

N.T. SURVEY

**General
Epistles &
Revelation**

By Ray Mondragon

NT SURVEY

Revelation

By
Ray Mondragon

Patmos

“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

➤ NT Incomplete

THEOLOGY

- ✓ Theology Proper
- ✓ Christology
- ✓ Anthropology
- ✓ Soteriology
- ✓ Angelology
- ✓ Eschatology

IMPORTANCE

- NT Incomplete
- God's Perspective

PERSPECTIVE



PERSPECTIVE

BEGINNING

PURPOSE



END

IMPORTANCE

- NT Incomplete
- God's Perspective
- Resolution of Evil
- Only Hope
- 5th 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 POSITIONS

**“The book of Revelation
isn’t hard to understand
—
it’s hard to BELIEVE!”**

APPROACHES

- **Preterist - 1st Century**
- **Historicist - Church Age**
- **Idealist - Symbolic**
- **Futurist - Prophetic**

PRETERISM

**Most prophetic events
taking place in 1st Century**

AD 70 = wrath on Israel

EXTREME PRETERISM

Christ's
Return

TRIBULATION



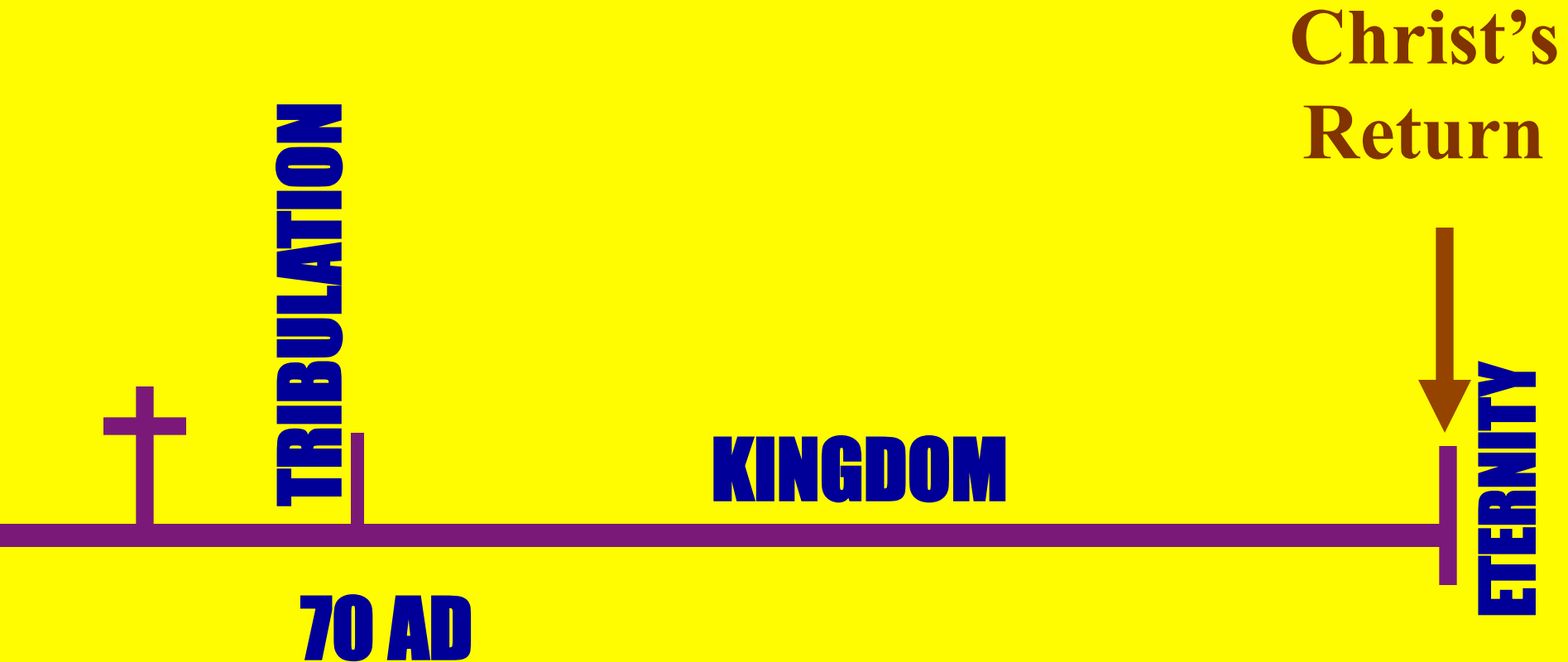
KINGDOM

70 AD

ETERNITY



MODERATE PRETERISM



PRETERIST

➤ **Proponents - HB Swete**

RH Charles

RC Sproul

➤ **Strengths - Historical Background**

Original Readers

HISTORICISM

**Prophetic events taking
place in **History**,
from 1st Century to the End**

HISTORICISM

Wheat &

Tares

Leaven

Pearl

Smyrna

Thyatira

Philadelphia

Rapture?

