

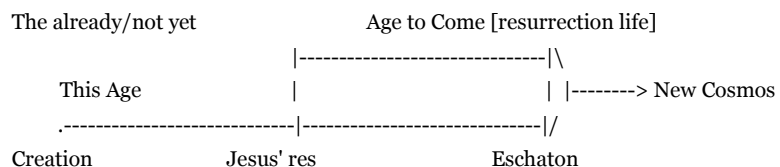
INTRODUCTION

- 1. Review: 1] Preterist; 2] Historicist; 3] Futurist - Pre-Mil Dispensationalism: Israel/Church - 1K yr millennium.
- 2. 4th school - Idealist.

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1st: Some Characteristics of Idealist Interpretation

- 1. Rv: peculiar literature - apocalyptic: symbols in prophetic vision!
- 2. Rv concerns warfare: enmit y [Rv 17:14].
- 3. "Ideal" = symbolic representations of historical realities that characterize the Church-Age tw/ 1st & 2nd comings of Jesus.
- 4. Overlap of ages brought on by res of Christ & gift of HS



- 5. Visions of interaction tw/ heaven & earth in Ch-Age. 7 cycles: repeated tours thru Ch-Age from dif vantage points - progressing to the Eschaton [the climatic End].
 - i. The 7 seals - 7 trumpets - 7 bowls cover same time period
 - ii. preg wmn: contractions that crescendo to climatic contraction
 - iii. Depictions of what Xns in every place & time experience: enmity
 - iv. God's sov'ty over history - we overcome as slaughtered lambs.
- 6. Every generation in Ch-Age engages in this war.
- 7. Symbols are from OT - Rv is saturated w/ OT & previous rev of NT.
- 8. Idealist view impacts interp of "Trib", "millennium"

2nd: The Literary Style of Revelation

- 1. Prose - poetry - symbolism.
- 2. Actual historical realities - invisible thgs symbolized in visions.
 - i. Rv 2-3 directed to *he who has ears to hear* then Rv 4 becomes visual: *I saw... I looked...* -> vision of invisible thgs.

- ii. A graphic cartoon: symbols that represent forces & powers
- iii. Cf. parables - common thgs represent thgs of the kingdom
- 3. Rv - two halves. Chpt 1-11 conflict w/ men of this age. Chpt 11-20 conflict w/ demonic forces of this age. Different ways to organize Rv. We will organize it in 7 cycles recapitulating Ch-Age. Symbolic #s.

3rd: The Bible Itself Interprets the Symbols of Revelation

- 1. Analogy of Scripture - interp Script w/ Scritp & interp unclear by the clear. LBC 1:9.
- 2. Analogy of Faith = system of docts. Apostolic tradition preceding written NT Script = teachings of apostles [catechize - creeds]
 - i. Doct of eschatology is derived from OT & NT. Our interp of Rv must align w/ Isa, Hab, Dan, Ezek, JnB, Jesus, & Paul
 - ii. Principle of non-contradiction
- 3. Interp Rv's symbolic language by Scripture. The is KEY.
 - i. Jn knew he was writing the final book of NT [OT Bible] & assumes readers are familiar w/ previous revelation in OT & NT.
 - a. More than 2x the # of OT allusions in Rv [500] than in rest of NT [200]. almost 3/4 of vss in Rv allude to OT.
 - b. Fndtnal = Gn 3:15. Continuity of OT/NT: 2 seeds in enmity.
 - ii. Sum: The messages of Rv is found in interp of symbols [ideals]. The OT is our source for interp'ing Rv's symbols.