



# **Revelation: An Overview**

**Oakwood Presbyterian Church**

**Sunday School**

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William Hendriksen



# More Than Conquerors

An Interpretation of the Book of **Revelation**

# Who Wrote Revelation?

1:1,2 – “He made it known by sending His angel to His servant John, who bore witness to the word of God and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, even to all that he saw.”

1:9,10 - “I, John... was on the island called Patmos on account of the Word of God and the testimony of Jesus.”



# *When Was John Given this Revelation?*

Around 95/96 AD, during the persecution of the church under the Roman Emperor Domitian

Before 70 AD?

11:1 – “Rise and measure the temple of God and the altar and those who worship there...”



# *To Whom Was Revelation Written?*

1:1 – “The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show His servants the things that must soon take place... Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear, and who keep what is written in it, for the time is near.”

Rome and the Fall of Jerusalem



# *Why Was John Given this Revelation?*

1:17,18 – “Fear not, I am the first and the last, the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades.”

17:14 – “They will make war on the Lamb, and the Lamb will conquer them, for He is Lord of lords and King of kings, and those with Him are called and chosen and faithful.”



*“The Apocalypse is meant to show us that things are not what they seem... Throughout the prophecies of this wonderful book Christ is pictured as the Victor, the Conqueror. He conquers death, Hades, the dragon, the beast, the false prophet, and the men who worship the beast. He is victorious; as a result, so are we, even when we seem to be hopelessly defeated.”*

William Hendriksen, More Than Conquerors

# How Revelation Relates to History



**Historicist** – events portrayed are chronological, between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> comings of Christ

**Futurist** – events are chronological and still future

**Preterist** – events were fulfilled primarily in 1<sup>st</sup> century

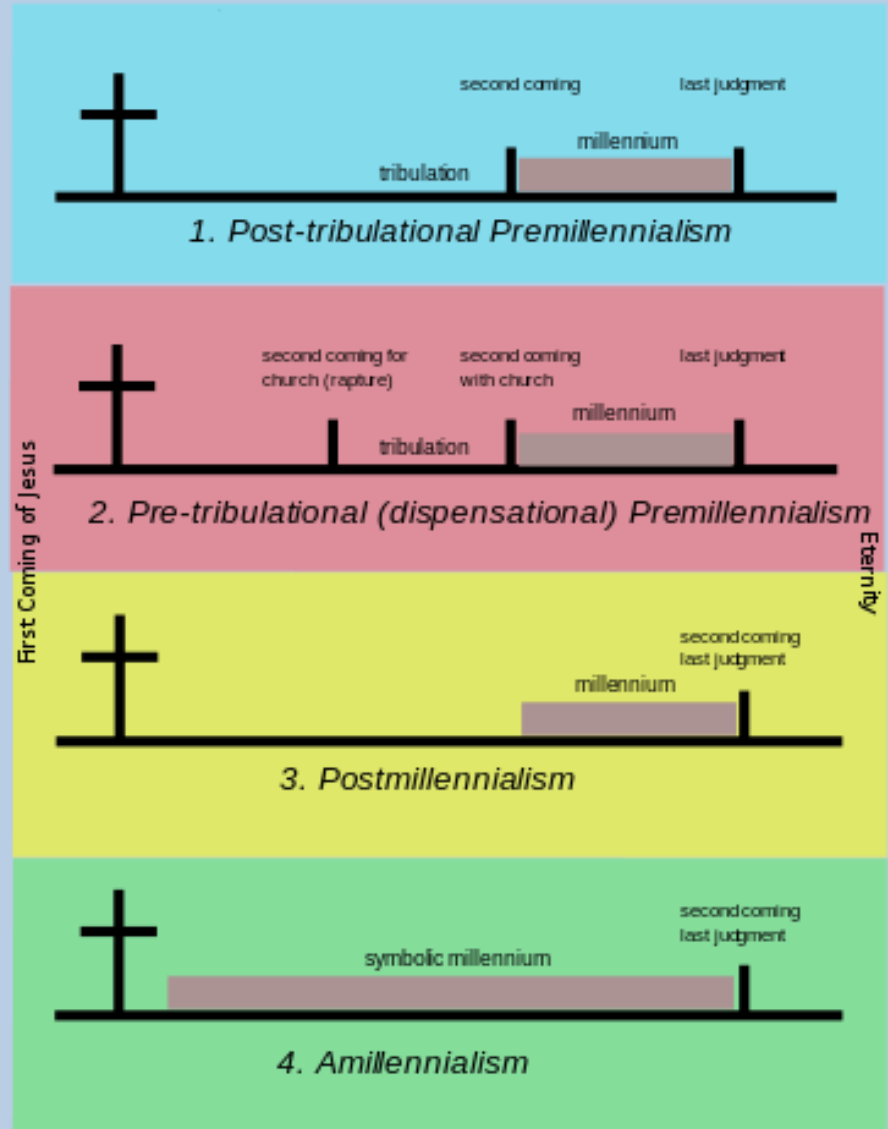
**Idealist** – events are fulfilled repeatedly between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> comings of Christ



