

1. The 1,000-year reign is referred to as the Millennium or Millennial Kingdom. However, the word does not actually occur in our Bibles.
2. It is an important subject taught in Scripture and there are several theological positions that have been formed based on the interpretation of different passages.
3. We get the word millennium from a combination of two Latin words, *mille* - which means "a thousand," and *annum* - which means "years."
4. The Millennium is a literal period of a 1,000 years - which will occur in the future and begins when Jesus Christ returns physically to the earth.
5. Jesus Christ will then set up His earthly kingdom in Jerusalem and reestablish the throne of David.
6. There are 4 major views concerning the millennium and second coming of Christ:
 - a. The *non-literal or spiritualized view* - denies there will be a literal, bodily, personal, return of Christ to the earth.
 - b. The *postmillennial view* - through the preaching of the Gospel the whole world will be Christianized and brought to submission to the Gospel before the return of Christ. Christ returns after the millennium. (Usually attributed to Daniel Whitby 1638-1726)
 - c. The *amillennial view* - there will not be a literal millennium on the earth following the second coming. All prophecies are being spiritually fulfilled now by the church - in the hearts of all true believers. (Constantine/Augustine)
 - d. The *premillennial view* - Christ will return to the earth, literally and bodily, before the millennial age begins and that, by His presence, a kingdom will be instituted over which He will reign.
7. The early church - for centuries immediately following the Apostolic era held the premillennial view - such as Clement of Rome, Barnabas, Hermas, Ignatius, Polycarp, Justin Martyr, Irenaeus, Tertullian, and others.
8. However, with the union of church and state under Constantine also came the move away from the millennial hope.
9. And then the Roman Empire and the influence of Augustine brought about the acceptance and embracing of amillennialism.
10. Why is the premillennial view so important?
 - a. The second coming is premillennial.
 - b. The second coming is a literal event - fulfills the promises in the Word of His return. (Acts 1:11)
 - c. The second coming is necessary - unfulfilled prophecy makes it absolutely essential.

- d. The second coming will be visible. (Revelation 1:7; Matthew 16:27, 24:30)
- 11. The millennial kingdom will begin with a time of judgment. This future judgment will begin with a judgment on the nation of Israel.
- 12. There must be a judgment on Israel to determine who will enter into the millennial kingdom. (Romans 9:6)
- 13. And since Israel is an earthly nation/people - the judgment must take place on the earth after Jesus Christ returns. (Ezekiel 20:34-38 and Malachi 3:2-5; Romans 11:26-27)
- 14. Both Jews and Gentiles (that are saved) will enter into the Millennial Kingdom from the tribulation period.
- 15. The Millennial Kingdom will bring about the complete fulfillment of all that God promised to the nation of Israel.
 - a. *The Abrahamic Covenant*: Israel's perpetuity, possession of the land, and inheritance of blessings are directly related to the fulfillment of this covenant.
 - b. *The Davidic Covenant*: contains the promises concerning the king, the throne and the royal house. The fact that Israel has a kingdom - over which David's Son reigns as King - is based on this covenant.
 - c. *The New Covenant*: a new heart, forgiveness of sin is fulfilled in the spiritual blessings for the nation of Israel. (Jeremiah 31:31-34)
- 16. What will conditions be like on the earth during the millennium?
 - a. It will be a time of great peace. (Psalm 72:7; Isaiah 11:6-9; Micah 4:2-3)
 - b. It will be a time of prosperity. (Ezekiel 34:26-27; Ezekiel 36:29-30; Amos 9:13)
 - c. It will be a time of holiness and righteousness. (Isaiah 66:23)
 - d. It will be a time of prolonged life. (Isaiah 65:20)
 - e. It will be a time of personal joy.