

Theology and Doctrines
Eschatology
Millennialism

Revelation 20:1–10 Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, holding the key of the abyss and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold of the dragon, the serpent of old, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for **a thousand years**; and he threw him into the abyss, and shut *it* and sealed *it* over him, so that he would not deceive the nations any longer, until the **thousand years** were completed; after these things he must be released for a short time. Then I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was given to them. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony of Jesus and because of the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received the mark on their forehead and on their hand; and they came to life and reigned with Christ for **a thousand years**. The rest of the dead did not come to life until **the thousand years** were completed. This is the first resurrection. Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for **a thousand years**. When **the thousand years** are completed, Satan will be released from his prison, and will come out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together for the war; the number of them is like the sand of the seashore. And they came up on the broad plain of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city, and fire came down from heaven and devoured them. And the devil who deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are also; and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

1. The **literal** method of interpreting the Bible is the right method unless it is obvious that a **metaphor** is being used in the Old Testament or metaphor or **typology** in the New Testament.
2. If the scripture passage makes **sense** using the plain **sense**, seek no other **sense** because the result will be **nonsense**.
3. The use of a “**thousand years**” six times in Revelation 20 appears to be a **literal thousand** years.

4. There is nothing in the context in Revelations that suggests that the term **thousand** years is **figurative** rather than **literal**.

5. The main promise to Israel in the **Abrahamic** Covenant is the **land** of **Canaan**.

6. There are **hundreds** of Old Testament prophecies that **promise** that the nation of Israel will inherit the **land** of Canaan.

7. With all of the history in the Old Testament surrounding the nation of Israel conquering the Promised Land, it is obvious that the **promise** of a **literal**, well defined piece of **real-estate** is what was intended in the Abrahamic Covenant.

8. Because of Augustine's teaching, **anti-Semitism** and **Replacement** Theology became the standard theology of the Church.

9. Once "**Replacement** Theology" became the accepted doctrine of the church, the promise of **land** to the Church made no sense and wasn't very **attractive** to Gentile believers.

10. **Augustine** commented that the land of **Palestine** was nothing but a big **sand pile**.

11. Once the land was "**spiritualized**" it wasn't long before the **thousand** years was as well.

12. The view that Augustine developed was called **Amillennialism** which became the theology of the **Catholic** Church, and most of the **Reformers** also held to this view.

13. Today, **most** denominations are **Amillennial** in their theology.

14. **Amillennialism** means that there is **no** Millennium, that the **thousand** years is figurative, not literal.

15. **Amillennialism** teaches that the **Kingdom** of God began when Jesus ascended into heaven, and continues on through today for an **unknown** period of time.

16. They teach that the Church has **replaced** Israel and that God is **reigning** on earth today through the **Church**, the Body of Christ, which is the Kingdom of God.

17. Amillennialism **spiritualizes** the thousand years and they also spiritualize the **Tribulation** into being all the **trials** that have happened over the years.

18. **Preterism** is the name of the view that teaches that the **Tribulation** happened in 70 AD with the destruction of **Jerusalem** by the Romans.

19. Amillennialism teaches that at some point in the future **Jesus** will come back and this **earth** as we know it will be over and all believers will all go to **heaven**.

20. Amillennialism roles all of the three **Judgments** of God into **one** event making it primarily about **entering** heaven or hell for eternity.

21. **Postmillennialism** has a lot of similarities to **Amillennialism**.

22. Postmill teaches that the Church is **conquering** the world and that when we have made the world "**Christian**" Jesus will **come** back again.

23. Instead of teaching that things will get **worse** and **worse**, they teach that things will get **better** and **better**.

24. Postmill teaching was very **popular** and growing from the **founding** of our country until **World War I**.

25. It got going again and then **World War II** came along and **kicked** it in the head.

26. The year **2020** has just about **killed** it off as a **viable** theological view.

27. **Premillennialism** is the **preferred** theological view by those who hold to a **literal** interpretation of the Bible.

28. The Premillennial view holds very strongly to the **separation** of the Church and **Israel**, and that **Israel** is the **chosen** people of God for all eternity.

29. They teach a literal **seven** year **Tribulation** period called the “**Day** of the Lord”.

30. Most people who believe in a premillennial view also hold to a **pretribulational rapture** view.

31. Premill people hold to at least **three** different **judgments** of God.

32. Jesus will return with His Church after the Tribulation and set up the **Kingdom of God** on a **literal** earth with Jerusalem being the **capitol** of the world, this Kingdom will last a literal **one thousand** years.

33. Because of using a strict **literal** method of **interpreting** Scripture the Premillennial view is very much more **detailed** and **complicated** than either of the other millennial views.

34. **Panmillennialists** don't **know** which of the views is **correct** and they don't **care** which of the views is correct, they just believe that it will all **pan** out in the end.