Sower

Mustard

Treasure

Dragnet

Eph

Pergamum

Sardis

Laodicea

CHURCH AGE = Tribulation

ETERNITY

Church Growth & Increasing Apostasy

Seals

Trumpets

Bowls

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**

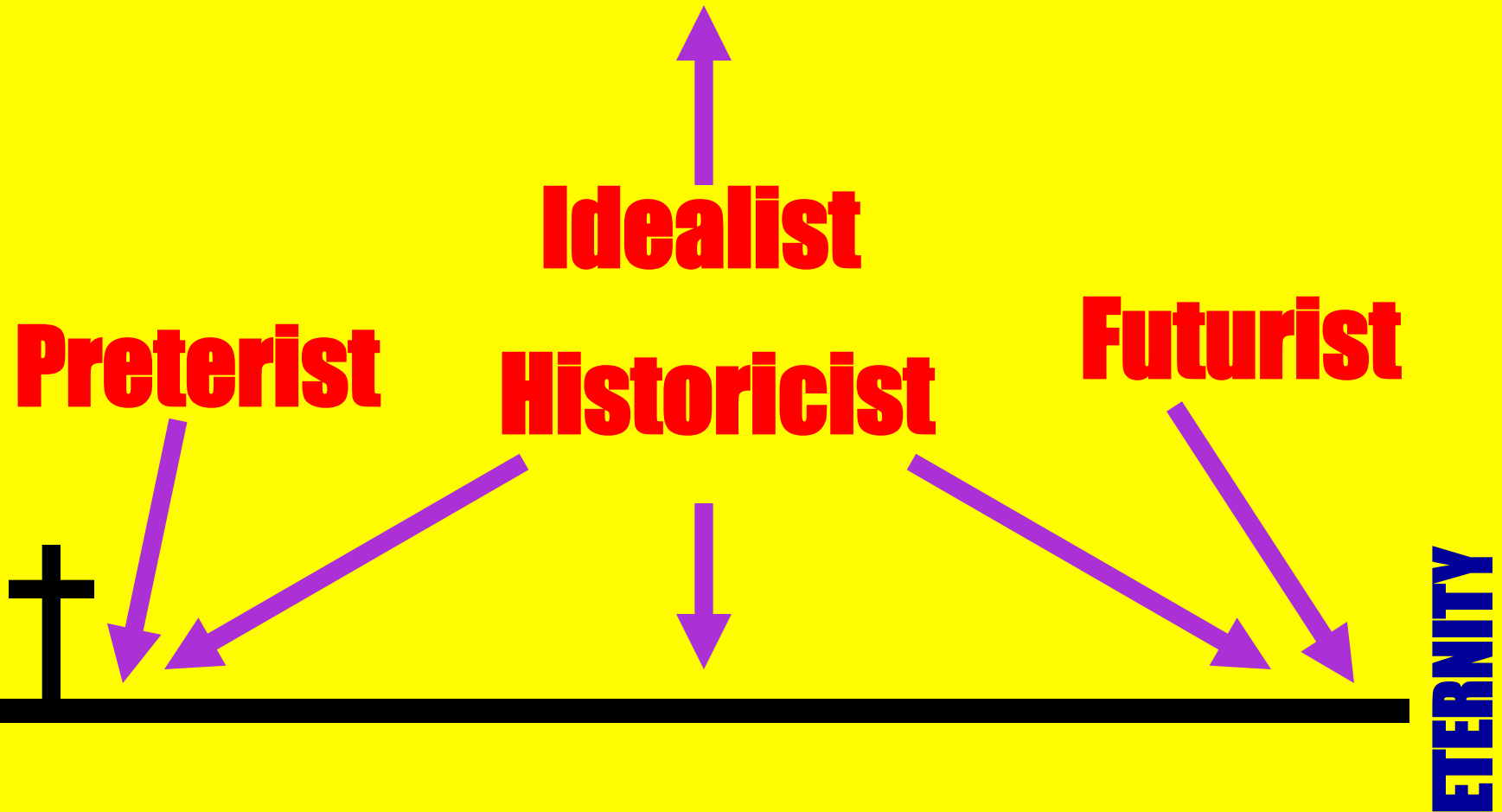
FUTURIST

**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**

REVELATION

➤ **Author -** **Apostle John**

AUTHORSHIP

➤ Internal Evidence

INTERNAL

- 1. Named - 1:1, 4,9, 22:8**
- 2. Similarities with Gospel**
- 3. Continuity with John's writing**
- 4. Familiarity with Asia**
- 5. Prophet familiar with OT**

AUTHORSHIP

- **Internal Evidence**
- **External Evidence**

EXTERNAL

- 1. Apostolic Fathers - Polycarp, Papias**
- 2. 2nd century - Justin Martyr, Irenaeus, Clement of Alexandria, Tertullian**
- 3. 3rd century - Origen, Hippolytus, Victorinus**

