End Times Hermeneutics

On today's program, I want to start a two part series on hermeneutics, the interpretation of the Bible. Specifically, I want to talk about End Times hermeneutics which is somewhat different than the interpretation of the rest of scripture. End Times prophecy has two different characteristics: first, there is a great emphasis on numerology, and second, the symbolic interpretation always takes precedence over the literal interpretation.

For an example of literal interpretation, let's go to the Old Testament's "Jonah and the Whale". We accept on faith that Jonah lived for three days in the belly of a whale. The symbolic interpretation is that the body of Jesus would be in the ground for three days after the crucifixion. However there is no End Times significance to the story of Jonah and the whale.

In the New Testament, let's take a look at Jesus when he said 'unless you eat my flesh and drink my blood, you have no life in you.' That is another example where you take the literal interpretation ahead of the symbolic interpretation. In other words, Jesus meant what He said. 'Unless you eat my flesh and drink my blood, you have no life in you'. He lost a lot of His disciples because, as they said, that was a hard saying.

Now, let's look at the book of Revelation, where we find the rules of End Times hermeneutics in force. For example, take a look at the Whore of Babylon. First of all, the colors that she wears are purple and scarlet, but we must look at this clothing in a symbolic light. In other words, it can't be real clothing. The false prophets will tell you that the purple and scarlet refer to what the cardinals and bishops wear in the Roman Catholic Church; but that is a lie from the pit of hell.

They are trying to say that the Whore of Babylon is the Roman Catholic Church. That is false. Purple has always symbolized royalty and thus refers to the monarchy of England. The scarlet color has always referred to bloodshed and that refers to the bloody American Revolution. In other words, the two nations that comprise Babylon chiefly, are Britain and the United States. When Saint John writes 'Babylon is fallen, is fallen', those two 'is fallens' refer to the two nations that fall, Britain and America.

The false prophets also literally interpret that Babylon is a city. But, this is End Times prophecy, therefore Babylon is not a city, just as Jerusalem and Rome, which are cities, are never described as such in the book of Revelation. Remember symbolism trumps literalism.

Let's take a look at the golden cup which the Whore of Babylon drinks out of; and you could be almost positive that it cannot be a cup, because that would be a literal interpretation. The false prophets like to say that is a chalice, which Catholic priests use to consecrate the blood of Jesus. But the chalice which is gold and shiny on the outside symbolizes our whole decadent Western Culture which is full of filth and fornication on the inside. The best examples are the movies that come out of Hollywood. They are professional looking on

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the outside, but on the inside, they promote homosexuality, drugs, adultery, pornography, abortion; every kind of filth and fornication you can think of, they promote.

Let's take a look at the 'stinging locusts' in the book of Revelation. The false prophets tell you that is actually a plague of locusts, like the plague of locusts that struck Egypt in the Old Testament. But remember, these are stinging locusts. I've never even heard of a stinging locust. What these stinging locusts symbolize are the followers of Martin Luther, who is the 'great star that falls from heaven' in the book of Revelation (9:1).

Another example is the temple that Saint John is told to measure (11:1). The false prophets say, well this must be a temple that is rebuilt in Jerusalem by the Antichrist. Wrong! If Saint John called it a temple, you can be sure it is not a temple. In fact, the temple which the angel tells Saint John to measure refers to the Roman Catholic Church. The Catholic Church will apostatize. The False Prophet will take it over, and move the Vatican from Rome to Jerusalem. This is the temple that Saint John is writing about.

And the angel said to count those who worship at the altar, not the exterior of the temple. That's because all of the exterior functions of the Catholic Church will be given to the Antichrist; all the hospitals, all the schools, all the colleges, all the orphanages, all the seminaries. All will be given to the Antichrist. All the exterior buildings and institutions will be taken over by the One World Communist system. All that will be left are the true worshipers, those Catholics who flee with Mary into the desert, and are protected on the two wings of a great eagle. Those two wings, you can be sure they're not real wings. They are the rosary and the scapular. Those are the two weapons that the remnant Catholics will have to fight with against the Antichrist.

We must remember that this battle against the Antichrist is a spiritual battle. For those of you who like to hoard gold or hide your guns, that will not work. You must pray the rosary everyday. That will work. So in conclusion, on this program, remember the two rules of hermeneutics, as far as End Times prophecy goes: first of all, symbolism takes precedence over the literalism and second, the numerology is extremely important. On our next program about hermeneutics, we will take a look at Mary's Rosary as it is prefigured in both the Old Testament and the New Testament.