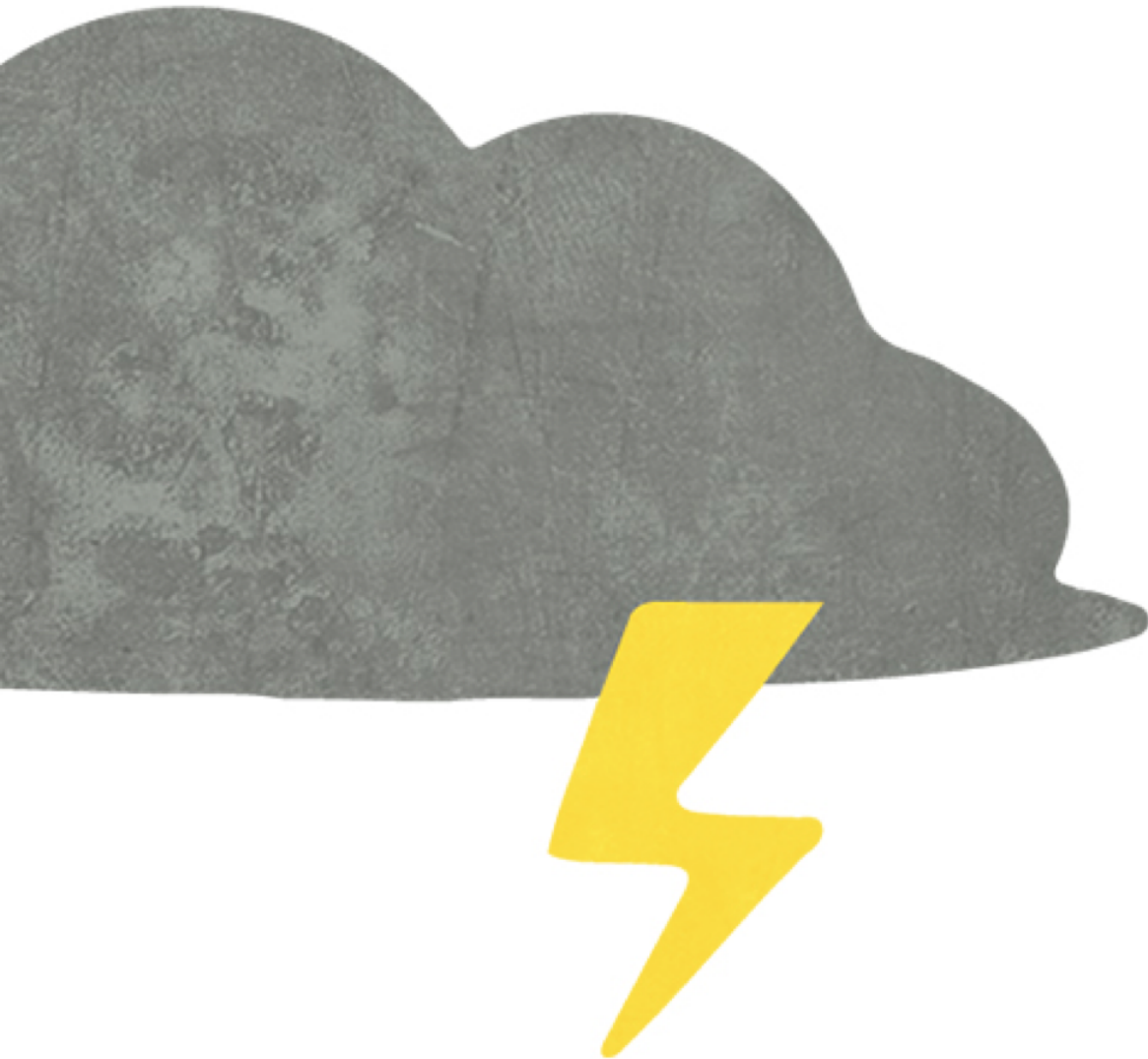
29th April - 19th July

# John the Seer

## *A Revelation of Jesus*

*"Jesus Christ...the faithful witness...the first to rise from the dead, and the ruler of all the kings of the world. All glory to him who loves us and has freed us from our sins..."*

*REVELATION 1:5-6*





A close-up photograph of a grey monkey with a white beard, looking directly at the camera with a wide-eyed, questioning expression. Its right hand is raised to its mouth. The background is a blurred green forest.

