

- e. From the time decreed to rebuild the temple to the time of Christ is 69 weeks x7 = 483 years
    - i. From the time Cyrus allowed the temple to be rebuilt (515BC) until the time of Christ is about 483 years
  - f. The 7 year tribulation is that last remaining week – This is an age yet to come – the close of the 69 weeks ended with the cross and the beginning of the 70<sup>th</sup> week will start again sometime in the future
    - i. Pre-tribs – after the rapture
    - ii. Post-tribs – before the rapture
    - iii. mid-tribs – after the rapture
  - g. Again – the 7 years is not found in the NT and the great tribulation is not found in the OT – it is determined by reading the tribulation back into Daniel 9
7. What happens after the rapture?
- a. 2 Cor 5:9-10 – the judgment of believers – not a judgment of sins but deeds done – awards are given or held back
  - b. Participate in the Marriage Supper of the Lamb
    - i. Rev 19:7-9
  - c. Revelation 19 ends with the return of Christ – the systems thought process is chronological and therefore the Marriage Supper happens during the tribulation before the second coming of Christ
8. The Second Coming or the Revelation of Christ
- a. Rev 19:11-21
  - b. The supper in vs. 17 is thought to be the battle of Armageddon
  - c. This introduces one of the problems for the dispensationalists
    - i. If the church has been raptured and \*changed\* and all God's enemies have

been destroyed, then who is left to go into the millennium?

9. Foundational Text for Premillennialism (Rev 20:1-6)
- a. Since Old Testament promises were not fulfilled with the first coming of Christ now the clock un-pauses
  - b. Many believe that King David will be resurrected and both he and Jesus will sit on the throne in Jerusalem during this time – fulfilling the “political system” the Jews thought was coming with Jesus
  - c. The first resurrection has been accomplished for those in Christ and there will be another resurrection for the wicked
10. Satan's Defeat (Rev 20:7-10)
- a. Satan is loosed while Christ is on the throne in Jerusalem during the thousand years and Satan is gathering an army for battle
  - b. Satan will be defeated and the great white throne judgment begins

It is interesting that Israel is never mentioned in Revelation 20. The dispensationalist must take this text and perform a reverse hermeneutic by fulfilling the NT with the OT instead of seeing the OT fulfilled by the NT. This destroys progressive revelation and NT interpretive principles.

For example: The NT constantly tells us “this was to fulfill what was written” – we never see the NT telling us to go back to OT to understand a meaning.

Progressive Revelation: “*The progressive character of divine revelation is recognized in relation to all the great doctrines of the Bible. .. What at first is only obscurely intimated is gradually unfolded in subsequent parts of the sacred volume, until the truth is revealed in its fullness.*” ~ Charles Hodge

**Dispensational Premillennialism**  
**1 Thess 4:13-18 / Rev 20:1-6**

1. Hinges upon Israel as a nation
  - a. God has made a covenant with the physical offspring of Abraham
  - b. Abraham's offspring will lead to the reign of king David – Christ would also descend from this line and a government would be established
  - c. The Messiah was expected to fulfill this idea of establishing a kingdom and sitting on the throne of David and becoming a ruling authority on earth
2. Christ the Messiah
  - a. Did not seem to fulfill the plans of national Israel because He did not set up a physical kingdom
  - b. The result was national Israel's rejection of Christ
3. Putting the Age on Hold
  - a. Many dispensationalists believe that God has ceased to deal with Israel and begins to deal with both Jews and gentiles in the common body of the church
  - b. Example:
    - i. Israel rejected the Messiah
    - ii. God put His plans for them on hold
    - iii. God begins working with both Jews and gentiles through the church
    - iv. After the church age God will un-pause and complete His purposes for national Israel
4. The Rapture (1 Thess 4:13-18 / 1 Cor 15:51-53)
  - a. Happens at the end of the church age
  - b. Is a secret rapture in which all of the Christians (living and dead) are changed and meet Christ in the air – Christ will not set foot on earth at this time

- c. Dead Israelites will not be raptured at this time – theirs will come after the “un-pausing” and completion of God's plans for national Israel
5. The Tribulation (Rev 4 – 19 is referred to)
  - a. Chapters 4 – 19 are seen as the tribulation period – Rev 7:14 and Matt 24:21 refers to the “great tribulation”
  - b. **Pre-Tribulation** – The rapture happens before the tribulation so that believers do not have to endure the suffering of what will take place
  - c. **Post-Tribulation** – There will be a seven-year tribulation in which a person known as the antichrist will hand out turmoil and great affliction AFTER having caused a great peace. After the seven years Christ will return and rapture the faithful from the tribulation
  - d. **Mid-Tribulation** – The rapture happens 42 months into the tribulation. Up until this time the antichrist will have brought a great peace upon the earth but after the removal of the church things will become violent
6. Why a 7 year tribulation? Where does this come from?
  - a. A “7” year tribulation is not mentioned anywhere in the NT
  - b. Matthew 24:15-19 / Daniel 9:23-27
  - c. This is pulled from Daniels 70 weeks
    - i. Dan 9:25 - 69 weeks – many believe this would take them up to the time of Christ
    - ii. Dan 9:26 – Christ will be cut off (the cross) – the prince in vs. 26 is viewed as the antichrist
    - iii. Dan 9:27 – The prince (antichrist) will make a covenant for one week
  - d. It is believed that each of these weeks is equal to 7 years