


## RE-ENVISIONING

This is a genuine ABC production  authored by *Bob Coffey* and may not be reproduced or transmitted in any manner for financial profit

### THE APPROACH OF PHILOSOPHY

Paul spoke of *vain philosophy*. We are not to create a concept of the **eternal state** of our own-it has to be anchored in scripture. There will be mystery beyond us on this great subject -but by grace Christ has revealed swathes of truth hidden in time gone before. "To you, He said, it is given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven"

***Re-envisioning the way in which the Kingdom of Christ will appear*** is not the answer. We dare not and we cannot re-invent the future any more than we can alter the past. You see God has written the future into the scriptures. If any should ever doubt that just look at **Daniel chapter 11**. There is a chapter on God showing His sovereignty over future history if ever there was one. The Lord spelled out to Daniel a welter of events and a series of human visions and broken dreams in which He showed unerring mastery of history yet to be enacted over the minutest details running to 300 and more years ahead.

### UNVEILING IN THE APOCALYPSE

The last book of the bible is especially relevant today. God desired his church to read it-there is even a special blessing promised those who will get down to it. There is no leeway given to any to change its schema- but rather divine contempt and warning in that connection. This book has suffered much since the time of ORIGEN from those who would turn it into a mystery game of symbols. It has almost 600 direct references from the Old Testament and those who would work through it must respect those references. In making a commentary on this book I myself have had to live by fundamental exegetical principles designed by God for His word and so must all who approach the book with faith and integrity.

In **the Apocalypse** the LORD presented all of church history in a few **chapters (1-4)** and John takes the remainder of the book to describe in detail how **the last seven years** before the kingdom comes works out in sundry and minutest detail. Why does God do this? - For the same reason that he spoke to Daniel. Daniel had all but accosted God as to why He delayed and required account of why the Theocracy did not immediately come in train after the close of Jeremiah's prophecy of 70 years of Babylonian captivity was fulfilled.

### STRIFE OF KINGDOMS-SPIRITUAL WFARE AND THE KINGDOM

Essentially the Lord took Daniel away ahead to the days of EPIPHANES and then to the latter days of Antichrist and showed Daniel that history was a broad canvas of spiritual warfare. **Daniel 11** New Testament history is no different and John under the fearful persecution of Rome was shown the same end time Antichrist and the Victory that would follow and the sovereignty of God in it all.**Rev.19 4-16**

### FUNDAMENTAL STEPS TOWARDS THE FINAL DENOUEMENT

There is no sense in imagining how we can get **from where we are** in the process of world evangelisation with the emergence of militant adversaries of faith **to the plateau of the kingdom of God** in one short step or under the era of "human government". There is a divine programme. There is a clarity in revelation. One of the things that most certainly will not happen is that this world will continue under any circumstances to be *the eternal environment* of the people of God. To envision that without the transference of the church in **the Rapture** to the city of God and without further access to the city over **the tribulation** for the **two witnesses** and **the 144,000** and for **the camp of the saints** at the end of **the millennium** is to lose touch with scripture and settle for a wholly different *conceptual axis* for the eternal state on earth absolutely not given in divine revelation.

Let us take to heart the words of Habakkuk "Though the vision tarry wait for it-it will surely come!"  
**Habakkuk 2.3**

*Bob Coffey. ABC Classics*