

Anglická anotace
Symbolic Colours in the Apocalypse of Saint John

This thesis attempts to study the use of colours in the depiction of certain themes in the Apocalypse of st. John.

The colours used by the author of Revelation are taken both from apocalyptic literature of the Old Testament era, but mainly from the books of Daniel, Ezechiel, Zacharias and Joel.

The most often used colour is white: the white stone (Rev 2,17); the white cloud (Rev 14,14); the white horse (Rev 19,11); the white throne (Rev 20,11). Most likely the reason is that the author wanted to encourage his contemporaries in time of persecution.

An exception is the text Rev 6,2, where white is used in a concrete historical event.

Red or scarlet is used in opposition to white: the red horse (Rev 9,3-4); the red body-armour of locusts (Rev 9,1-21); purple (or scarlet) in Rev 17,4.

The author also names colours of such minerals as emerald, ruby and jasper (Rev 4,3).

However most attention is paid to Revelation 6, where four riders appear on four horses of different colours.

My endeavour therefore was to find as many possible interpretations of colours in the Revelations of st. John as proposed in various biblical lexicons, biblical periodicals and books dealing with this unexplored fascinating topic.

Key words

New Testament

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Apocalypse of Saint John

Biblical