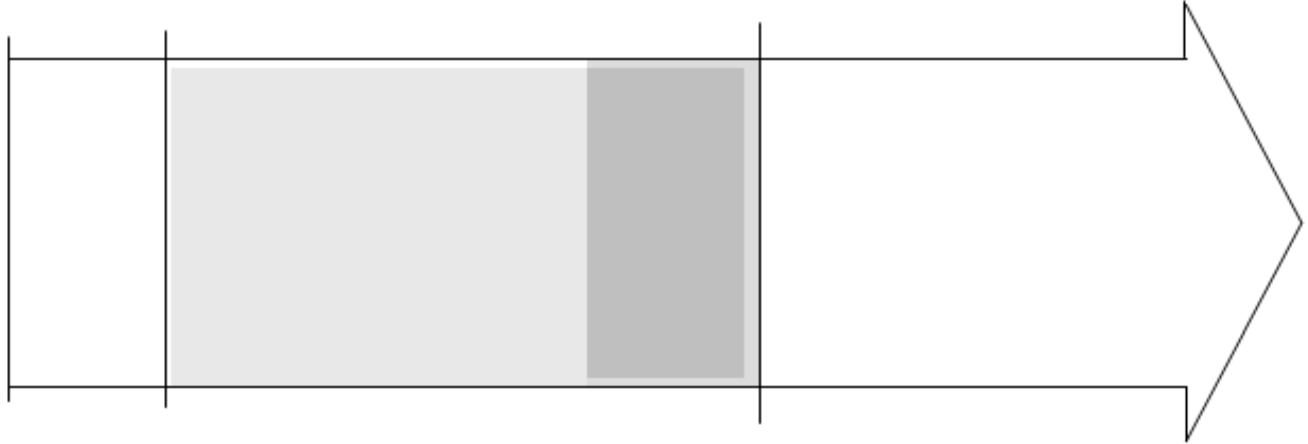


# APOCALYPSE OF JOHN

## Session 2: Jewish Apocalyptic Theology

### REVIEW OF SESSION 1

### THE GENERAL SHAPE OF JEWISH APOCALYPTIC THEOLOGY



## EXAMPLES OF JEWISH APOCALYPTIC THEOLOGY FROM DANIEL

### A. Daniel 2:

#### 1. Nebuchadnezzar's Dream:

<sup>31</sup>“You looked, O king, and there before you stood a large statue—an enormous, dazzling statue, awesome in appearance. <sup>32</sup>The head of the statue was made of pure gold, its chest and arms of silver, its belly and thighs of bronze, <sup>33</sup>its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of baked clay. <sup>34</sup>While you were watching, a rock was cut out, but not by human hands. It struck the statue on its feet of iron and clay and smashed them. <sup>35</sup>Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver and the gold were broken to pieces at the same time and became like chaff on a threshing floor in the summer. The wind swept them away without leaving a trace. But the rock that struck the statue became a huge mountain and filled the whole earth.” (Daniel 2:31-35, NIV)

#### 2. Daniel's Interpretation:

<sup>37</sup>“... You, O king, ... <sup>38</sup>... are that head of gold.

<sup>39</sup>“After you, another kingdom will rise, inferior to yours. Next, a third kingdom, one of bronze, will rule over the whole earth. <sup>40</sup>Finally, there will be a fourth kingdom, strong as iron—for iron breaks and smashes everything—and as iron breaks things to pieces, so it will crush and break all the others. <sup>41</sup>Just as you saw that the feet and toes were partly of baked clay and partly of iron, so this will be a divided kingdom; yet it will have some of the strength of iron in it, even as you saw iron mixed with clay....

<sup>44</sup>“In the time of those kings, the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that will never be destroyed, nor will it be left to another people. It will crush all those kingdoms and bring them to an end, but it will itself endure forever.” (Daniel 2:37-44)

#### 3. Meaning of the Statue:

#### 4. Meaning of the “Rock Cut Out, but Not by Human Hands”:

### B. Daniel 12:1-3:

<sup>1</sup>“At that time Michael, the great prince who protects your people, will arise. There will be a time of distress such as has not happened from the beginning of nations until then. But at that time your people—everyone whose name is found written in the book—will be delivered. <sup>2</sup>Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake: some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt. <sup>3</sup>Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the heavens, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever.”

## **TYPICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF APOCALYPTIC THEOLOGY**

A. Transcendence:

B. Dualism, but not an \_\_\_\_\_ Dualism:

B. Pessimism:

C. Optimism:

D. Determinism:

E. Triumph:

## **CONCLUSION**

Ernst Käsemann: “\_\_\_\_\_ was the mother of all Christian theology.”