**Confused?**



*The problem of identification is, of course, the problem we face in chapter after chapter of Revelation. We see these characters come and go across the pages. We know there's a high probability that John intends them to represent, symbolically, some biblical theme or person...*

*...But we wish he could have given them at least a little label, now and then, to give us a clue.*

TOM WRIGHT REVELATION FOR EVERYONE



# Language

- *Symbolic*
- *Poetic*
- *Apocalyptic*
- *Prophetic*

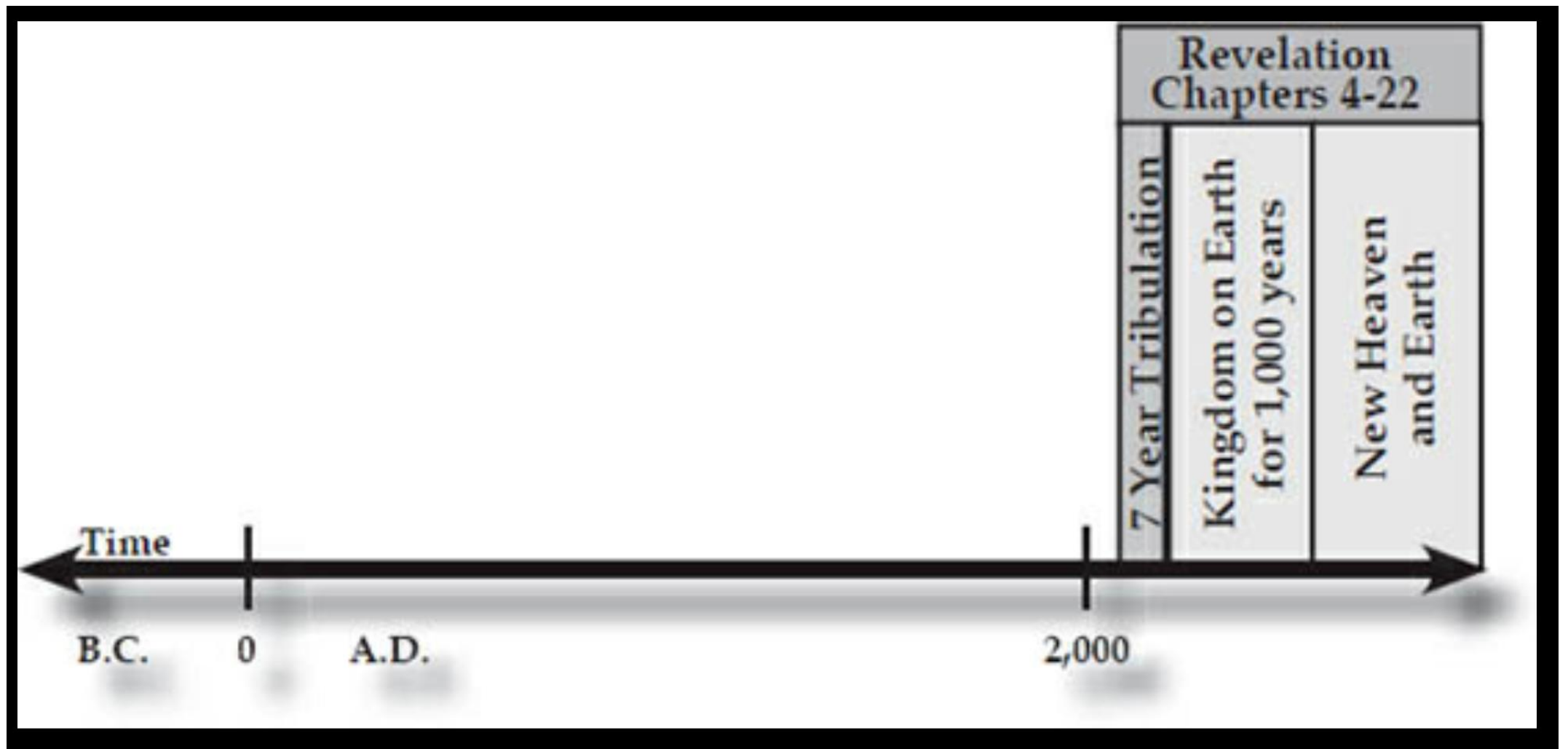




# Time frame?

- *Revelation of Jesus*
- *Some speaks into 1<sup>st</sup> Century reality with timeless truth*
- *Some speaks about the future for them*
- *Some speaks about future for us*

