

What Will Happen in the Future? Lesson 2 – The Millennium

Introduction:

- As Christians our hope is built upon the _____ of the resurrection.
- We can be glad and rejoice because Jesus is alive and _____ !

***John 14.3b** I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also.*

- For many centuries, godly Christians have held different views about _____ Christ will return, and about the events leading up to His return.

1. The _____ views of the Millennium.

- The different views on when Christ will return depends on how people interpret the _____ of the promise of the Millennium.

***Rev 20.1–5** Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, holding in his hand the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain. 2 And he seized the dragon, that ancient serpent, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a **thousand years**, 3 and threw him into the pit, and shut it and sealed it over him, so that he might not deceive the nations any longer, until the **thousand years** were ended. After that he must be released for a little while. 4 Then I saw thrones, and seated on them were those to whom the authority to judge was committed. Also I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for the testimony of Jesus and for the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or its image and had not received its mark on their foreheads or their hands. They came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years. 5 The rest of the dead did not come to life until the **thousand years** were ended. This is the first resurrection.*

- The word “millennium” comes from a Greek word that means _____.

***2 Pet 3.8** But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years and a thousand years as one day.*

- Based on that verse, many Christians would argue that the promise of the thousand year reign of Christ is simply saying that Christ will reign for an extremely _____ period of time.

A. Amillennialism

- This view believes that Christ's reign over the kingdom of God will not be _____ established on the earth.
- This view believes that Jesus is _____ reigning from Heaven where He is seated at the right hand of God the Father.
- In this view, the Millennium began on the Day of _____ and will continue until Christ's return.
- In this view, the spread of the Gospel through the _____ is the earthly manifestation of Christ's spiritual kingdom.

***Rom 14.17** For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking but of righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.*

- In this view, Satan was bound at the _____ and will be unbound temporarily when Christ comes again.

Col 2.14–15** by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. 15 **He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.

- In this view, the promises made to Israel of possessing land, having multitudes of descendants, and having a king are now completely fulfilled in a _____ sense in the church.

Gal 3.7** Know then that it is **those of faith who are the sons of Abraham.

- Some specific beliefs of those who hold to Amillennialism:
 - The reign of Christ is His current _____ reign through the church.
 - The world will continue to get _____ before Christ's return.
 - The Tribulation is not literally 7 years long, but is simply the suffering that occurs _____ the church age (or Millennium).
 - The first resurrection in Revelation 20 is the _____ departure of the souls of Christians up to Heaven when they die.
 - The second resurrection is the resurrection of the _____ of Christians, which will happen at the return of Christ.

- The return of Christ will be _____ the Millennium.
- The _____ will take place when Christ returns.
- The new heavens and a new earth are _____ the return of Christ, and are the same thing as the eternal state.

B. Postmillennialism

- In this view, the forces of Satan will _____ be defeated through the spread of the Gospel, and the world will become more and more Christian until every part of society is eventually transformed, and then Christ will return.
- In this view, Christ will return _____ there has been 1,000 year period of faith, righteousness, peace, and prosperity in the affairs of people and nations.
- In this view, the promises made to Israel of possessing land, having multitudes of descendants, and having a king will eventually be fulfilled in a _____ sense in the church.
- Some specific beliefs of those who hold to Postmillennialism:
 - The world will eventually get _____ until it results in a 1,000 year period of peace and prosperity.
 - The return of Christ will be _____ the Millennium.
 - The reign of Christ is a bodily reign _____ the Millennium.
 - The Tribulation occurs at the END of the Millennium, and before the return of Christ.
 - The resurrection of the righteous and the wicked will be _____ general resurrection at the second Coming.
 - The judgment will take place _____ Christ returns.
 - The new heavens and a new earth are _____ the return of Christ, and are the same thing as the eternal state.

C. Dispensational Premillennialism

- In this view, in the future there will be a _____ 1,000 year reign of Christ upon the earth established at the return of Christ.
- Most people who hold to this view say that Christ will _____ the church out of the world before a literal 7 years of tribulation.
- In this view, Satan will be _____ at Christ's return and He will reign in peace and righteousness on the earth for 1,000 years.
- In this view, the church does not _____ Israel, and the promises to Israel about land, seed, and the throne will be fulfilled literally in the future Millennium.
- In this view, the 1,000 years _____ into the eternal state of the new heavens and the new earth.
- Some specific beliefs of those who hold to Dispensational Premillennialism:
 - The world will continue to get _____ before the return of Christ.
 - The church will be _____ from the earth before the 7 years of Tribulation.
 - The Tribulation is a literal 7 years of suffering and of God's _____ upon wicked unbelievers on the earth.
 - Christ will return at the end of the 7 year Tribulation and right _____ the 1,000 year Millennium.
 - Christ will physically reign on the _____ from Jerusalem during the Millennium.
 - The first resurrection is the resurrection of the bodies of _____ at Christ's return, and will occur just before the Millennium.
 - The second resurrection is the resurrection of the bodies of unbelievers at the _____ of the Millennium.
 - Believers will be judged when Christ returns, just _____ the Millennium.
 - Unbelievers will be judged at the _____ of Millennium.

- The new heavens and the new earth are _____ the 1,000 year Millennium.

