

# REVELATION

A large aircraft carrier is shown from a high-angle perspective, sailing on the ocean. The ship's deck is visible, with several aircraft parked. The sky is overcast. The word 'REVELATION' is written in large, 3D, blue and red gradient letters across the top of the image.

**One of the most important  
books of the entire  
BIBLE**

**“Even a casual reader of the book of Revelation is impressed with the tremendous scope of its prophecies. Here is obviously an important book, one intended by God to be a final word to man.”**

**JF Walvoord**

**“The Hallelujah  
Chorus of the  
Redeemed”**

**SL Johnson**

**“The goal and  
consummation of all  
the Bible”**

**WG Scroggie**

# IMPORTANCE

- Prophecy Importance
- NT Incomplete

# **THEOLOGY**

❖ **Theology Proper**

❖ **Christology**

❖ **Anthropology**

❖ **Soteriology**

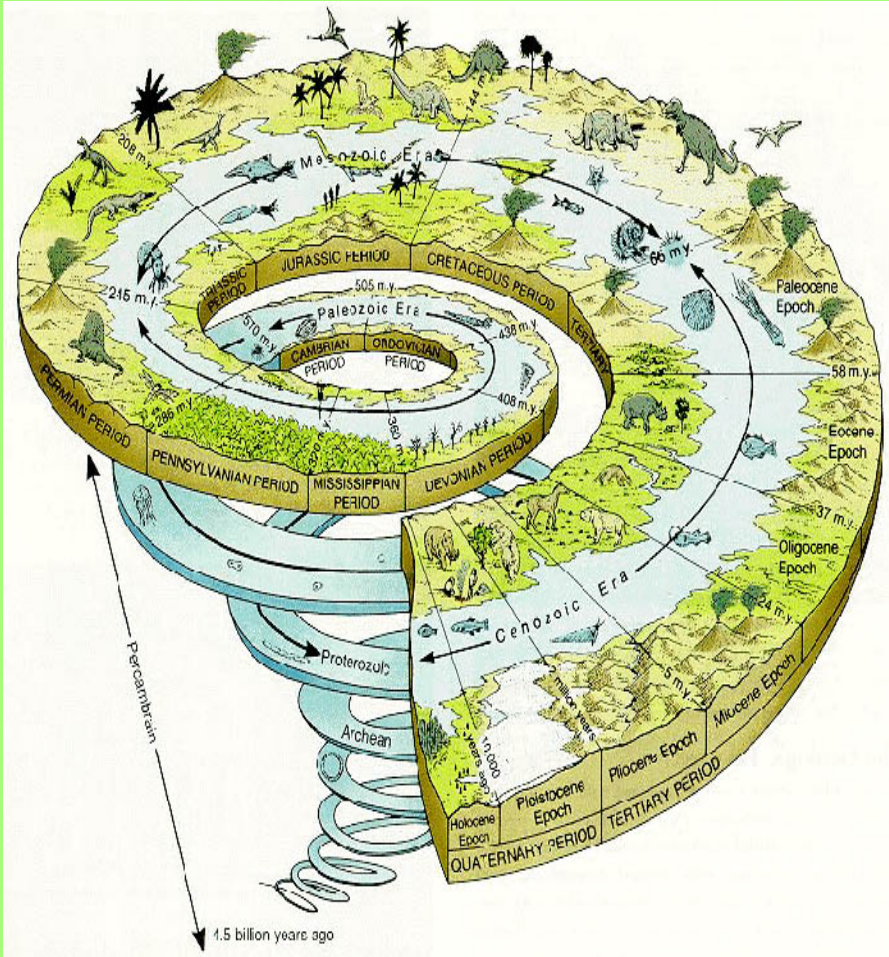
❖ **Angelology**

❖ **Eschatology**

# **IMPORTANCE**

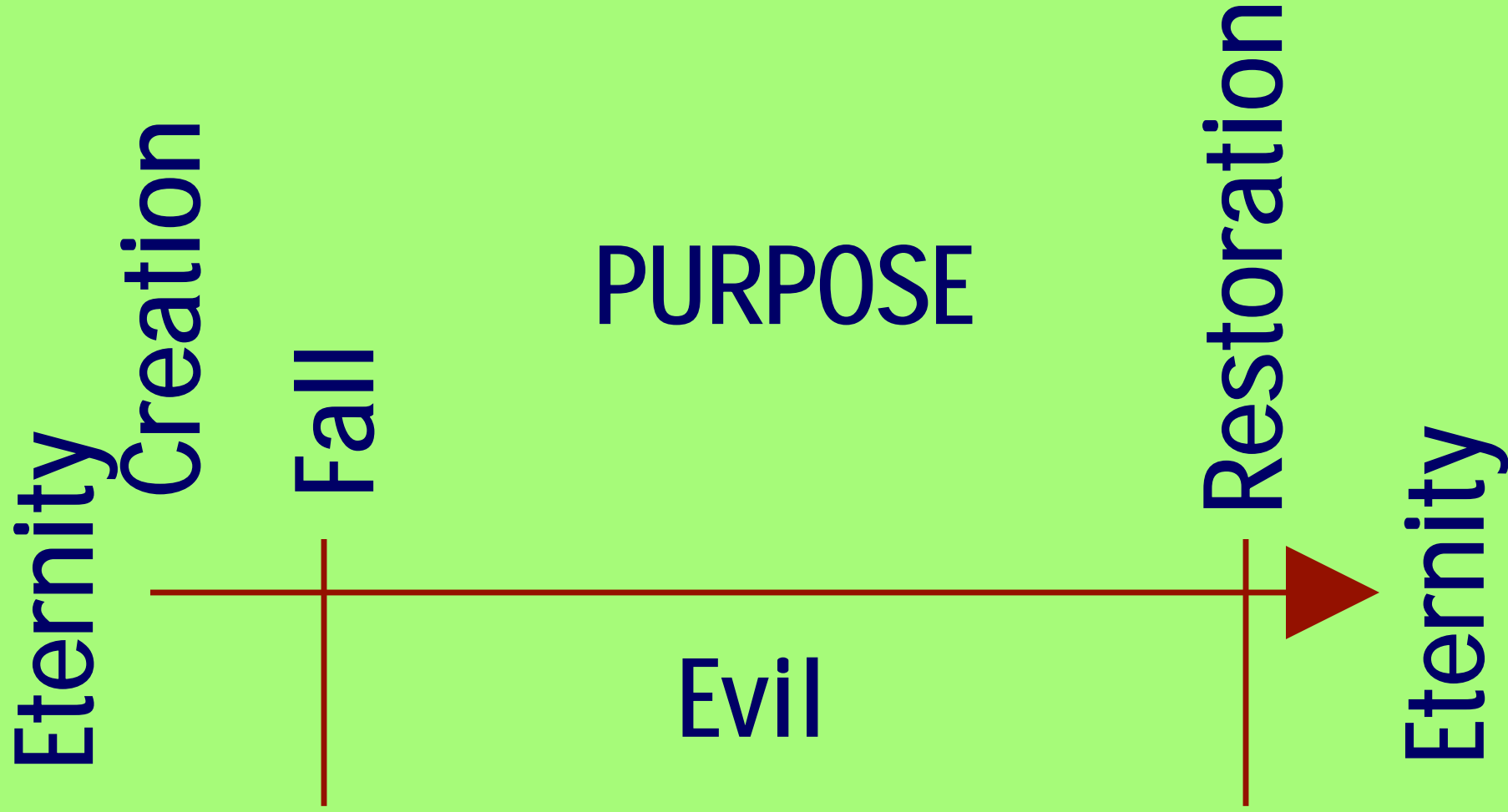
- **Prophecy Importance**
- **NT Incomplete**
- **God's Perspective**

# PERSPECTIVE





# PERSPECTIVE



# RESTORATION

## GENESIS

- Heavens/Earth
- Earth Priority
- Sin & Evil
- Curse
- 1<sup>st</sup> Adam
- Garden
- Man to Rule

## REVELATION

- New H/E
- Renewed
- Banished
- Removed
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Adam
- Restored
- Reign with Christ

# **IMPORTANCE**

- **Prophecy Importance**
- **NT Incomplete**
- **God's Perspective**
- **Only Hope**
- **5<sup>th</sup> Gospel**
- **God's Glory**

# ATTITUDES



❖ Puzzle

**“A famous book in which St John the divine concealed all that he knew. The revealing is done by the commentators who know nothing.”**

**Ambrose Bierce**

# ATTITUDES



❖ Puzzle

❖ Masterpiece

***HERMENEUTICAL***

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***POSITIONS***

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**"The book of Revelation  
isn't hard to understand**

