# MARANATHA GLOBAL BIBLE STUDY THE BOOK OF REVELATION // DALTON THOMAS

# DAY 8: THE FALSE TEACHINGS ABOUT THE BOOK OF REVELATION THAT ARE HURTING US

#### I. INTERPRETING THE BOOK OF REVELATION

- A. Tiers of authority when interpreting scripture:
  - 1. Scripture itself
  - 2. Church history
  - 3. Subjective emotion
- B. Jesus is our interpretive guide in understanding the BOR (v. 17)
  - 1. It is only through a right relationship with Jesus that we can understand the two-fold nature of the BOR
    - a) Revelation of who Jesus is
    - b) Revelation of the things to come
- C. The BOR should not be a challenge to understand
  - 1. It pulls its imagery from the Old Testament
  - 2. When symbols/imagery are shown in the BOR, interpretation is provided by the Lord or an angel
- D. Hermeneutics
  - 1. How you interpret/measure scripture
  - 2. The BOR is not heavy on symbolism
    - a) Often times, events that are not symbols are interpreted as symbols
    - b) Ex: water turning to blood means that water will turn to blood
  - 3. The key to interpreting is provided (v. 20)
- E. All of the judgement events in the BOR are literal events, no interpretation needed
- F. Analogies are used (sky rolled up like a scroll) and should be treated as such
- G. Rather than asking "literal or symbolic" ask, "what does this mean?"
- H. Children can understand the content of the BOR, it's heavily visual

## II. SEVEN SYMBOLS

There are seven major symbols in the BOR, and all are interpreted by scripture itself.

- A. THE DRAGON
  - 1. Revelation 12
  - 2. Immediately, we are told that this is Satan



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## B. THE WOMAN WITH THE MALE CHILD

- 1. Revelation 12
- 2. She is described in the same way as the family of Abraham in Genesis
- 3. Represents the 12 tribes of Israel
- 4. Revelation 12 quotes Psalm 2
- C. THE BEAST
  - 1. Revelation 13
  - 2. The Antichrist
  - 3. There will be many antichrists (1 John 2), but there will be one Antichrist
- D. THE FALSE PROPHET
  - 1. The other beast rising in Revelation 13
  - 2. One of the final two antagonists against the people of Israel
- E. MYSTERY BABYLON
  - 1. The Harlot Babylon/The Great Harlot/The Great Whore
  - 2. Global demonized financial and religious network
  - 3. International network that will shed the blood of the saints
  - 4. Revelation 17-18
- F. THE SEVEN HEADS
  - 1. 7 Empires
  - 2. Revelation 17
  - 3. The falling and rising of the final Beast Empire
- G. TEN HORNS
  - 1. The horns are nations

### III. THREE MAJOR FALSE TEACHINGS

- A. Pre-tribulation rapture
  - 1. Popular in the 1800s and 1900s
  - 2. God's wrath has been pouring out on a continuum, it is not a singular event that we will be removed from
- B. Preterism
  - 1. Believes that the BOR was already fulfilled in history
- C. Amillenialism
  - 1. Believes that there is no millennium
  - Jesus is not going to suspend human dynamics in the process of the restoration of all things, scripture speaks to very realistic, human timelines of events taking place to restore the Kingdom of God
    - a) Psalm 110
    - b) Ezekiel 38-39
  - 3. Amillenialism is a system that is based on human-intellect, not scripture
  - 4. Amillenialism teaches the belittling of the importance of Israel



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