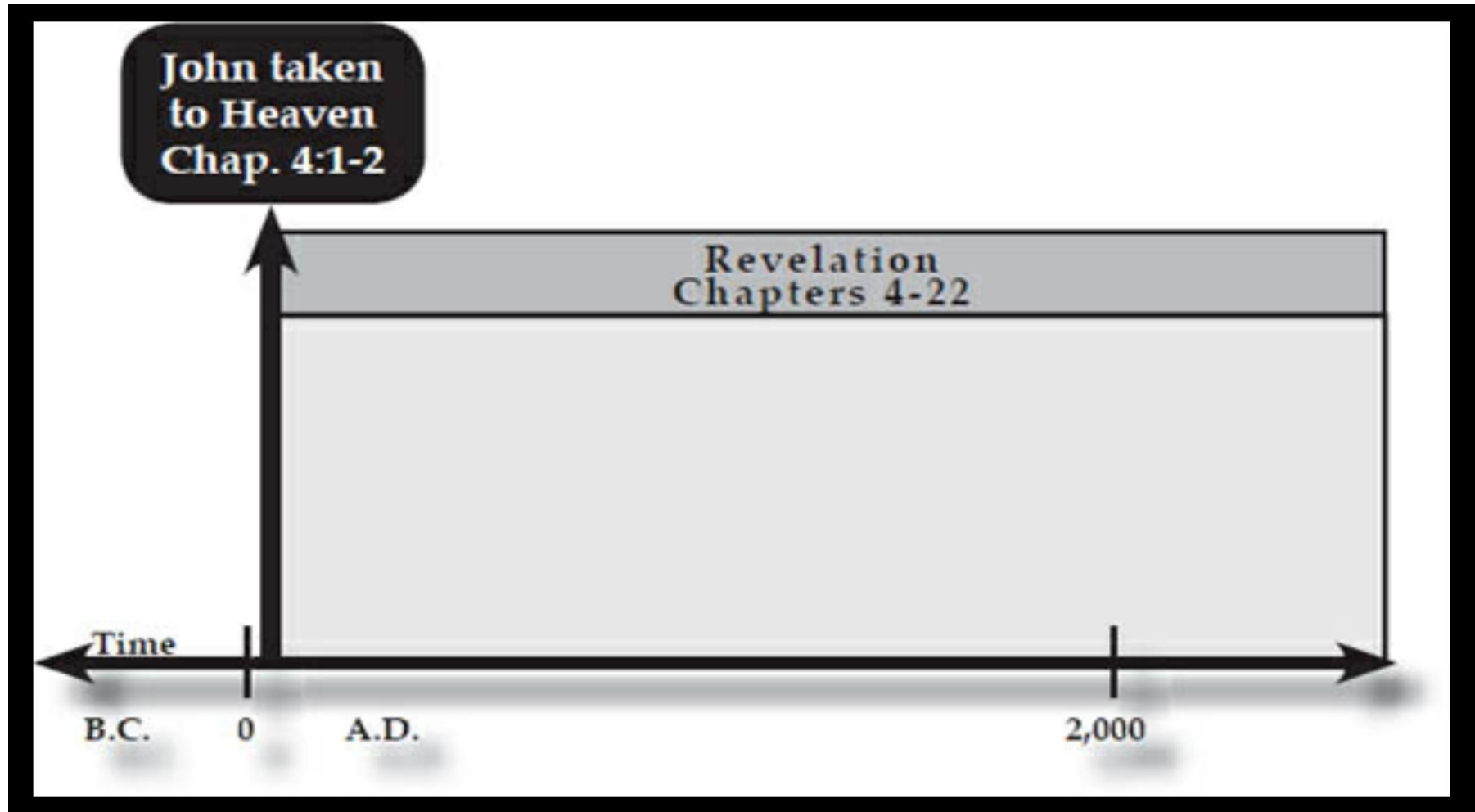




FUTURIST VIEW (VICTORIOUS ESCHATOLOGY: HAROLD R. EBERLE)







PARTIAL PRETERIST, HISTORICIST VIEW (VICTORIOUS ESCHATOLOGY: HAROLD R. EBERLE



# The churches of Chapters 2-3

- *Real churches **of the time** – specific details*
- *Types of churches/people **for all time***
- ***Not** churches from different time periods – ending with Laodician church...*





# Three themes

- *Persecution*
- *Perseverance*
- *Perspective*



# Persecution

- *Rev 1:2 Witness – Testimony – Martyr*
- *In the top 50 World Watch List countries alone, 245 million Christians in the world experience high levels of persecution for their choice to follow Christ.*
- *1 in 9: Christians worldwide experience high levels of persecution*

SOURCE OPEN DOORS USA 2019





# Perseverance

- *Hold fast*
- *Don't give ground you shouldn't give*
- *Persevere in love as well!*



# Perspective

- *Jesus the ruler of the kings of the earth*
- *First and Last*
- *Rev 4:1: A door to a parallel reality*
- *Rev 5:11-14: The perspective of Heaven*