**—**

**it's hard to BELIEVE!"**



# **PRETERIST**

**Most prophetic events  
taking place in 1<sup>st</sup> Century**

# PRETERIST

Christ's  
Return

TRIBULATION



KINGDOM

70 AD

ETERNITY



# MOD. PRETERIST



# PRETERIST

- **Proponents -** HB Swete  
RH Charles  
RC Sproul
- **Strengths -** Historical Background  
Original Readers

# **HISTORICIST**

**Prophetic events taking  
place in **History**,  
from 1<sup>st</sup> Century to the End**

# EXAMPLES

- ✓ 7 Letters = church history
- ✓ Seals = fall of empire
- ✓ Beasts = papacy
- ✓ Trumpets = 395-1453
- ✓ Bowls = French revolution

# HISTORICIST

- **Proponents - H Alford**
  - Reformers**
  - Postmillennialists**
- **Strengths - makes book**
  - somewhat prophetic**

# IDEALIST

A picture in symbolic form  
of **Eternal Principles**



**“While the Apocalypse thus embraces the whole period of the Christian dispensation, it sets before us within this period the action of great principles & not special incidents; we are not to look in the Apocalypse for special events, but for an exhibition of the principles which govern the history both of the world & the church.”**

**W Milligan**

# **IDEALIST**

➤ **Proponents - Wm Hendrickson  