# Millennial Views

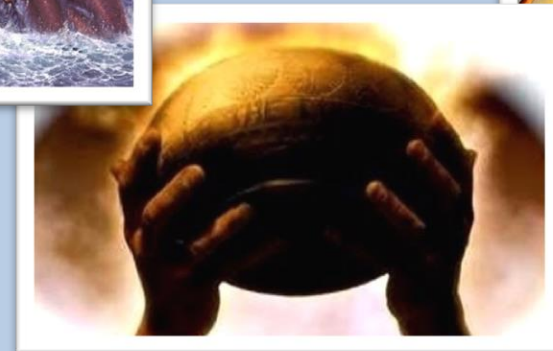
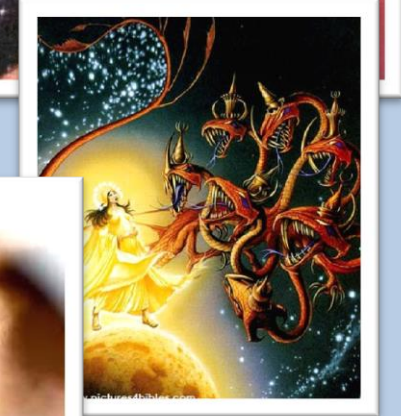
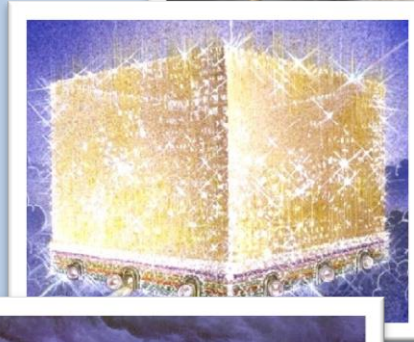
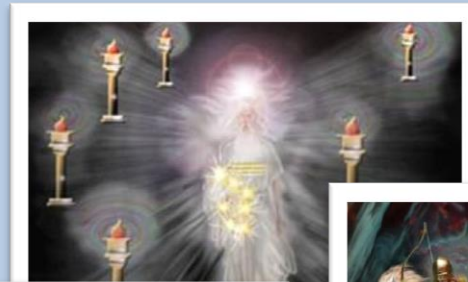
20:1,2 - “Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven... And he seized the dragon, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years...”

