A Note from Paul

Approach for Form and Analysis

Revelation class members,

Unfortunately when moving to Sarasota I thought I would no longer need materials from my Former life as a Humanities professor. I am therefore putting together a much shorter list of "Approach for Form and Analysis" that you may find helpful. With your consent I will attempt to apply these to our discussions on the book of Revelation.

To begin read the chapter and record your emotional response. Save this as it is a great point for review at the conclusion of the analysis. Our responses change in time and with life experiences.. They also can vary day to day. Keep in mind this is personal like aesthetic response and not right or wrong.

Thesis

does the opening give us a clue as to the intent for this chapter?

Setting

Where is this placed. Does it change? We have discussed how the time period is relevant to understanding the text that John relates to us . Hebrew tradition and history i.e. Exit from Egypt, Babylon, Old Testament Science and Technology of the first century. writing can provide additional insight for us.

Narration

who is telling the story? First or third person. Singular or omnipotent? Does this voice change? To what effect?

Characterization

who? What? Protagonist, antagonist. Other characters.

Language

Unusual vocabulary, syntax. If you have several versions of the text it may be helpful to compare how or if it affects your response.

Imagery

symbolism, metaphor, allegory, parable.

Action. Plot;

is there a climax or apex. If so is there Denouement? (Falling action) Effect?

Theme

The 'meaning' or authors intent. Although the chapters in all probability were not written as separate works, its current form; chapter and verse structure have been created for us.

Having completed your analysis now would be a good time to review your emotional response and the thesis. Cause/effect? Has your understanding changed in this process

> *"I hope this will give you a framework for examination that like viewing a diamond from different angles in the light reveals new perspectives."*

I find it brings up questions and allows for a deeper understanding of this complex and beautiful work.

I pray for Gods leading us as we study in this prescient time of History.

— Paul