RCH Lenski**

➤ **Strengths - Bible contains  
Eternal Principles**

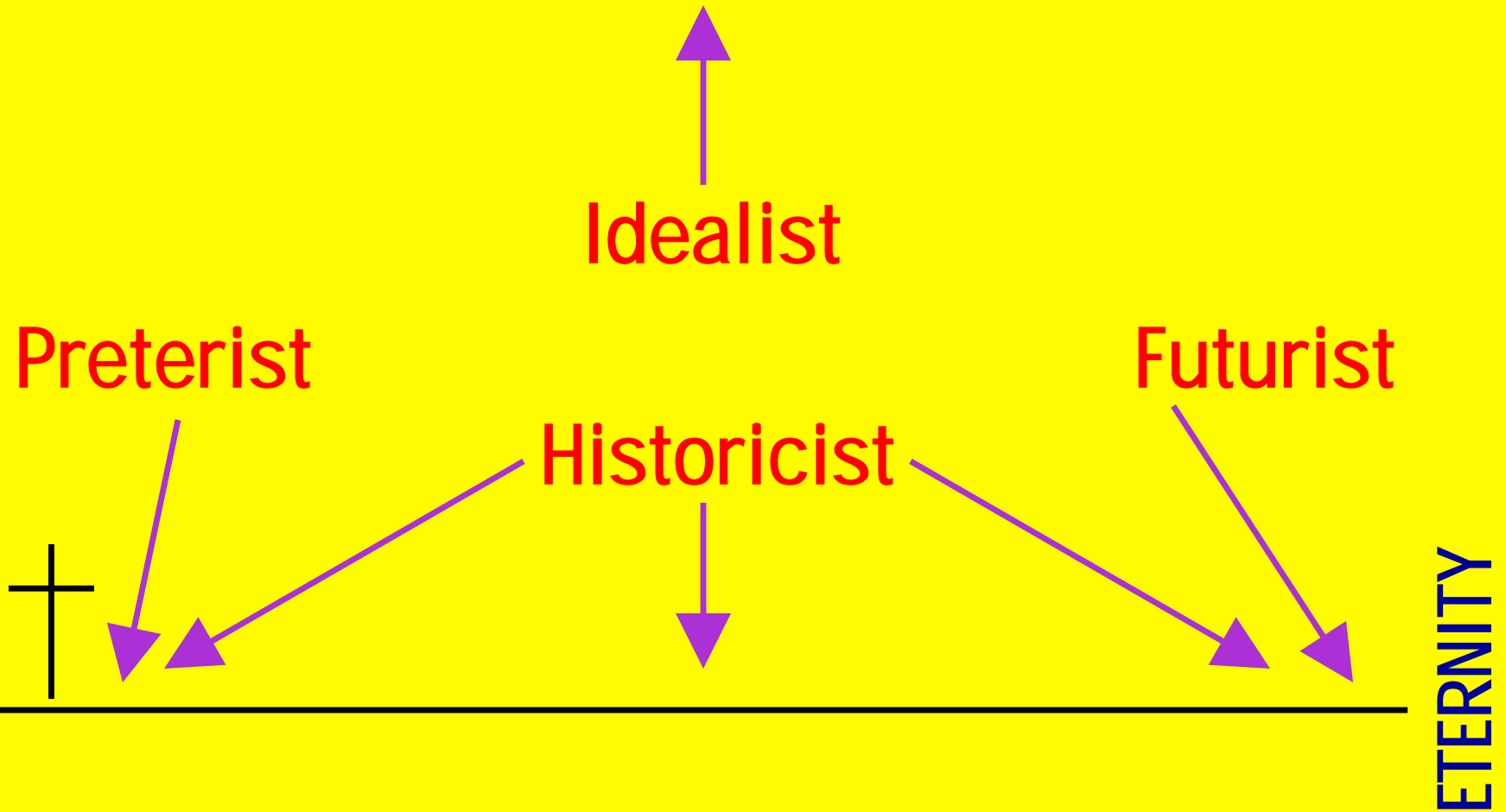
# **FUTURIST**

**Most events taking place in  
the Future**

# FUTURIST

- **Proponents -** JF Walvoord  
JD Pentecost  
CL Feinberg
- **Strengths -** Consistent  
Hermeneutic

# APPROACHES



# ECLECTIC

**Combine more  
than One View**

# ECLECTIC

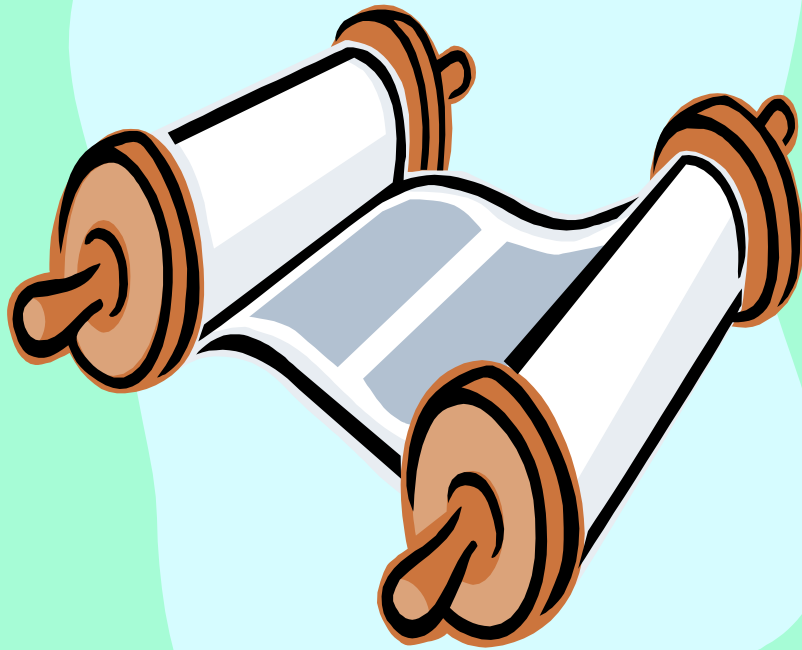
- **Proponents - L Morris**  
**RH Mounce**  
**GR Osborne**
- **Strengths - Combines best**  
**of Views**

# **BACKGROUND**

➤ **Author -**      **Apostle John**



# AUTHORSHIP



- **Internal**  
**Named**  
**Similarities**  
**Continuity**  
**Familiarity**

- **External**

# **BACKGROUND**

- **Author - Apostle John**
- **Historical Background**

# **HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

❖ **Political - Persecution**



**Domitian**  
(from Ephesus)

# **HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

- ❖ **Political - Persecution**
- ❖ **Social - Prosperous**
- ❖ **Religious - Idolatrous &  
Emperor Worship**

