Lecture 26 – Revelation in James, Peter, Jude, and John

"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty." Revelation 1:8

Key Terms

Kingdom, covenant, mediator

Objective

To examine the concepts of kingdom, covenant, and mediator in the non-Pauline epistles

Revelation in James, Peter, Jude, and John

- I. James
 - A. Written 50 AD, brother of Christ?
 - B. Jewish-Christian character
 - C. Like Sermon on Mount: kingdom living, covenant obedience
 - D. Spoke of inheriting the kingdom (James 2:5)
- II. 1 and 2 Peter
 - A. Written in 60 AD, shows awareness of Paul's letters
 - B. Emphasizes Christian life and duties
 - C. The kingdom
 - 1. Royal nation (1 Peter 2:6-9, 10)
 - 2. All-inclusive kingdom
 - 3. Eternal kingdom (2 Peter 1:11)
 - D. The covenant
 - 1. No direct references to it
 - 2. Many Old Testament covenantal concepts and persons (holiness, Noah, Abraham, the prophets, the inscripturated word)
 - 3. Partners with deity (2 Peter 1:4)
 - E. The Mediator
 - 1. 1 Peter 1:2, 3, 7, 8, 11
 - 2. The chief cornerstone (1 Peter 2:1-8)
- III. Jude
 - A. Apostle or brother of Christ? (65-80 AD)
 - B. Antithesis emphasized
- IV. John
 - A. Epistles
 - 1. Emphasize aspects of the Gospel of John and carry an anti-Gnostic polemic
 - B. Revelation
 - 1. A difficult book; people divided as to millennial positions
 - 2. Israel's eschatological role
 - 3. The mediator is central; Jesus reigns now
 - 4. The church is emphasized
 - 5. The kingdom is all-inclusive (every tribe, nation, and language)