AUTHORSHIP

- **Internal Evidence**
- **External Evidence**
- **Evidence Against**

REVELATION

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

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

➤ **POLITICALLY - PERSECUTION**





Emperor Domitian

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

➤ **POLITICALLY - PERSECUTION**

➤ **SOCIALLY -
PROSPEROUS**

➤ **RELIGIOUSLY -
IDOLATROUS
& EMPEROR WORSHIP**



REVELATION

- **Author - Apostle John**
- **Occasion - 95-96**
- **Location - Patmos**



Patmos



rth

avy, NGA, OEDCO



6 mi

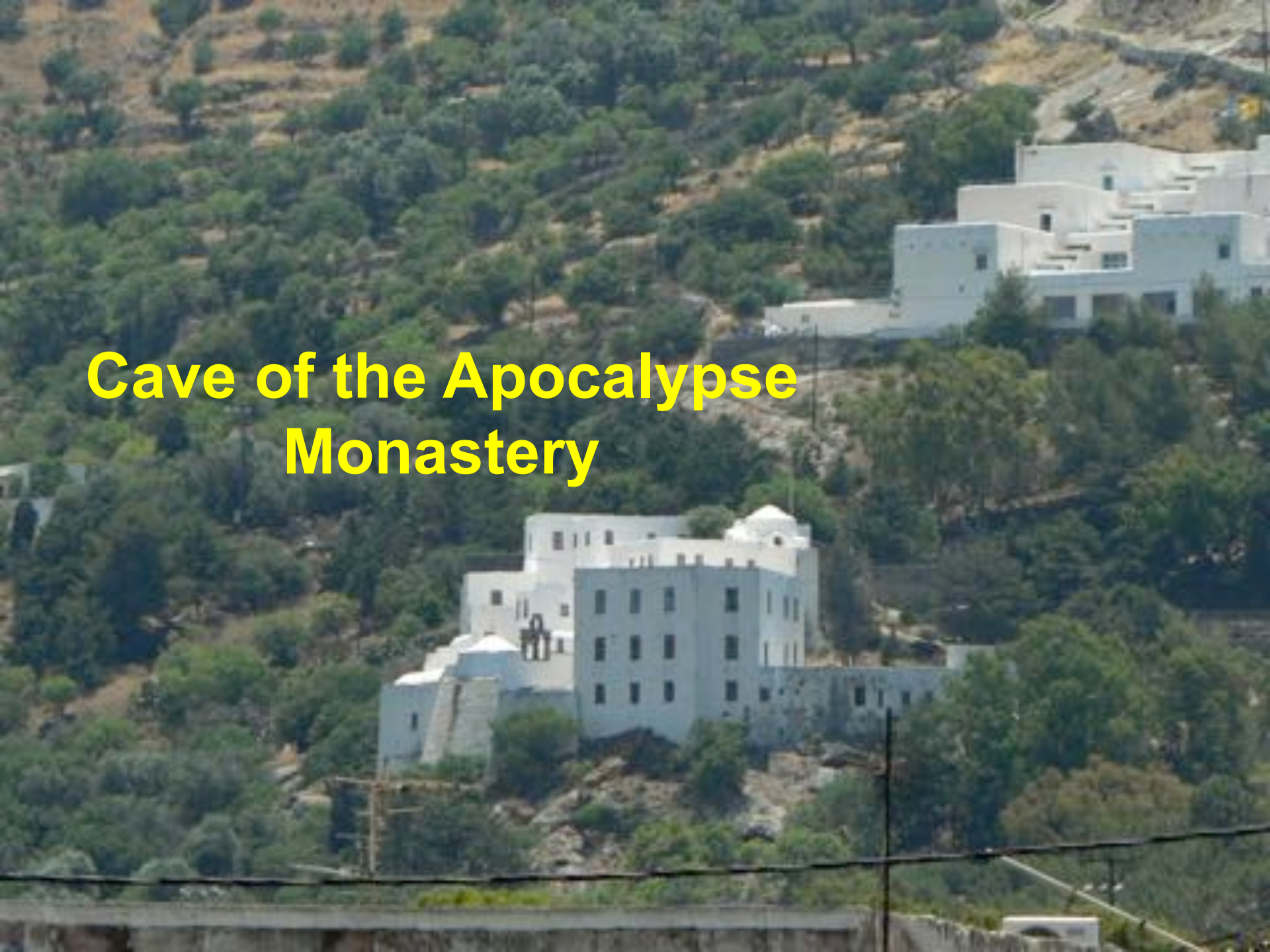
Ephesus →







Cave of the Apocalypse Monastery



REVELATION

- **Author - Apostle John**
- **Occasion - 95-96**
- **Location - Patmos**
- **Audience - Asian Churches**



Thyatira

Pergamum

Sardis

Smyrna

Philadelphia

Ephesus

Laodicea



● Pergamum

● Thyatira

Smyrna

● Sardis

● Philadelphia

Ephesus ●

Laodicea ●



REVELATION

- **Author - Apostle John**
- **Occasion - 95-96**
- **Location - Patmos**
- **Audience - Asian Churches**
- **Purpose - Prophetic**

PURPOSE



**To encourage persecuted
Christians (1:3, 22:7)**

**To complete God's
Revelation (22:18-19)**

CHARACTERISTICS

1. Genre - mixed

GENRE

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

METAPHORICAL

- **Literal unless indicators**
- **Metaphorical Language**
- **Symbols**



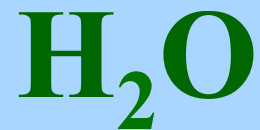
SYMBOLS

$$E = MC^2$$

$$V = d/t$$

$$A = \pi r^2$$

$$A = v/t$$



$$\tan \theta = y/x$$



INTERPRETING

SYMBOLS

- 1. Definite Meaning**
- 2. Bible Interprets**
- 3. Few Un-interpreted**
- 4. Possibility of Multiple Uses**

METAPHORICAL

- **Literal unless indicators**
- **Metaphorical Language**
- **Symbols**
- **Nature**



METAPHORICAL

- **Literal unless indicators**
- **Metaphorical Language**
- **Symbols**
- **Nature**
- **Numbers**



