

## Understanding End Times: God’s Plan for the Millennium

REVIEW OF HERMENEUTICS (and history of)

Hermeneutics is the Art & Science of biblical interpretation.

We use the **LITERAL HISTORICAL GRAMMATICAL INTERPRETATION**.

What happened in church history that affected how the early church interpreted the Bible?

### 1) Events leading to Replacement Theology

When the Christians fled from Jerusalem before its destruction in 70AD, the Jews at the Council of Jamnia (90AD) declared all Christians accursed and the door to sharing the gospel with the Jews essentially closed. After the destruction of Jerusalem, followed by the expulsion of the Jews from Jerusalem permanently after the Second Jewish Revolt of 133-135, early Church leaders began to assume that God was punishing the Jews and they seemed to lose hope for them.

### 2) Persecution & Heresy

Facing persecution from Rome and having to fight off numerous heresies that were springing up, the early church began to use a “functional hermeneutic” meaning that they applied the text to their own situation, often without regard for its original context.

"It was also easy for Justin Martyr to spiritualize the Old Testament in order to see more of New Testament Christianity in it, and thereby refute the Gnostics who denied the Old Testament's place in God's revelation to man. The lesson for us is that we must continually guard against interpreting the Bible according to current events -- a point often lost today."

[beastquake]

## **COMMON ISSUES IN INTERPRETING PROPHECY**

### **Double Fulfillment-**

#### 1) ELIJAH

Malachi 4:5 — Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet  
Before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD.

Matthew 11:14 — “And if you are willing to receive it, he is Elijah who is to come.

Mark 9:11-13 — And they asked Him, saying, “Why do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?” Then He answered and told them, “Indeed, Elijah is coming first and restores all things. And how is it written concerning the Son of Man, that He must suffer many things and be treated with contempt? “But I say to you that Elijah has also come, and they did to him whatever they wished, as it is written of him.”

#### 2) ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION

Daniel 9:27—Then he shall confirm a covenant with many for one week;  
But in the middle of the week  
He shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering.  
And on the wing of abominations shall be one who makes desolate,  
Even until the consummation, which is determined,  
Is poured out on the desolate.”

Daniel 11:31— “And forces shall be mustered by him, and they shall defile the sanctuary fortress; then they shall take away the daily sacrifices, and place there the abomination of desolation.

Still to be fulfilled...

Matthew 24:15-16 — “Therefore when you see the ‘abomination of desolation,’ spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place” (whoever reads, let him understand), “then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains.

### 3) ISRAEL

Did this not happen more than once? Deuteronomy 4:25-31

## **SPLIT PROPHECIES**

Luke 4:16-21, quotes Isaiah 61:1-2a, but stops half way...

Why did the leaders reject Jesus? Aside from His loving forgiveness of sins... why was He not what they were looking for? ANSWER- They were looking for a conquering king who would reign over the whole earth. Overthrow the kingdoms of the world (Rome at that time) and establish a Jewish Kingdom. Thus, how did they interpret the OT texts about the kingdom.  
He will come AND THEN reign.

This often leads to lumping 1k verses in with the new heavens, or with the current Church age.

## **DIFFERENT MILLENIAL VIEWS AND THEIR BENEFITS-**

**Postmillennial/preterism**, that's a Great Commission will go forth and subdue the nation's and all men will become subject to Christ before his coming. Praise God! They can apply this by necessitating being faithful to the Great Commission so that we can usher in his return.

The preterist/Postmil should look at the age in which we live. How far we have to go to see the whole world subdued by Christ in comparison to the reality of how much longer mankind can survive. Turn, the only logical prayer for the preterist is another worldwide Revival.

**Amillennialism**, some believe that it is Christ reigning in the hearts of his people on the Earth prior to his second coming. Others believe letter describes those who are dead and reigning with Christ in heaven until his second coming.

**Benefit of Amil?** Imminency- since ALL of it is allegory, then you really don't know what to expect, therefore His Second Coming could in fact be imminent?

**Mid/Post Tribulation-** You will need strong faith in order to endure the Tribulation.

## **REVELATION (19 +) 20:1-6 EXPOSITION (Either Premil, Post, or A)**

Does chapter 19 come before chapter 20? Second Coming and THEN the Kingdom?

Daniel 7:13-14 —

“I was watching in the night visions,

And behold, One like the Son of Man,  
 Coming with the clouds of heaven!  
 He came to the Ancient of Days,  
 And they brought Him near before Him. Then to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom,  
 That all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him.  
 His dominion is an everlasting dominion,  
 Which shall not pass away,  
 And His kingdom the one  
 Which shall not be destroyed.

V1-3 Satan/Demons temporarily imprisoned.

