

## THREE [INADEQUATE] INTERPRETIVE "SCHOOLS"

083020S

### INTRODUCTION

1. Review: 2 Ages [2 realms]; 2 seeds [enmity]; Redemptive History [RH]  
- *last days* & prophetic Perspective [metaphor of contractions].

2. Today - Three "Schools" of interpretation - general agreement on Rv but different interpretive approaches. We are compelled, by historical necessity, to align w/ a "school" of interpretation.

#### 1st: Preterist

1. From Latin = "past". The "Past View." The prophecies of Rv were fulfilled in the past - destruction of Jeru in 70AD by Romans.

2. 1st = "consistent preterists" [total, extreme]; Rv completely fulfilled in 70AD - severe spiritualizing: 2T 2:17-18

3. 2nd school = Partial, moderate Preterists - most Rv's prophecies fulfilled in 70 AD: except 2nd coming, res of dead & new cosmos

4. Preterists usually hold to "post-mil" interp of Rv 20 - 2nd coming after a 1K yr "Golden Age" of moral & ecclesiastical supremacy

5. Problems - Rv concerns 10yr period [60s]; focus on Jews not world; Rv made irrelevant after 70AD.

#### 2nd: Historicist

1. Rv interp'd chronologically, recording events of history in advance.

2. This relates to how *the structure* of Rv is understood [crucial].

3. Seals, trumpets, bowls - sequentially point to events of Church History - European West - irrelevant to East & South [A 16].

4. The interp of Rv is dependent on interpreter's historical setting & selection of signif events.

5. At issue is how to interp Jn's chronological refs: *after these thgs I saw...* => sequence - of what?

6. Popular among Reformers - saw RCC as Harlot & Pope as AntiX - cf. LBC 26:4. Were they "wrong"?

#### 3rd: Futurist

1. Prevalent in USA. Pre-Mil Dispen.

2. 3 main interp principles: 1] "literal"; 2] distinction tw/ Israel & Ch; 3] 1K yr millennium

i. Israel rejected Kingdom - parenthesis of Church-Age  
- then God resumes plan w/ Israel in millennium.

ii. Church is raptured - 7 yr Trib for Jews - Jesus returns & sets up millennial reign over Jews who accept Him as Messiah; Satan bound then released - rebellion - subdued: judgment - eternity

3. Rv 1-3 - historicist - 7 church ages.

4. Rv 4:1 the "rapture" of ch [1Th 4]

i. Chpt 4-22 s.t. visions = chronological sequence.

ii. Literal hermeneutic [interpretation] can be imaginative

iii. Rv is primarily for that generation that lives immediately preceding the rapture & those converted Jews who must then endure the Grt Trib

5. Aspects of each school are instructive [if nuanced]. These interps are not w/o ANY justification.

6. Next wk: the "School" I embrace: Idealist Amillennialism.