CHARACTERISTICS

- 1. Genre - mixed**
- 2. Christology - 5th Gospel**

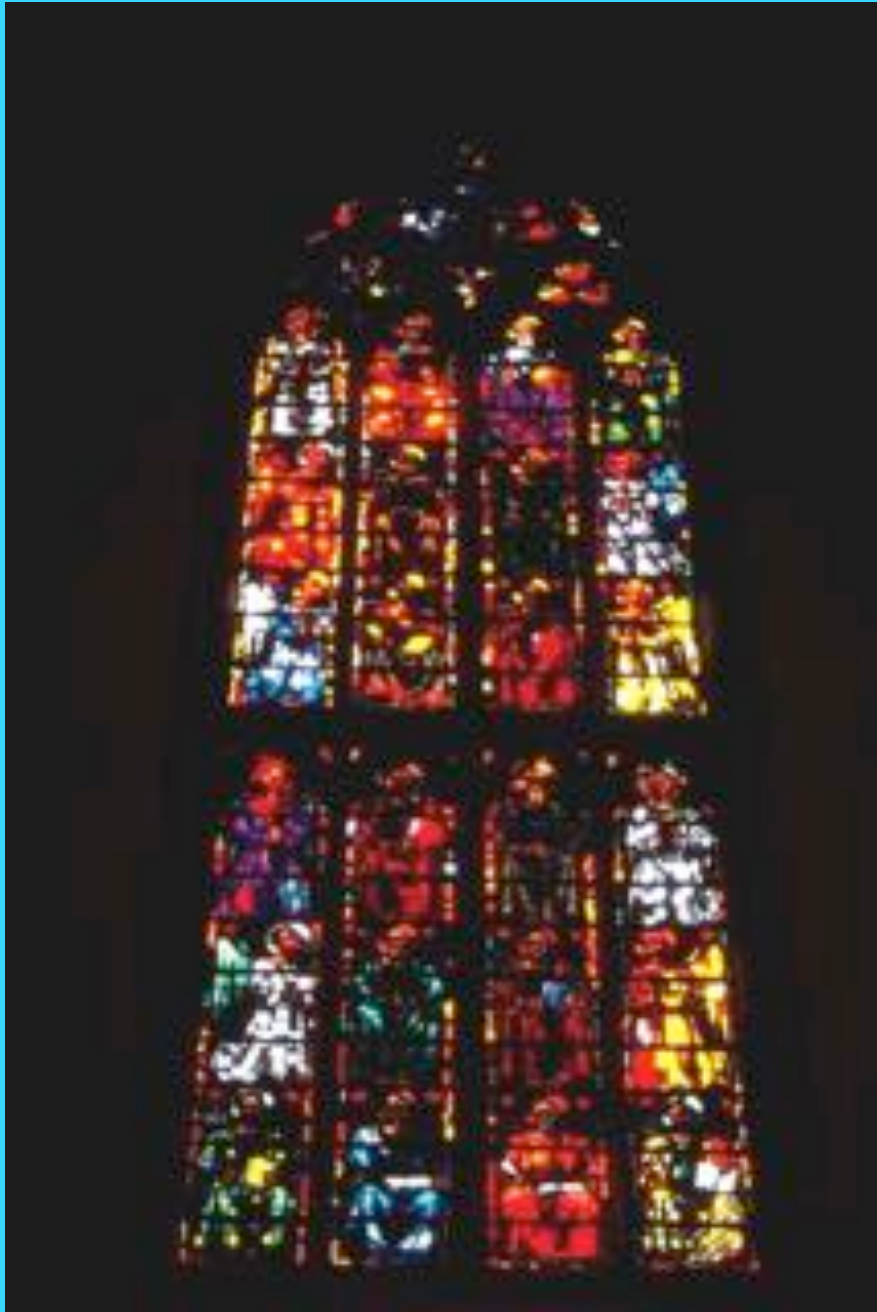
CHRISTOLOGY



- Names
- Titles
- Descriptions
- The Lamb
- Deity

CHARACTERISTICS

- 1. Genre - mixed**
- 2. Christology - 5th Gospel**
- 3. Worship - priority**



WORSHIP

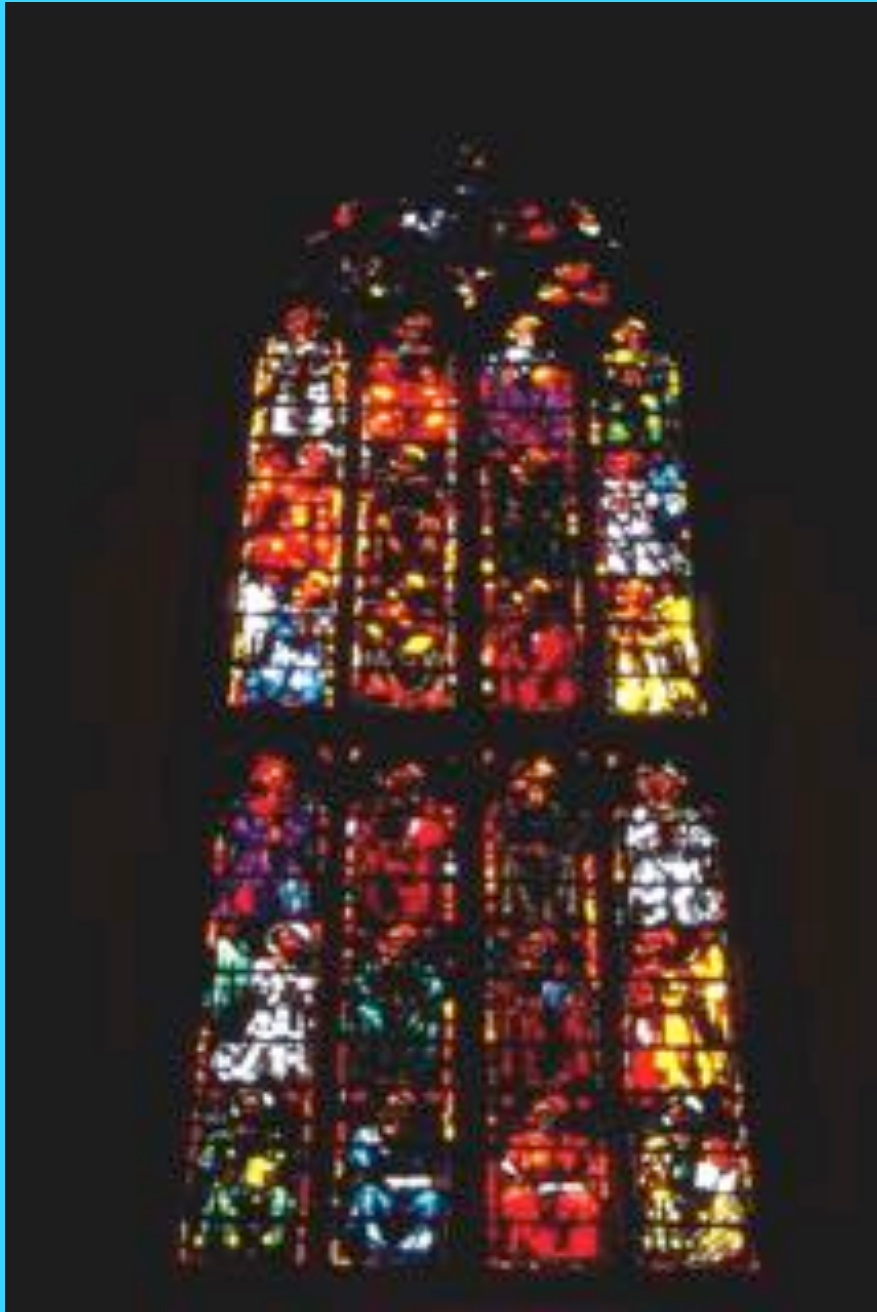
❖ Theology

❖ Worshippers

WORSHIPPERS

- ✓ Angels
- ✓ Saints
- ✓ Unidentified
- ✓ Failure





WORSHIP

- ❖ Theology
- ❖ Worshippers
- ❖ Hymns
- ❖ Theme

CHARACTERISTICS

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Genre - | mixed |
| 2. Christology - | 5th Gospel |
| 3. Worship - | priority |
| 4. OT - | allusions |

USE OF OT

- ✓ Allusions
- ✓ Deity Titles
- ✓ Geography
- ✓ Characters
- ✓ Concepts



CHARACTERISTICS

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Genre - | mixed |
| 2. Christology - | 5th Gospel |
| 3. Worship - | priority |
| 4. OT - | allusions |
| 5. Judgment - | resolution |

JUDGMENT

- **7 Churches**
- **Mankind & Earth**
- **Seals, Trumpets, Bowls**
- **Babylon**
- **Antichrist & False Prophet**
- **Satan**
- **Great White Throne**

OUTLINE

- I. Revelation of JC among Church 1-3**
- II. Great Tribulation from JC 4-18**
- III. Consummation by Jesus Christ 19-22**