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Divine Sovereignty in the Book of Apocalypse

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Abstract

Isa 40,1 is a straight call to consolation by God. It was a call that enlivened a rather shattered hope. The author of the book of Apocalypse like the Deutero-Isaiah has a direct message for his audience. The devastated hope coupled with the rushing and entangled thoughts over the persecutions are only prelude to the end. The Christians are in no position to fight any of their enemies. Unarmed, Christians have no role to play in the terminal and determinant war with Satan. The Christian or suffering martyrdom. The author is aware that without strong conviction that Jesus is king, it is difficult for believers to endure such suffering. To elicit such immutable conviction, the author like other apocalyptic writers uses graphic images and symbols. He is sure that the Christians will eventually become victorious if they remain patient and faithful. Theirs is better classified as joy in the midst of suffering. This paper studies the message of consolation and hope that posits God as a Sovereign God. It sets out to explore how the author of Revelation conveys his message. It is consolatory in as much it elicits hope in the life of a rather shattered group because of persecution because it convinces all believers that persecution and martyrdom are all temporal challenges. God promises that He will eventually prove himself a Sovereign God.

Key words: Revelation, Apocalypse, Persecution, Imageries, Victorious, Sovereignty.

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