D. Historic Premillennialism

- In this view, when Christ returns in the future, Satan will be bound and Christ will _____ reign upon the earth.
- Most people who hold to this view say that the church will _____ be taken out of the world before a period of tribulation, but will go through it.
- In this view, the promises made to Israel of possessing land, having multitudes of descendants, and having a king are now completely fulfilled in a _____ sense in the church.
- In this view, Romans 10 and 11 are understood to teach that many Jews will be _____ to Christ prior to His return.
- Some specific beliefs of those who hold to Historic Premillennialism:
 - The world will continue to get _____ before the return of Christ.
 - The church will _____ be removed from the earth before the Tribulation.
 - The Tribulation may _____ be 7 years long.
 - Christ's return will be _____ the Millennium.
 - Christ will reign on _____ during the Millennium.
 - The Millennium may _____ be 1,000 years long.
 - The first resurrection is the resurrection of the bodies of _____ at Christ's return, and will occur just before the Millennium.
 - The second resurrection is the resurrection of the bodies of unbelievers at the _____ of the Millennium.
 - Believers will be judged when Christ returns, just _____ the Millennium.
 - Unbelievers will be judged at the _____ of Millennium.

- The new heavens and the new earth may be a _____ of the Millennium itself or else they will come after the Millennium.

2. The similarities and differences of these four views.

A. The similarities of these views.

- All views believe in the _____ return of Christ.
- All views believe in a _____ of both the saved and the unsaved.
- All views believe there is a _____ for believers and unbelievers.
- All views believe in a future new heavens and a new earth in which Chris will _____.
- All views believe in the _____ of Jesus Christ over all things.

B. The differences of these views.

- The _____ of the return of Christ.
- The _____ and timing of the Tribulation.
- The _____ and timing of the Millennium.
- The _____ between the church and Israel.

3. Promoting _____ among those who hold to different views of the Millennium.

A. We should have great _____ since these things are hard to understand.

2 Pet 3.15b–16 Paul also wrote to you according to the wisdom given him, 16 as he does in all his letters when he speaks in them of these matters. **There are some things in them that are hard to understand**, which the ignorant and unstable twist to their own destruction, as they do the other Scriptures.

Job 11.7 Can you find out the deep things of God? Can you find out the limit of the Almighty?

Isa 66.2b But this is the one to whom I will look: he who is humble and contrite in spirit and trembles at my word.

- There are some things in the Bible we won't understand until we get to _____.

B. We should recognize the difference between doctrines that are of _____ importance and those that are not.

1 Cor 15.3-4 For I delivered to you **as of first importance** what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, 4 that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures...

- Doctrines that are of primary importance are doctrines that are essential to the _____.
- Doctrines that are not essential to the Gospel are not of primary importance, and there is room for _____ among Christians.
- There are some matters where the Scriptures are _____ and which create differences of opinion among godly Christians.

C. We should be _____ and _____ toward fellow Christians who hold a different view of the Millennium.

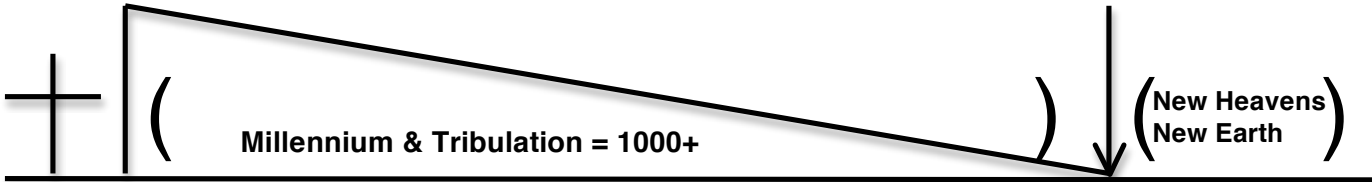
- Love for one another gives evidence to the _____ that we are truly Christ's Disciples.

John 13.35 By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

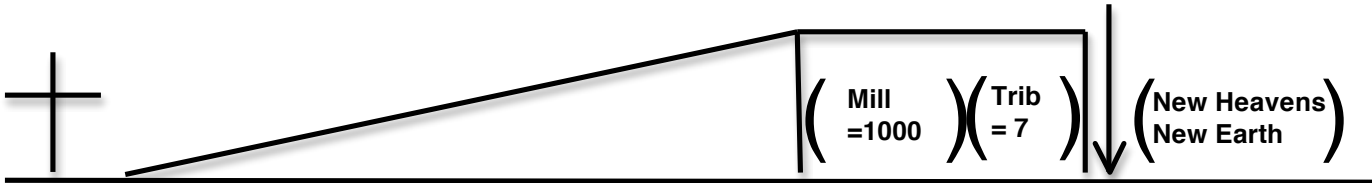
Conclusion

- We may not know when Jesus will return, but we do know that He _____ return!
- We may not understand all of the details of His return, but we can easily understand and believe the _____ of His return!
- We may be surprised at how things may actually occur when He returns, but all those that trust in Christ will not be _____ when He returns!

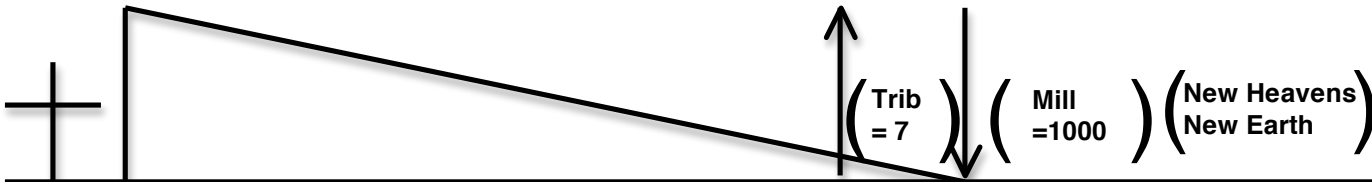
AMILLENNIALISM



POSTMILLENNIALISM



DISPENSATIONAL PREMILLENNIALISM



HISTORICAL PREMILLENNIALISM