Comparison of Christian millennial teachings



# Progressive Parallelism

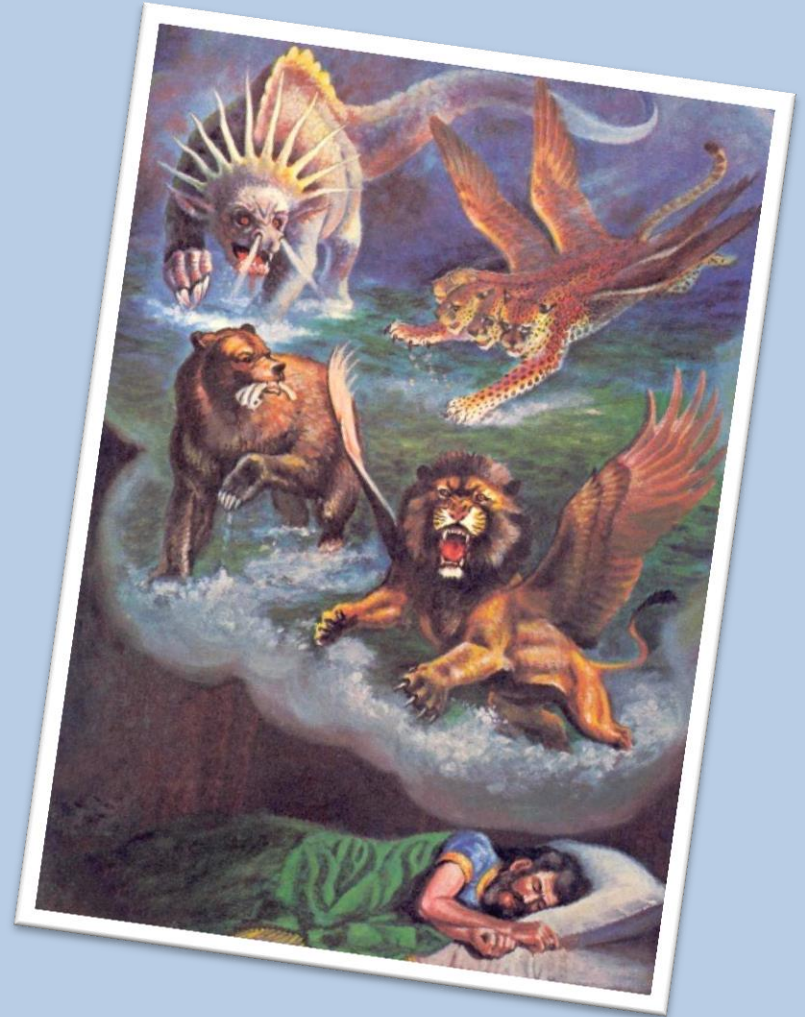
Seven different pictures of the same events – seven depictions of the war in heaven and on earth between the first and second comings of Jesus Christ



# The Seven Visions of Revelation



# Parallelism in Daniel



# The Shifting Focus of Revelation

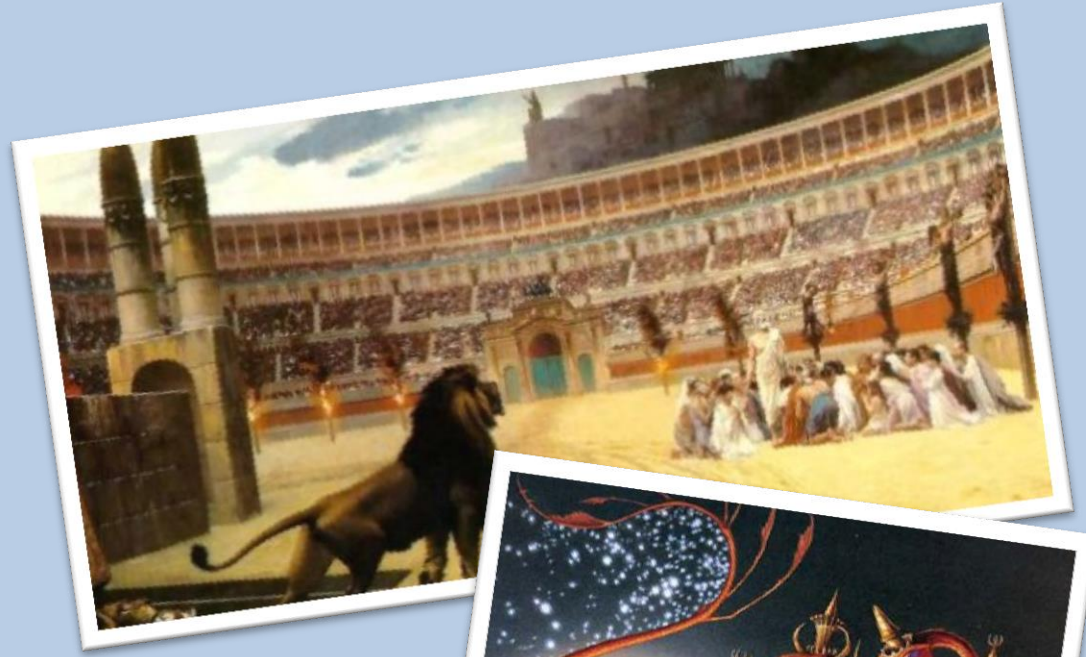
*“The closer we approach the end of the book the more our attention is directed to the final judgment and that which lies beyond it. The seven sections are arranged, as it were, in an ascending, climactic order.”*

