

- 1 **Revelation**
or
The Apocalypse of John, the Apostle

- 2 **The Rise of PreMillennialism**
 - *Related to the demise of Historicist approach*
 - *Theologically bound to "new" denominations.*
 - *The appeal of being "in on the secret" - especially in a time when Christians are a minority.*

- 3 **Four Main Methods**
 - *Preterist*
 - *Poetic*
 - *Historicist (or PostMillennial)*
 - *Futurist (or PreMillennial)*

- 4 **Invective**
 - *"I don't know any PostMillennialists; I don't even eat Post Toasties"*
 - *"Any scheme that implies that John is speaking in a kind of code language about events purely contemporary with him ... should not be regarded with the same respect due a believer."*

- 5 **Preterist Viewpoint**
 - 1 ■ *Dates originally from the early church*
 - *Most (or all) of the events are during the Roman Empire*
 - *Popular among liberals and Roman Catholics*
 - 2 ■ *Taken to extremes, it is very poor interpretation.*
 - *Often used to sidestep the existence of prophecy*
 - *Not covered in this class.*

- 6 **Poetic Viewpoint**
 - 1 ■ *No correspondence of prophecy with dates and times.*
 - *Draws heavily on the symbolic*
 - *Accepts the "Seven Last Things" - or some of them*
 - 2 ■ *Always correct -- and always wrong (IMO)*
 - *Always a useful interpretation*
 - *Strong point: 2 Corinthians 10:5*

- 7 **Historicist (PostMillennial)**
 - 1 ■ *Rise*
 - *Very strong in the Reformation*
 - *Anti-Catholic strength*
 - *Continuation of classic Preterist*
 - *The power of the history book*
 - 2 ■ *"Demise"*
 - *Millennial expectation and World War I*
 - *Media and Message*
 - *Good writers wanted*

- 8 **Historicist (Good News & Bad)**
 - 1 ■ *In Favor*
 - *The most obvious interpretation*
 - *Most Christians of most times*

- *Can produce stunning predictions*
- *Scholarly*

2 ■ ***Opposed***

- *Historicists don't always agree on past dates interpretations*
- *Definite anti-Papacy bias*
- *Tends to "put off" the coming of Christ*
- *Scholarly*

9 ■ ***Futurist (Good News and Bad)***

1 ■ ***In Favor***

- *Strongly evangelistic in tone.*
- *Impossible for a Christian to prove it wrong*
- *Eyes on the Second Coming*
- *Ecumenical*

2 ■ ***Opposed***

- *Impossible for a Christian to prove it right.*
- *Ignores 1900 years of scholarship.*
- *Tendency to be too literal -- and judgmental.*

10 ■ ***Summary***

- *Preterist -- the liberal view*
- *Poetic -- always true, always insufficient*
- *Historicist -- most studied, least popular*
- *Futurist -- the view of most fundamentalists today.*

11 ■ ***The Seven Last Things***

1 ■ ***Resurrection of the Dead***

- *The Tribulation*
- *The Second Coming of Christ*
- *Armageddon*

2 ■ ***The Millennium***

- *The Judgment*
- *New Heaven and New Earth*