DC English IV
World/British Literature

Teacher: Mr. Smith, room 1217

contact information

e: *davidsmith@tomballisd.net*
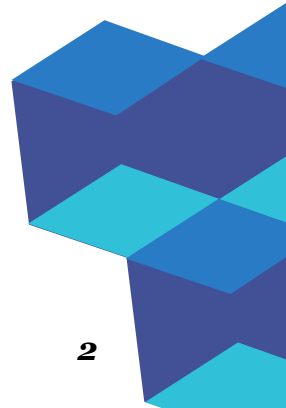w: *davidglensmith.com/Tomball*
t: *@prufrocksblues*
i: *mr_smith_eng2332*

Apocalyptic Writing

Apocalypse as a Genre

- Used in both Ancient and Modern times

- Specifically started around the Jewish captivity in Babylon (605 BCE)

- Themes explore the want for societal change; warnings of end times

Apocalyptic Writing

Message

First person narration delivered by a prophet or seer

- Compelled through an angel-figure or direct connection to God
- Assumed author and narrator are the same person
- Vision induced writings
- Tone of voice is frequently urgent or desperate
- Warns of an individual's unique failings and/or
  of nation-wide corruption
- Forewarning of disastrous events in a near future
- Stresses how the Righteous can overcome their deaths
  with Resurrection
- Encourages a sense of importance for traditions as sacraments
- Discourages radical sociopolitical change or
  any recent developments in selected region
- Warns of individual failings and/or nation-wide corruption
- Often establishes a new order is coming

Apocalyptic Writing

Structure

- Imagery is not realistic; dream-logic or surreal notions control content
- Imagery easily fits into symbolic mode of communication
- Coded language results in multiple interpretations of statements
- Employs a chronological outline of the dramatic series of events
- Mirrors creation myths: God(s) change chaos into recreation of order
- References cultural mythologies, numerology, and animal symbols
- Material stresses a dualistic nature within the universe: good versus bad
- Material establishes a contrast between the evil of current times against the past generations' upholding of traditional values