

6. False Teaching of Biblical Prophecy

False teachings that are common today

- a. Treating all prophecy as allegorical
- b. Replacement theology
- c. Seven Mountain Mandate
- d. Kingdom Now theology

Causes of Disbelief in Biblical Prophecy

6. False Teaching of Biblical Prophecy - (Continued)

a. Treating all prophecy as only allegorical.

allegory /ăl'ĩ-gôr"ē/ 

noun

1. The representation of abstract ideas or principles by characters, figures, or events in narrative, dramatic, or pictorial form.
2. A story, picture, or play employing such representation. John Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress* and Herman Melville's *Moby-Dick* are allegories.
3. A symbolic representation.
"The blindfolded figure with scales is an allegory of justice."

The American Heritage® Dictionary of the English Language, 5th Edition • More at [Wordnik](#)

The allegorical (or spiritualizing) method of interpretation was prominent in the church for about 1,000 years until it was displaced during the Reformation. The Reformers sought the “plain meaning” of Scripture.

Causes of Disbelief in Biblical Prophecy

6. False Teaching of Biblical Prophecy - (Continued)

a. Treating all prophecy as allegorical – (Continued)

The problem with the allegorical method of interpretation is that it seeks to find an allegorical interpretation for *every* passage of Scripture, regardless of whether or not it is intended to be understood in that way. Interpreters who allegorize can be very creative, with no control based in the text itself. It becomes easy to read one's own beliefs into the allegory and then think that they have scriptural support.” <https://www.gotquestions.org/allegorical-interpretation.html>

Such an interpreter of scriptural prophecy might suggest that Jesus returning to the earth is *only an allegory* of the Christian church taking over the world in the spirit of Jesus.

Causes of Disbelief in Biblical Prophecy

6. False Teaching of Biblical Prophecy - (Continued)

a. Treating all prophecy as allegorical – (Continued)

Below is a quote from an article on Baptistnews.com
(Not a recommended site for biblical truth.)

“And if Jesus did believe in an imminent intervention of God, it’s highly unlikely that he spoke about his own coming. He probably imagined God intervening in some way in conjunction with the work he was doing to bring in the anticipated kingdom of peace and justice.”

<https://baptistnews.com/article/problems-second-coming-theology/>

Such extreme allegories can overlap with occultic New Age beliefs.

Causes of Disbelief in Biblical Prophecy

6. False Teaching of Biblical Prophecy - (Continued)

a. Treating all prophecy as allegorical – (Continued)

The Second Coming of Jesus: Metaphor or Literal?

By **Steven Bancarz** - September 17, 2016

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By [Steven Bancarz](#) | In the New Age movement, the second coming of Jesus is believed to be a metaphor for the arrival of "Christ Consciousness" within millions of people around the world as they begin to awaken to their higher nature.

<https://reasonsforjesus.com/the-second-coming-of-jesus-metaphor-or-literal/>

Causes of Disbelief in Biblical Prophecy

6. False Teaching of Biblical Prophecy - (Continued)

a. Treating all prophecy as allegorical – (Continued)

One New Age belief states:

“Christ will incarnate, in a sense, within humanity as a divine state of consciousness. As Eckhart Tolle says:

“The ‘second coming’ of Christ is a transformation of human consciousness, a shift from time to presence, from thinking to pure consciousness, not the arrival of some man or woman. If “Christ” were to return tomorrow in some externalized form, what could he or she say to you other than this:

“I am the Truth. I am divine presence. I am eternal life. I am within you. I am here. I am now.” – Eckhart Tolle, *The Power of Now: A Guide to Spiritual Enlightenment* (Novato, California: New World Library, 1999): 105.”

<https://reasonsforjesus.com/the-second-coming-of-jesus-metaphor-or-literal/>

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6. False Teaching of Biblical Prophecy - (Continued)

a. Treating all prophecy as allegorical – (Continued)

And another famous New Age prophet:

“”Deepak Chopra also affirms this when he says:

“THE SECOND COMING WILL BE A SHIFT IN CONSCIOUSNESS THAT RENEWS HUMAN NATURE BY RAISING IT TO THE LEVEL OF THE DIVINE”
(DEEPAK CHOPRA. THIRD JESUS, 40).

Is it possible that the second coming really was meant to be taken metaphorically as an awakening of humanity to a higher state of consciousness? To put it lightly, no.””

