# Revelation Introduction Continued

North Penn Church of Christ

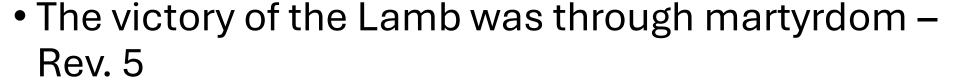


#### Theme

- Developed in the context of "no reasonable outs...."
- Victory of Christ and His church over the dragon and his angels....
  - War between God's people and Satan's....
  - Works of Satan personified by Rome....
  - It will get worse!
  - The outcome is already secure....

#### Theme cont.

- God will not abandon His own....
  - He has never lost a battle.
  - When it looks like you're losing, you really aren't...



- God knows we will suffer, He understands suffering
- The total God-head is involved in the remedy Spirit in ch. 2-3, God, ch. 15:3-4 (sampler)
- God prepares us for what we must face! (ch. 2-3)





- Don't give up!
- They overcome by the blood of the Lamb and the word of their testimony – Rev. 12:10-11



#### Terms

- Apocalypse Simply means "Revelation."
- Revelation An unveiling of God and His purposes, ultimately as it is tied to Jesus – I Cor. 1:7, I Pet. 1:7; In Revelation, more of an understanding of God's purposes in light of persecution.
- Witness from the Greek, " $\mu\alpha\rho\tau\nu\varsigma$ " martyr.
- Antichrist Never appears in the book of Revelation, must not be inserted there. Does not belong. I John 2:18-22, 4:3, II John 7 – anyone who does not acknowledge Jesus as coming in the flesh.

# Characteristics of Apocalyptic Literature

- 1. Most often written in the context of persecution, suffering, and judgement.
- 2. Main lesson don't give up usually to a pagan threat, but not always
- 3. Never told in earthly terms, rather cosmic. To get us to see beyond our small, historical context.

### Characteristics of Apocalyptic Literature

- 3. cont.
  - C. Reveals the supernatural world and activities of supernatural beings
  - D. The final judgement against evil is a common theme
  - E. In light of these things, the recipients are exhorted to faithfulness.
- 4. Often written under a pseudonym Revelation is an exception

## Characteristics of Apocalyptic Literature cont.

- 5. It is prophesy, but <u>you never ask the question</u> "when?"
- 6. It has historical importance
- 7. It is never told in an historical account
- 8. Popular from 200 BC to 200 AD