

COURSE OUTLINE

InDepth: The Revelation of Jesus Christ to John

Trace James, Lead Instructor

SESSION ONE

The Four Traditional Views

This session includes an introduction to the problems and issues that have surrounded study of the Revelation and a brief exposition of the four perspectives on the book that have dominated the theological discussion of the book for nearly 20 centuries.

SESSION TWO

A Covenantal Starting Point

This session includes a discussion of the author's assumptions concerning the use of prophecy, Old Testament and New Testament context, and the conditions of the church in the sixth decade of the first century AD, as these things touch on the critical decision to initially adopt a preterist approach to a covenantal view of the Revelation.

SESSION THREE

The True Witness, The Supremacy of Jesus the Messiah

This session unpacks chapter one from a covenantal viewpoint, the vision of the glorified Messiah.

SESSION FOUR

The Messiah Among the Churches

This session is an exposition of the seven letters to seven frightened churches in Asia (Rev. 2:1-3:22).

SESSION FIVE

Cristus Victor: The Covenant Controversy is Settled

This session includes a review of some covenantal interpretive assumptions and an exposition of Rev. 4:1-5:14, the judgment throne of God.

SESSION SIX

The Conquering Lion/Lamb Opens the Seven Seals

This session is a discussion of the seal-breaking visions that open the judgment scroll for execution of the ancient covenant lawsuit on those who had refused to keep faith (Rev. 6:1-8:5).

SESSION SEVEN

Seven Trumpets: Announcements of Things Just Past

This session is an exposition of Rev. 8:6-11:14, the first seven trumpets about things which had already happened and the longest of several interludes that brought comfort and hope.

SESSION EIGHT

Seven Portents of Covenantal Wrath

This session is an exposition of the seventh trumpet, seven portents of covenantal wrath (Rev. 11:15-14:20), the story we all know but did not see, as it hid in plain sight.

SESSION NINE

7 Bowls: Long Awaited Judgment is Final and Just

This session is an exposition of Rev. 15:1-16:21, the seventh portent, seven bowls of wrath poured out around and on the doomed city.

SESSION TEN

Seven Matters Concerning the Fall of Babylon

This session includes a discussion of the visions of the harlot Babylon, her imperial lover, and earthly mourning and heavenly rejoicing over her fall (Rev. 17:1-19:10).

SESSION ELEVEN

The Great Gettin'-up Mornin'!

This session is a discussion of Rev. 19:11-22:21, eight visions of comfort and the consummation of all things.

SESSION TWELVE

Revisiting the Four Main Views

This session includes a last look at the four traditional perspectives, their shortcomings and their contributions to covenant keeping, even in the face of the empire's approach.

SESSION THIRTEEN

Reading the Revelation For Today

This session includes a discussion of how to read the Revelation for our time, given the empire that we face.