Daniel 7:11-12 — “I watched then because of the sound of the pompous words which the horn was speaking;  
 I watched till the beast was slain, and its body destroyed and given to the burning flame. “As for the rest of the  
 beasts, they had their dominion taken away, yet their lives were prolonged for a season and a time.

Isaiah 24:21-22 — It shall come to pass in that day  
 That the LORD will punish on high the host of exalted ones,  
 And on the earth the kings of the earth. They will be gathered together,  
 As prisoners are gathered in the pit, And will be shut up in the prison;  
 After many days they will be punished.

Locked in a pit- Pit = Abussos, Luke 8:31

Luke 8:31, Legion begs to not be cast there.

Rev 9, The pit that was opened and the demons flew out of?  
 Which demons?

Jude 1:6 And the angels who did not keep their proper domain, but left their own abode, He has reserved in  
 everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of the great day;

2 Peter 2:4 For if God did not spare the angels who sinned, but cast them down to hell and delivered them  
 into chains of darkness, to be reserved for judgment;

Satan Locked up too?

The Lord's Prayer - Thy kingdom come... deliver us from the evil one... Mt 6:10&13

If Satan is bound now (postmil), the full armor of God is pointless.

V4-7 RULE AND REIGN?

Yes, us in resurrected bodies and the survivors of the Tribulation in their regular bodies.

Daniel 7:18 — ‘But the saints of the Most High shall receive the kingdom, and possess the kingdom forever,  
 even forever and ever.’

Daniel 7:27 — Then the kingdom and dominion,  
 And the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven,  
 Shall be given to the people, the saints of the Most High.  
 His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,

And all dominions shall serve and obey Him.’

Matthew 19:28-30 — So Jesus said to them, “Assuredly I say to you, that in the regeneration, when the Son of Man sits on the throne of His glory, you who have followed Me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. “And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My name’s sake, shall receive a hundredfold, and inherit eternal life. “But many who are first will be last, and the last first.

1 Corinthians 6:2 — Do you not know that the saints will judge the world?

WHAT DID THE OT SAINT BELIEVE? Same as the Jews at the time of Jesus... they wanted a KINGDOM!

WHAT DID JESUS BELIEVE? Luke 22, not until the Kingdom

WHAT DID THE APOSTLES BELIEVE? Acts 1

### **Early Church Father End Times Quotes**

**Epistle of Barnabas** (70-132)

**Papias of Hierapolis** (born 60-70AD, died 155-165)

**Polycarp** (69-155AD, Disciple of John, Bishop of Smyrna) Epistle to the Philippians Ch11

**Nepos, Bishop of Alexandria (Early 200s)**

**Justin Martyr** (100-165)- *Dialogue with Trypho*

**Irenaeus (Disciple of Polycarp, 130-202)** *Against Heresies, Book V, Ch30.4*

**Irenaeus, Against Heresies Book V Ch33**

**Tertullian** (155-240) *Against Marcion, Book III Ch25 “*

**Commodianus,**(~240 AD, Africa)

**Lactantius,** (250-325) *Divine Institutes, Book VII (Of a Happy Life)*

313- Edict of Milan

325- Council of Nicaea

**Augustine** (354-430) *City of God*

### **WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT THE MILLENNIAL KINGDOM**

**Psalm 72**

Jeremiah 30:7-9 Alas! For that day is great, So that none is like it; And it is the time of Jacob's trouble, But he shall be saved out of it. 'For it shall come to pass in that day,' Says the LORD of hosts, 'That I will break his yoke from your neck, And will burst your bonds; Foreigners shall no more enslave them. But they shall serve the LORD their God, And David their king, Whom I will raise up for them.

Ezekiel 47- Healing Waters go out from the Mount of Olives to the west to the Mediterranean and to the East to the Dead Sea. (healing the waters which were turned to blood)

Isaiah 11:4— But with righteousness He shall judge the poor,  
And decide with equity for the meek of the earth;  
He shall strike the earth with the rod of His mouth,  
And with the breath of His lips He shall slay the wicked.

Jeremiah 23:5 — “Behold, the days are coming,” says the LORD,  
“That I will raise to David a Branch of righteousness;  
A King shall reign and prosper,  
And execute judgment and righteousness in the earth.

Isaiah 61:2b-4 (the part He left out at Nazareth)  
And the day of vengeance of our God;  
To comfort all who mourn,  
To console those who mourn in Zion,  
To give them beauty for ashes,  
The oil of joy for mourning,

The garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness;  
That they may be called trees of righteousness,  
The planting of the LORD, that He may be glorified.”  
And they shall rebuild the old ruins,  
They shall raise up the former desolations,  
And they shall repair the ruined cities,  
The desolations of many generations.

