

## **NT for Ministry** Revelation

### **I Intro to Revelation**

- A. Conundrum of Revelation
- B. Examples

### **II Reading Revelation Today**

- A. Why should we care about Revelation?
  - 1. Inspired and edifying (1.3)
  - 2. Perspective on reality
  - 3. Corrective to false teaching
  - 4. Opportunity for evangelism
  - 5. Relevant for us today
  
- B. Orientation: What is Revelation about?
  - 1. Hendriksen
  - 2. Poythress
  - 3. Beale
  - 4. Keener
  - 5. Crowe

### **III Situating Revelation in Historical and Canonical Context**

- A. Intro
- B. Religious / Canonical Context: Old Testament (OT)
  - 1. Role of the OT
  - 2. Climax of OT Prophecy
  - 3. Climax of Redemptive History
- C. Historical Context
  - 1. Introductory matters
  - 2. Date
  - 3. A Word on the Roman Empire
- D. Genres of Revelation
  - 1. Apocalyptic
  - 2. Prophecy
  - 3. Circular Letter

### **IV Genre 1: Apocalyptic**

- A. Intro
- B. Orientation
- C. Explanation of Apocalyptic
  - 1. Heavenly vision of reality
  - 2. This world vs. the other world
  - 3. Gives hope
  - 4. Highly charged, symbolic language
  - 5. Take it literally?

## 6. Application

### D. Imagery & Apocalyptic

1. Levels of symbolism
  - a. linguistic level
  - b. visionary level
  - c. historical/referential level
  - d. symbolic level
2. Example: lampstand
3. Importance of these distinctions
4. Numerical Imagery

### E. Apocalyptic & Imagination

## V Genre 2: Prophetic

- A. Heirs of the OT
- B. OT is *extremely* important

## VI Genre 3: Circular Letter

- A. What is a circular letter?
- B. Significance
- C. Relevance for First Century

## VII How do we read Revelation?

- A. Prayerfully
- B. Focus on central theme
- C. Let images “soak in”
- D. Pay attention to OT themes and images and how they’re used in a new way
- E. Use Revelation in times of distress, persecution, death

## VIII Interpretive Approaches to Revelation

- A. Preterist & Partial Preterist
  1. Full-blown preterism
  2. Partial preterism
- B. Historicist
- C. Futurist
  1. Dispensational Futurism
  2. Modified Futurism
- D. Idealist
- E. My view

## IX Recapitulation in Revelation

- A. Recapitulation and Outline of Revelation
- B. Rationale for Recapitulation
  1. Repetition of Final Judgment & Salvation
  2. Repetition of Same Duration

- 3. Symmetry of Seals, Trumpets, Bowls
- C. Identifying Cycles of Recapitulation
- D. Structures (see powerpoint)

## **X The Millennium**

- A. Introductory Issues
- B. Three/Four Main Views
  - 1. Premillennialism
    - a. Historical or Classical Premillennialism
    - b. Dispensational Premillennialism
  - 2. Postmillennialism
  - 3. Amillennialism
- C. Considering Revelation 20

## **XI Trinity in Revelation**

- A. Intro
- B. Salutation (1.4-5a)
  - 1. Father
  - 2. Son
  - 3. Spirit
- C. Overlapping Descriptions of Father & Son (see powerpoint)
- D. Conclusion: Trinitarian Shape to God

## **XII Counterfeiting in Revelation**

- A. Understanding the Imagery
  - 1. Dragon (Rev. 12)
  - 2. Beast from Sea (Rev. 13)
  - 3. Beast from Land (Rev. 13)
- B. Counterfeit Trinity
  - 1. Satan: Counterfeit to Father
  - 2. Beast from Sea: Counterfeit to Jesus
  - 3. Beast from Land: Counterfeit to Spirit
  - 4. Number of the Counterfeit Trinity: 666
- C. Applying the Counterfeiting
  - 1. Significance
    - a. Counterfeiting is Dangerous
    - b. Counterfeiting provides hope
  - 2. Epochal Adjustments: What about today?
    - a. Dragon today
    - b. Beast from Sea today
    - c. Beast from Land today

## **XIII The Church in Revelation**

- A. Intro
- B. Seven Churches
- C. Vision of the Exalted Jesus
- D. Structure of Each Letter (see powerpoint)
- E. Macro Structure (see powerpoint)
  - A. Ephesus: Doctrine without Love (2.1-7)
  - B. Smyrna: Faithfulness & poverty in tribulation (2.8-11)
  - C. Pergamum: Standing Firm, but risking compromise (2.12-17)
  - C' Thyatira: Full of Love...and False Teaching (2.18-29)
  - C'' Sardis: Church of Death (3.1-6)
  - B' Philadelphia: Faithfulness in midst of marginalization (3.7-13)
  - A' Laodicea: Self-Sufficient & Lukewarm (3.14-22)

#### **XIV Consummation**

- A. Fall of Babylon (Rev. 18)
- B. Marriage Supper of the Lamb (Rev. 19)
- C. New Heaven & New Earth (Rev. 21-22)