# **BACKGROUND**

- **Author - Apostle John**
- **Historical Background**
- **Occasion - 95-96**



**Patmos**



○ Patmos

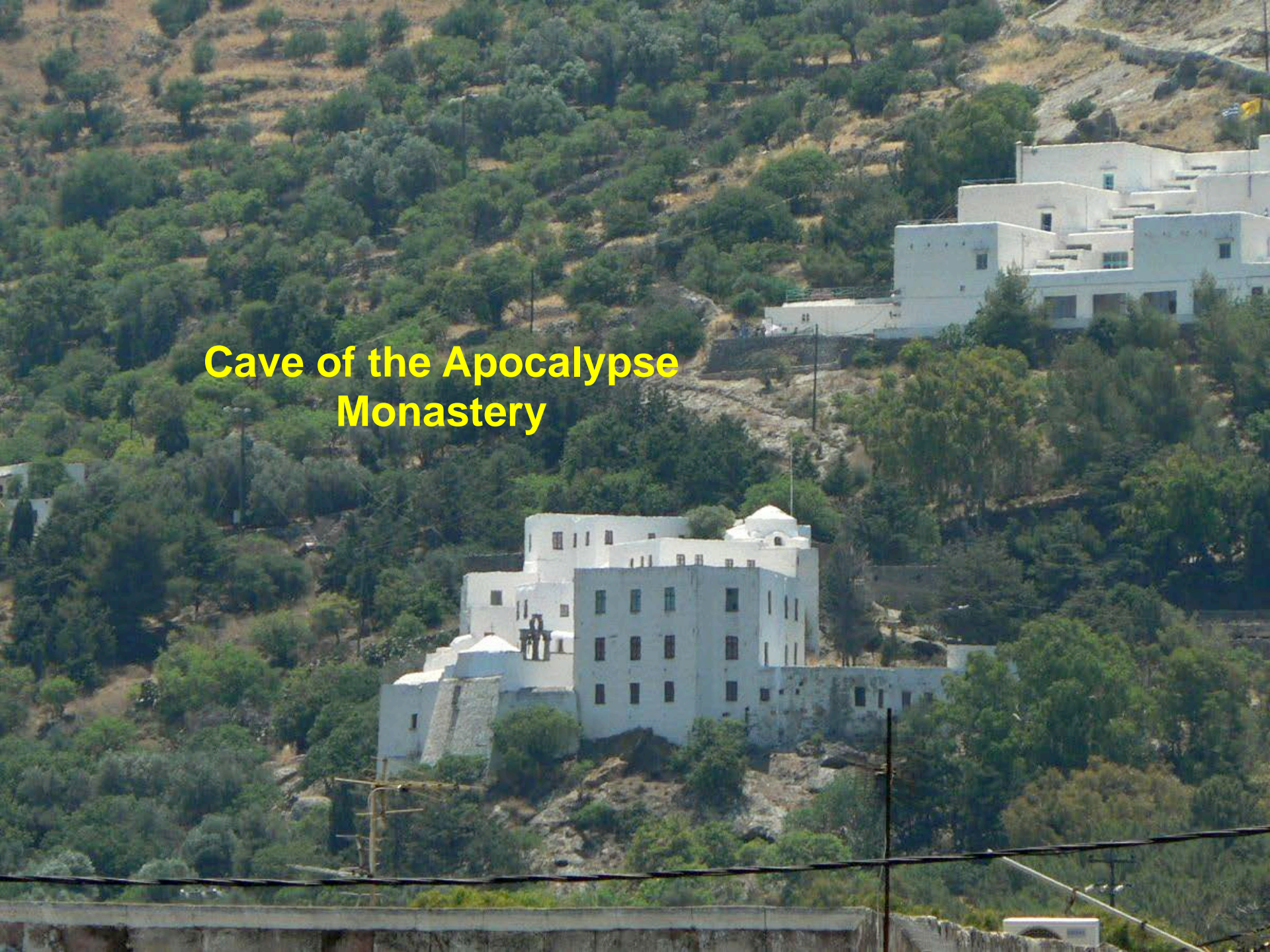




**Ephesus** →



# Cave of the Apocalypse Monastery



# **BACKGROUND**

- **Author - Apostle John**
- **Historical Background**
- **Occasion - 95-96**
- **Audience - Asian Churches**



**Pergamum**

**Thyatira**

Manisa

**Smyrna**

**Sardis**

**Philadelphia**

Izmir

**Laodicea**

**Ephesus**

Aydin

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# **BACKGROUND**

- **Author - Apostle John**
- **Historical Background**
- **Occasion - 95-96**
- **Audience - Asian Churches**
- **Purpose**

# PURPOSE

❖ Encouragement

❖ Preparation

❖ Completion



# CHARACTERISTICS

**1. Genre - mixed**

# GENRE

- **Epistolary - Introduction & Closing**
- **Prophecy - Prophetic Visions**
- **Apocalyptic**
  1. **Title**
  2. **Visions**
  3. **Angelic Guide**
  4. **Exhortations to Endure**
  5. **Metaphorical Emphasis**