Isaiah 62:2 — The Gentiles shall see your righteousness,  
And all kings your glory.  
You shall be called by a new name,  
Which the mouth of the LORD will name.

Isaiah 62:4 — You shall no longer be termed Forsaken,  
Nor shall your land any more be termed Desolate;  
But you shall be called Hephzibah, and your land Beulah;  
For the LORD delights in you,  
And your land shall be married.

**Peace & Tranquility Restored**

Isaiah 11:6-10

### **Abundance of Food**

Isaiah 30:23-24 — Then He will give the rain for your seed  
 With which you sow the ground, And bread of the increase of the earth;  
 It will be fat and plentiful. In that day your cattle will feed  
 In large pastures. Likewise the oxen and the young donkeys that work the ground  
 Will eat cured fodder, Which has been winnowed with the shovel and fan.

### **No deserts or wastelands**

Isaiah 35:1 — The wilderness and the wasteland shall be glad for them,  
 And the desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose;

Isaiah 35:7 — The parched ground shall become a pool,  
 And the thirsty land springs of water;  
 In the habitation of jackals[*dragons*/*tanniyn*], where each lay,  
 There shall be grass with reeds and rushes.

**Joy & Health** Isaiah 29:18-19— In that day the deaf shall hear the words of the book,  
 And the eyes of the blind shall see out of obscurity and out of darkness. The humble also shall increase their  
 joy in the LORD, And the poor among men shall rejoice In the Holy One of Israel.

Isaiah 33:24 — And the inhabitant will not say, “I am sick”;  
 The people who dwell in it will be forgiven their iniquity.

Isaiah 35:5-6 — Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,  
 And the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then the lame shall leap like a deer,  
 And the tongue of the dumb sing.  
 For waters shall burst forth in the wilderness, And streams in the desert.

### **Increased Lifespan** (Like PreFlood?)

Isaiah 65:20 — “No more shall an infant from there live but a few days, Nor an old man who has not fulfilled  
 his days; For the child shall die one hundred years old,  
 But the sinner being one hundred years old shall be accursed.

### **There will be daily life-**

Isaiah 65:21 — They shall build houses and inhabit them;  
 They shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit.

THE MILLENNIAL REIGN OF CHRIST (1,000 YEARS) Jesus will be King (Isa. 9:6) of the Earth, ruling from  
 Jerusalem (Mic. 4:1-2) for 1,000 years (Rv. 20:1-6; Zch. 14:9, 16; Isa. 2:1-4, 11:1-10, 35:1-10), where the  
 nations will come to worship (Zch. 14:16) and learn of God’s ways (Mic. 4:2; Zch. 8:3). The Millennium will  
 start off with believers only (Jn. 3:3; Mt. 25:31-34, 41, 46) and will be marked by a unified government (Hos.  
 1:11), where church age believers and Tribulation martyrs will co-reign with Christ (Rv. 20:6; 2 Tim. 2:12).  
 David will be the prince of Israel (Ezk. 34:22-24); Jesus’s apostles will judge the twelve tribes of Israel  
 (Mt.19:28; Lk. 22:29-30); all weapons of war will be destroyed (Isa. 2:4); there will be no wars (Mic. 4:3); there

will be a worldwide knowledge of God (Isa. 11:9), peace (Isa. 9:6-7), justice (Isa.11:3-5), obedience (Dan. 7:27), holiness (Ezk. 36:24-31, 37:23-24), the fullness of the Holy Spirit (Joel 2:28-29) and an increase in joy (Isa. 9:3-4, 14:7). Children will be born (Isa.11:6, 65:20, 23; Jer. 30:20) by those in their natural bodies (i.e., survivors of the Tribulation and their offspring). There will also be a prolonged life expectancy for those in their natural bodies. There will be comfort for those who would sorrow (Isa.12:1, 35:10, 65:19), a removal of sickness (Isa. 33:24, Jer. 30:17), healing of the deformed (Isa. 35:5-6), fruitful, enjoyable labor (Isa. 62-8-9, 65:21-23), one language (Zeph.3:9), a change in the nature of ferocious animals (Isa.11:6-9; Ezk. 34:25, Isa. 65:25), wonderful changes to the environment (Isa. 35:1-2, 6b-7, 55:13) and a Millennial temple in Jerusalem where sacrifices will be made in remembrance to Christ's death (Ezk. 40-46). This period is also known as "THE MARRIAGE SUPPER OF LAMB" (Rv.19:9) This glorious time of celebration takes place on the Earth and will include the Jews saved during the Tribulation period (the bridesmaids of Mt. 25:1-13) who are ready to go into the "wedding feast" when the bridegroom comes (Mt. 25:10).