

The Millennial Kingdom

Rev. 19:19 - 20:10

There are three teachings in Christianity regarding the Millennium.

- 1) Pre-millennial - Jesus returns before the 1000 years and sets up the Kingdom
- 2) Post-millennial - Jesus returns after the Kingdom is established on earth by all nations becoming Christian.

Two views on how this comes to pass: evangelism or political activity (or both)

- 3) A-millennial - there is no actual 1000 year kingdom

Some hold that the millennium is realized now on earth (e.g. Augustine). Others hold that millennium is being experienced now by the saints in heaven (e.g. Warfield).

There is very little difference between the Amillennial and Post-Millennial systems. David Chilton says, "orthodox Christianity has always been postmillennialist...At the same time, orthodox Christianity has always been amillennialist." Chilton declares, "What I am saying is this: Amillennialism and Postmillennialism are the same thing. The only fundamental difference is that 'postmills' believe the world will be converted, and 'amils' don't. Otherwise, I'm an amil."

The a-millennial and post-millennial positions can't be correct or hundreds of biblical verses are nonsensical at best.

"The whole bulk of Old Testament prophecy points to the establishment of a kingdom of peace upon earth when the law will go forth from Mount Zion (Isaiah 2:1-4; Micah 4:2-5)."
David Larsen, Jews, Gentiles, & the Church, pages 310-311

"When once we adopt the view that the Bible means what it says, and that it should be interpreted literally, we find ourselves overwhelmed with material concerning the future [kingdom]."
Henry C. Thiessen, Introductory Lectures in Systematic Theology, page 510

"When discussing the millennium, the literal interpreter, encounters a peculiar hardship, not of searching for, but of sifting through mountains of millennial prophecies."
Dr. Paul Lee Tan, The Interpretation of Prophecy, page 352

1. Prologue

A. Period of 75 days after the end of the tribulation period – Daniel 12:11-12

- 1) The Antichrist and the false prophet are cast into the Lake of fire - Revelation 19:19-21**
- 2) Satan cast into a bottomless pit - Revelation 20:1-3 (a parallel passage to verses 20:1-7 in the Old Testament is Isaiah 24:21-23)**
- 3) Nations of the world judged - Matthew 25:31-46**
- 4) Resurrection of Old Testament saints & Tribulation martyred saints following the prescribed order - 1 Corinthians 15:20-24**

2. Purpose

A. Reverse the results of the fall

- 1) Theocracy restored - Zechariah 14:9
(Theocracy lost in the rebellion of Genesis 3)**
- 2) God must crush Satan and his kingdom - Revelation 20:1-3
(Satan now ruling as result of the fall in Genesis 3 – cf. 1 John 5:19; John 12:31; 16:11; 2I Cor. 4:3-4; Ephesians 6:12; Luke 4:5-7)**
- 3) Curse reversed - Matthew 19:28; Acts 3:21
(Curse established on earth in Genesis 3:17-19)**

B. Fulfill the biblical covenants (Abrahamic, Land, Davidic, and New)

- 1) Land - Ezekiel 47:13 - 48:35**
- 2) Seed - Zechariah 12-14**
- 3) Blessing - all entering the Millennium are saved (see 3A)**