

A TIMELINE OF CHURCH HISTORY PROPOSED, BASED UPON THE BOOK OF REVELATION BY J. PARNELL MCCARTER

Some of the leading tenets of historicism (www.historicism.net) include:

- ✓ the book of Revelation outlines church history from the Apostolic era to the future Second Coming of Christ and the New Heavens and New Earth;
- ✓ the symbols found there represent actual entities and not mere ideas which find multiple expression over history;
- ✓ the year-day principle, in which one day in prophecy represents one year in actual time

With these and other principles in mind, the following represents what I would propose as the time line of church history from the book of Revelation:

Time Period	Section in the Book of Revelation	Description of the Period
Time of Authorship	Revelation 1-3	The 7 churches described representing the spectrum of spiritual condition characterizing the churches at that time.
Time Book Authored – 70 AD	Revelation 4-8:1	Opening of the 7 Seals, describing the freeing of Christians from tyranny under Judaist leaders, culminating in the destruction of Jerusalem and escape of Christians from it
70 AD -1330 AD	Revelation 8:2- 13	Blowing of the 7 Trumpets and Opening of the Little Book, describing the travails and judgments during the 1260 “wilderness” years under Romish domination
1330 AD – 1650 AD	Revelation 14	Protestant Reformation era when the Romish Babylon falls from superpower status
1650 AD – Time of overthrow of mysterious Babylonian whore	Revelation 15-18 (except Revelation 17:16-17)	Pouring of the 7 Vials of Plagues, describing the misery and judgments of the modern secular humanist era, when a mysterious Babylonian whore makes

		the nations rich and leads them in wickedness
Time of overthrow of mysterious Babylonian whore - Time of overthrow of Roman Catholic Papacy	Revelation 17:16-17 and Revelation 19	The Romish Beast of 7 Hills is restored to superpower status for a season, until overthrown by the Spirit of Christ
Millennium	Revelation 20:1-6	Period of Great Spiritual Reformation and Blessing of the Nations by God
Brief Period following the Millennial Restoration	Revelation 20:7-10	Release of Satan for a Little Season, until Cast into Hell
Brief Period when all Humans Rise from the Dead and are Judged by God	Revelation 20:11-15	Great Day of Judgment, coinciding with Christ's Second Coming
Everlasting Period following the Great Day of Judgment	Revelation 21-22	A New Heaven and New Earth for God's Saved Elect

Some thoughts and notes:

1. The Romish Beast of 7 Hills is the Papal kingdom. This Papal kingdom enjoys world superpower status before the Protestant Reformation, and following the overthrow of the mysterious Babylonian whore. But during the reign of the mysterious Babylonian whore described in Revelation 17-18, it seems the Romish Beast of 7 Hills is not the prominent entity, albeit the mysterious Babylonian whore sits upon this Romish Beast. This Romish Beast is also described in II Thessalonians 2:3-12 as the Man of Sin.
2. The "Babylon" mentioned in Revelation 14:8 would seem to be Rome, since it was the Romish Beast that lost superpower status (albeit was not totally extirpated) during the Protestant Reformation.
3. The most likely candidate as the mysterious Babylonian whore is the USA, since she committed religious adultery from her Protestant past, and she has made the nations rich and led them in wickedness as the model secular humanist nation.
4. I am persuaded that the book of Revelation was written before 70 AD, based mainly upon internal evidence, but also lack of external evidence it was written post-70 AD.
5. New Testament church history suggested in this timeline parallels Old Testament church history and the life of Jesus Christ, as illustrated at <http://www.puritans.net/news/parallelhistories022403.htm> .