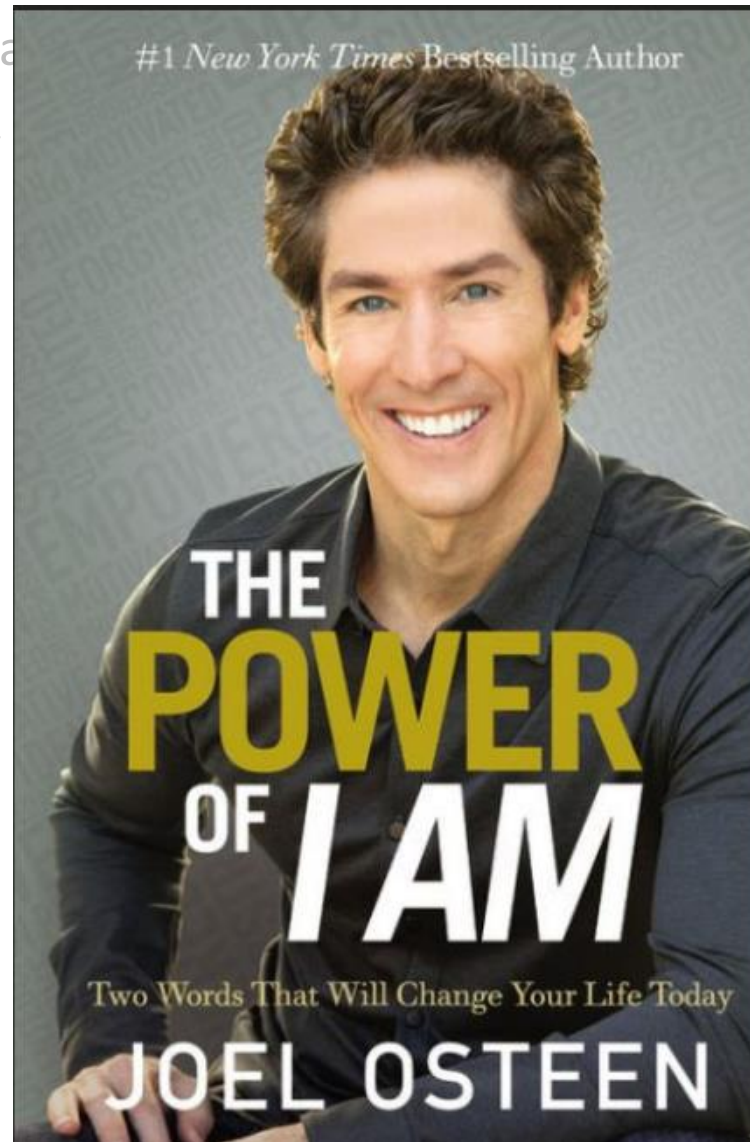
<https://reasonsforjesus.com/the-second-coming-of-jesus-metaphor-or-literal/>

But we know that the Holy Spirit only abides in born-again believers, not in all of humanity.

Causes of Disbelief in Biblical Prophecy

6. False Teaching of Biblical Prophecy
 - a. Treating all prophecy

But will the professing church really fall for the belief that we are gods?



Causes of Disbelief in Biblical Prophecy

6. False Teaching of Biblical Prophecy - (Continued)

a. Treating all prophecy as allegorical – (Continued)

We can see why treating prophecy as purely allegorical is extremely dangerous. People can be led into a false sense of security when they think that all mankind will “evolve” into a Christ consciousness. This particular myth is similar to the oldest lie on record:

Genesis 3:4 Then the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. 5 For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and **you will be like God**, knowing good and evil.”

Causes of Disbelief in Biblical Prophecy

6. False Teaching of Biblical Prophecy - (Continued)

a. Treating all prophecy as allegorical – (Continued)

Just a quick sidetrack about this false theology that we can become gods, with a small “g”. Please be aware that it is prevalent in the Word of Faith movement, Mormonism, the New Age movement, and even amongst the Globalist elite.

Not to be outdone the Roman Catholic Catechism reads:

460 The Word became flesh to make us "partakers of the divine nature"⁷⁸ "For this is why the Word became man, and the Son of God became the Son of man: so that man, by entering into communion with the Word and thus receiving divine sonship, might become a son of God."⁷⁹ "For the Son of God became man so that **we might become God.**"⁸⁰ "The only-begotten Son of God, wanting to make us sharers in his divinity, assumed our nature, so that he, made man, might **make men gods.**"⁸¹

Causes of Disbelief in Biblical Prophecy

6. False Teaching of Biblical Prophecy - (Continued)

b. Replacement Theology

Replacement theology “is the view that the church is the new or true Israel that has permanently replaced or superseded Israel as the people of God.”¹ Another term, often found in academic circles, for replacement theology is supersessionism. Replacement theology has been the fuel that has energized Medieval anti-Semitism, Eastern European pogroms, the Holocaust and contemporary disdain for the modern state of Israel. Mike Vlach notes: “The acceptance or rejection of supersessionism may also influence how one views the modern state of Israel and events in the Middle East.”² Wherever replacement theology has flourished, the Jews have had to run for cover.

