BREAKING BREAD

Lesson 14: NT Survey pt4 "The General Epistles & Revelation"

"Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works... But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead?"

- James the apostle (James 2:18,20)

Survey of the Epistles:

Other Apostles' Epistles (7 Epistles, James - Jude)

20. James

Written around A.D. 60

Written to the 12 tribes of Israel to show that true faith in Christ and his word results in good works involving the widows, the fatherless, the poor, the use of our tongues, and treatment of the brethren. This is a call to a genuine Christian life out of real repentance and faith.

21.1 Peter

Written around A.D. 62

Written to the scattered strangers to show that the new birth leads to holiness, charity and patience. It stresses submission to authority and following Christ even to the point of suffering wrongfully.

22.2 Peter

Written around A.D. 66

Written to show the certainty of the prophecy of the word of God. It warns of false teachers and how to spot them, and of scoffers who will deny the 2nd coming. It looks at the 2nd coming, the end of this heaven & earth, and the promise of the new creation.

Survey of the Epistles:

Other Apostles' Epistles (7 Epistles, James - Jude)

23.1 John Written around A.D. 80-90

Written to Christians of all ages and stages to help them grow closer to the Lord, have fulness of joy, and know that they have eternal life. John is given great discernment to show the clear difference between those who are still in darkness (those who live unrighteous and hate their brethren) and those who are truly in the light (those who live righteously and love their brethren). He is showing what it truly means to "believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God".

24.2 John

Written around A.D. 80-90

A great short book written to a lady and her children to emphasize the importance of the truth of the doctrine of Christ, and that those who deviate from this truth are not really Christians but rather antichrist. He also shows that true love is manifested by keeping God's commands.

Survey of the Epistles:

Other Apostles' Epistles (7 Epistles, James - Jude)

25.3 John Written around A.D. 80-90

A short book written to a faithful man who walked according to the truth in faithfulness and charity. He is warned of prideful, evil leaders in the church (like Diotrephes) and commended to follow good, honest leaders (like Demetrius).

26. Jude

Written around A.D. 66

A powerful book that admonishes us to battle for the true gospel because ungodly men have crept into the church. These men are lost and turn God's grace into lasciviousness. Jude promises God will judge them by giving examples of God's judgment from the OT. He shows us their attributes so we can identify them, stay away from them, and help others stay away. He commends the believers to continue in the holy faith and the love of God and to help save others.

Survey of the Prophecy:

1 Prophetic Book (Revelation)

27. Revelation Written around A.D. 80-90

This is the revelation of Jesus Christ to John the apostle to give him messages to 7 churches. He then gets to see heaven itself, and then the events of the 7-year tribulation, the return of Christ, the millennial kingdom, the final judgment, and the new creation. Chapter 1 is past tense; chapters 2 & 3 are for the present tense church age and are filled with great instruction for churches from Jesus himself; chapters 4-22 show the future events yet to occur. This is a wonderful and glorious book that brings many of the themes introduced back in Genesis and other books (like Daniel and Zechariah) full circle to the conclusion and culmination of this creation into the perfect new creation that will be reserved only for those who overcome by faith in Christ Jesus. It is very difficult to understand certain portions apart from a knowledge of the rest of the scriptures, and it is very sobering and exciting to see the imminence of the Lord's return and future for his children

"And he that sat upon the throne said, 'Behold, I make all things new.' And he said unto me, 'Write: for these words are true and faithful.' And he said unto me, 'It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely. He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son. But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death."

- God the Father (Revelation 21:5-8)