



The Seven Churches of  
Revelation

# 5 approaches to reading Revelation

1. **Predictive** – code for future events
2. **Preterist** – code for events that happened back then
3. **Poetic** – poetic language expressing ultimate truths about God, evil, and history
4. **Theopolitical** – political protest and dissent against the Roman empire (and by extension to domination systems today)
5. **Pastoral-Prophetic** – Revelation is meant to encourage Christians of every generation to faithfulness in times of crisis.

(From Michael Gorman, *Reading Revelation Responsibly*. Eugene, OR: Wipf and Stock, 2011; p. 63ff)