William Hendriksen



# The Two Perspectives of Revelation

Chapters 1-11 –  
The War on Earth



Chapters 12-22 –  
The War in the  
Heavenlies

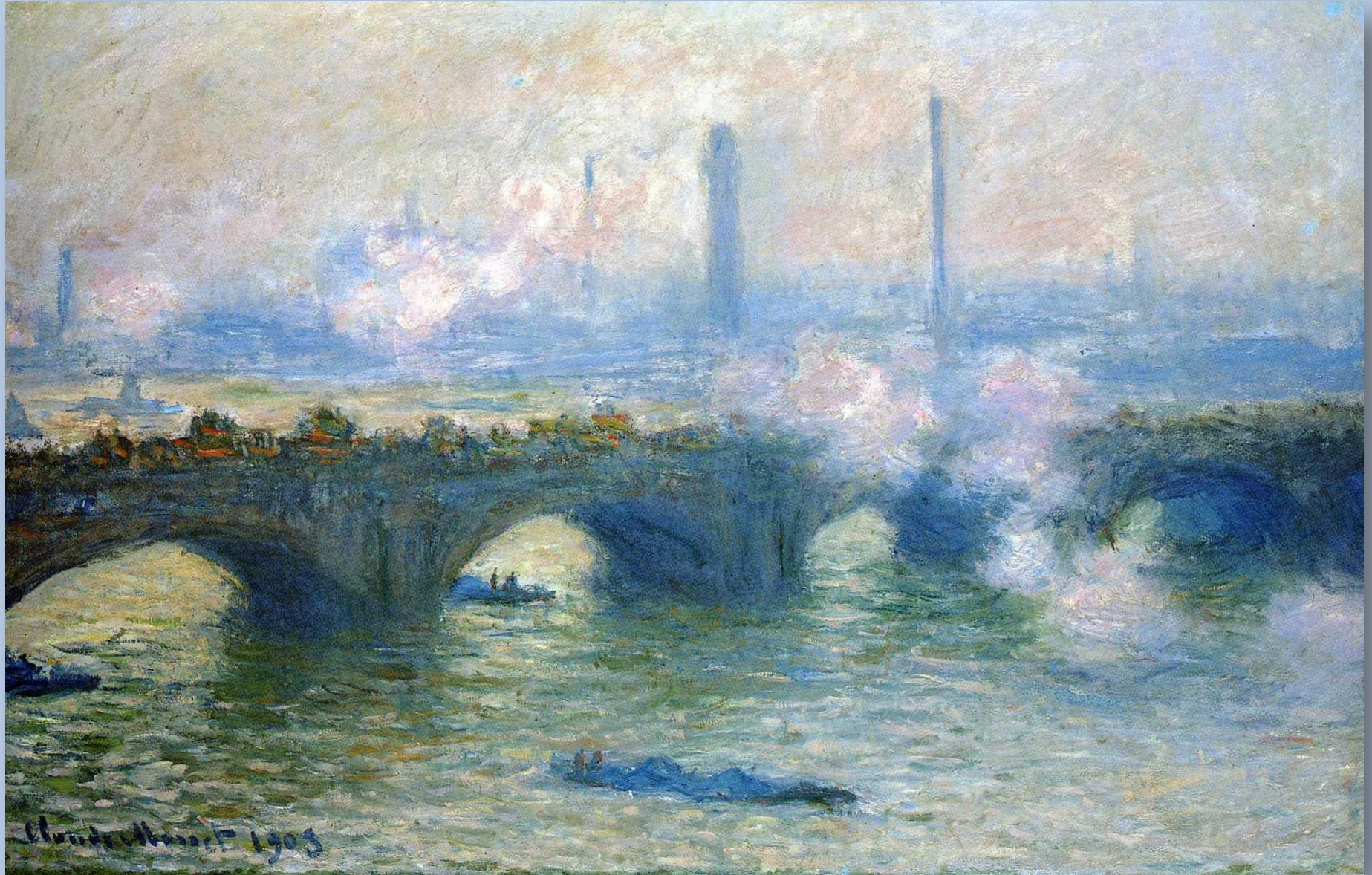


# Symbolism in Revelation

*“One must see the visions as wholes and not allegorically press all the details. In this matter the visions are like parables.”*

Gordon Fee & Douglas Stuart, How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth







# Interpreting Revelation in the Context of All of Scripture