Ice, Thomas D., "What is Replacement Theology?" (2009). Article Archives. 106.
https://digitalcommons.liberty.edu/pretrib_arch/106

Causes of Disbelief in Biblical Prophecy

6. False Teaching of Biblical Prophecy - (Continued)

b. Replacement Theology – **Lutherans**

Lutheran Tradition: Martin Luther, the father of the Reformation, had complex and, at times, troubling views regarding the Jewish people. While initially hopeful for Jewish conversion to Christianity, he became notoriously hostile towards Jews later in life. Despite Luther's personal views, Lutheran theology has, over time, separated itself from any form of anti-Semitism. The Lutheran understanding of Replacement Theology tends to center on the idea of fulfillment rather than replacement.

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6. False Teaching of Biblical Prophecy - (Continued)

b. Replacement Theology – **Presbyterian**

Presbyterian Tradition: Rooted in Reformed theology, Presbyterianism has historically emphasized the covenantal relationship between God and His people. John Calvin, a leading figure of the Reformed tradition, viewed the Old and New Testaments as continuous, with the Church inheriting the promises made to Israel. This covenantal perspective provided a basis for Replacement Theology in early Presbyterian thought, though interpretations have varied among theologians.

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b. Replacement Theology – **Eastern Orthodoxy**

Orthodoxy and Zionism: The Eastern Orthodox Church doesn't traditionally endorse Christian Zionism, the belief that the modern state of Israel fulfills biblical prophecy. While the Church acknowledges the importance of the land in the biblical narrative, the emphasis is on the spiritual Israel—the Church—as inheriting the promises of the Old Testament.

In conclusion, the Eastern Orthodox perspective on Replacement Theology is characterized by a sense of continuity and fulfillment without an outright replacement. The Church is seen as the spiritual continuation of Israel, but this understanding exists within a broader framework that acknowledges the lasting significance of the Jewish people in God's overarching plan of salvation.

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6. False Teaching of Biblical Prophecy - (Continued)

b. Replacement Theology – **Evangelicals: Dispensationalism**

1. Fundamental Tenets: Dispensationalism, which gained popularity in the 19th and 20th centuries, particularly in the United States, posits that history is divided into distinct eras or "dispensations" where God interacts with humanity in different ways. Within this framework, Israel and the Church are often seen as two distinct entities with unique roles and destinies.

2. Israel and the Church: Classical Dispensationalists argue against Replacement Theology, maintaining that God has distinct plans for Israel that will be fulfilled in the end times. This perspective often supports Christian Zionism, the belief that the modern state of Israel holds prophetic significance.

Causes of Disbelief in Biblical Prophecy

6. False Teaching of Biblical Prophecy - (Continued)

b. Replacement Theology – **Evangelicals: Dispensationalism**

3. Premillennialism: Many Dispensationalists hold to a premillennial view of Christ's return, believing that He will return before a literal thousand-year reign on earth. This eschatological view anticipates a central role for national Israel in end-time events.

Causes of Disbelief in Biblical Prophecy

6. False Teaching of Biblical Prophecy - (Continued)

b. Replacement Theology – **Evangelicals: Dispensationalism**

Evangelical views on Replacement Theology are deeply influenced by underlying theological systems, with Dispensationalism and Covenant Theology offering contrasting perspectives. While Dispensationalism generally resists Replacement Theology and sees a unique future role for Israel, Covenant Theology emphasizes the Church's continuity with Israel, often viewing the Church as the spiritual successor or fulfillment of Israel's covenantal promises. As with any theological discussion within evangelicalism, the diversity of thought reflects a rich tapestry of interpretations and convictions.

Causes of Disbelief in Biblical Prophecy

6. False Teaching of Biblical Prophecy - (Continued)

b. Replacement Theology – **Evangelicals: Covenant Theology**

1. Fundamental Tenets: Covenant Theology, rooted in Reformed theology, views God's interactions with humanity through the lens of covenants (e.g., the Covenant of Works, Covenant of Grace). This system posits an essential continuity between the Old and New Testaments.

2. Israel and the Church: Proponents of Covenant Theology often see the Church as the spiritual Israel, inheriting the promises made to Abraham and his descendants. While not necessarily implying that ethnic Israel has been replaced, this view sees the Church as the continuation or fulfillment of Israel.

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6. False Teaching of Biblical Prophecy - (Continued)

b. Replacement Theology – **Evangelicals: Covenant Theology (Continued)**

Amillennialism and Postmillennialism: Many adherents of Covenant Theology lean towards amillennial or postmillennial eschatological views, which tend to spiritualize end-time prophecies and do not assign a distinct future role for national Israel in the same way that Dispensationalism does.

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/374756450_Denominational_Responses_to_Replacement_Theology_A_Cross-Sectional_Examination

Amillennialism is the theory that says that there will be no literal, earthly kingdom following the Second Coming of Christ. Amillennialism teaches that when Christ returns, eternity begins with no prior thousand-year millennial reign occurring on planet earth.

<https://evangelicalfocus.com/fresh-breeze/1877/pre-millennialism-post-millennialism-or-amillennialism>

Therefore, Amillennialists don't believe in the rapture.