

*Abstract*

Jewish and early Christian apocalypticism often encountered reservations in Christian theology. But W. Pannenberg found it to be a universal historical concept which supported his theology of history as revelation. Jewish apocalypticism attracts indeed since the book of Daniel themes and topics of (Greek and Roman) universal history. Therefore it represents a part of an ancient discourse on dominion or on empire. The reception of Jewish apocalypticism in the New Testament resumes this discourse of empire. Read on this background Jewish and Christian apocalypticism resemble a kind of empire-critical tendency.

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