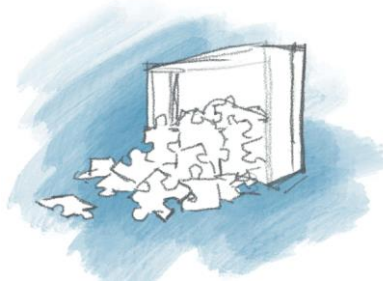


Setting the Approach



A Puzzling Story

A man walked into the congregation holding a box full of puzzle pieces. No one glimpsed nor noticed the image on the box. His motion was quick and deliberate. He was on a mission. He brought the puzzle box to the front, opened the cover, and poured all of the pieces onto the floor. He took the box, showed the image to the congregants, placed it back on the top, and quickly walked out. In his wake lay on the floor a 2,000-piece puzzle with no image other than that in the memory of those who saw the top of the box. Several said with certainty they saw the name of the puzzle: the Revelation of Jesus Christ. All of the puzzle workers made their decision and began to sort the pieces.

Four corners:

Already-and-Not-Yet: a continuation of the story of the Kingdom of God

Biblical Narrative - De-creation and New Creation: this narrative is front and center in Revelation

John's Use of the OT: no other NT author uses the OT more than John without a direct quote

The Exodus/Passover: John weaves the Exodus and Passover into the Revelation Narrative

Four Edges: Four Approaches to Revelation

Preterist: this approach sees Revelation fulfilled in 70 AD

Futurist: this approach sees Revelation as future events only starting in Revelation 6

Historicist: this approach sees Revelation as a history of the Church and finds fulfillment in history

Idealist: this approach views Revelation as an allegorical and spiritual battle for all time to the end

