Revelation Chart

Assignment 3-1 for BI5532 NTHLT

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| Approach | Definition | Evaluation: Strength/Weakness |
| Preterist | Assyrians  Known as “contemporary historical” this view holds that the events in Revelation have already been fulfilled within the first century. | * Strengths include understanding the background of the book better because Preterist’s focus on issues within the time period Revelation was written. * Weaknesses include Revelation depicting Jesus coming back to earth physically, the resurrection of all humanity and the final judgment. |
| Historicist | Historicist is the view that Revelation is depicting the churches history as a whole including past, present and future. | * Strengths to this view are that Revelation does include information about the churches past along with it’s future. * Weaknesses of this view include Revelation being mainly future events. This view also fails to consider the relevance for the first century churches it was addressed to. |
| Idealist | The idealist view focus’s less on the literal meaning of events and more on the symbolic side that good will triumph over evil. | * Strengths to this view are it accounts for the symbolic nature of John’s visions, accurately reflect universal applications for Christians throughout history and it involves a detailed theological reading of the text. * The main weakness of this view is that it does not explain the end times and consummation of God’s plan with Jesus returning to earth very well. |
| Futurist  [My personal belief] | This is the belief that Revelation (Ch.4-22) talks of things yet to happen. | * Strengths to this view include studying Revelation and finding much of the writing to seem like events that have not transpired yet like when John talks about a new heaven and earth. * Weaknesses of this view are struggling to find applicable lessons to take from the text and possibly looking into the text to literally. |

1. What were the occasion and purpose of the book of Revelation?

The occasion was the persecution of Christians in Asia Minor and the purpose was to encourage Christians to faithful endurance by giving a glimpse of the final judgment and Christ’s kingdom.

1. What is the definition of "Apocalypse," and what are some of its accompanying traits?

The definition of apocalypse is the intention to interpret present, earthly circumstances in light of the supernatural world and of the future, and to influence the understanding and behavior of the audience by means of divine authority. The accompanying traits are as follows,

* Comprises a visionary and revelatory means of communication.
* Saturated with metaphorical, symbolic and figurative language.
* Dualism between earthly and heavenly realities.