

12/24/23

Last week we talked about Amillennialism & 6 ways it negates the word of God and His Promises to Israel.

1. Amillennialism Negates the Abrahamic Covenant of the Land
2. Amillennialism Repudiates the Davidic Covenant
3. Amillennialism Contradicts Many Old Testament Prophecies Regarding Israel
4. Amillennialism Disavows Jesus' Assurance to His Disciples
5. Amillennialism Refutes the Father's Promise to the Son
6. Amillennialism Discredits God's Character

Today we'll finish up the Amillennialism topic with the 7<sup>th</sup> item in our list:

7. Amillennialism Ignores the Miracle of Israel's Rebirth as a Nation

# Causes of Disbelief in Biblical Prophecy

## 6. False Teaching of Biblical Prophecy - (Continued)

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

#### 7. Amillennialism Ignores the Miracle of Israel's Rebirth as a Nation

Irenaeus (140 – 202 AD) wrote about Israel's future rebirth as a nation in his work *Against Heresies*. In the eighteenth century, Isaac Newton wrote copious notes about a time when God would again restore Israel as a viable nation. *Premillennialists since the beginning of the second century AD have predicted the rebirth of Israel, even at times when such an idea seemed utterly impossible.*

This great miracle occurred in May of 1948 when the modern state of Israel came into existence. Only God could take a people who existed without a homeland for over 2,000 years and again make them a prosperous nation as they are today. Just as Ezekiel predicted in the sixth century BC, against all imaginable odds Israel now exists as a people with a land (Ezek. 37:1-14).

## The Dry Bones Live

**Ezekiel 37** The hand of the Lord came upon me and brought me out in the Spirit of the Lord, and set me down in the midst of the valley; and it was full of bones. 2 Then He caused me to pass by them all around, and behold, there were very many in the open valley; and indeed they were very dry. 3 And He said to me, “Son of man, can these bones live?”

So I answered, “O Lord God, You know.”

4 Again He said to me, “Prophecy to these bones, and say to them, ‘O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord! 5 Thus says the Lord God to these bones: “Surely I will cause breath to enter into you, and you shall live. 6 I will put sinews on you and bring flesh upon you, cover you with skin and put breath in you; and you shall live. Then you shall know that I am the Lord.” ’ ”

7 So I prophesied as I was commanded; and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and suddenly a rattling; and the bones came together, bone to bone. 8 Indeed, as I looked, the sinews and the flesh came upon them, and the skin covered them over; but there was no breath in them.

## The Dry Bones Live - (Continued)

Ezekiel 37:9 Also He said to me, “Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, ‘Thus says the Lord God: “Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live.” ’ ” 10 So I prophesied as He commanded me, and breath came into them, and they lived, and stood upon their feet, an exceedingly great army.

11 Then He said to me, “Son of man, these bones are the whole **house of Israel**. They indeed say, ‘Our bones are dry, our hope is lost, and we ourselves are cut off!’ 12 Therefore prophesy and say to them, ‘Thus says the Lord God: “Behold, O My people, I will open your graves and cause you to come up from your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel. 13 Then you shall know that I am the Lord, when I have opened your graves, O My people, and brought you up from your graves. 14 I will put My Spirit in you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken it and performed it,” says the Lord.’ ”

During the Holocaust, it is estimated  
that the Nazis established  
approximately 15,000 labor, death,  
and concentration camps.

<https://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/full-listing-of-concentration-camps>

Our bones are dry  
Our hope is lost  
and we ourselves are cut off!

Therefore prophesy and say to them, 'Thus says the Lord God: "Behold, O My people, I will open your graves..."



Liberated prisoners at the Nazi concentration camp in Ebensee, Austria.  
U.S. Army photo, courtesy Harry S. Truman Library

...and cause you to come up from your graves,



Prisoners of Dachau concentration camp cheer as the U.S. Army liberates them in April 1945. U.S. Army

...and bring you into the land of Israel.



July 15, 1945, Jewish survivors of the Nazi concentration camp of Buchenwald (some still wear prisoner garb), on the deck of a ship en route to the port of Haifa, Palestine.

Credits: Zoltan Kluger/IGPO/Getty Images Europe.



Isa. 37:10 So I prophesied as He commanded me, and breath came into them, and they lived, and stood upon their feet, an exceedingly great army.



# Causes of Disbelief in Biblical Prophecy

## 6. False Teaching of Biblical Prophecy - (Continued)

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

#### **Amillennialism - Conclusion**

“I sincerely believe the miraculous restoration of the nation of Israel on the land God promised to patriarchs so long-ago flies in the face of all claims that God has rejected Israel. This is not a matter of basing theology on experience, but of recognizing the Lord’s hand in fulfilling prophecy, in keeping His promises.

I reject amillennialism because it negates the Lord’s promises to His people and calls into question His character as a covenant-keeping God. It also overlooks the work of God in fulfilling many prophecies right before our eyes.”

Jonathan Brentner

# Causes of Disbelief in Biblical Prophecy

## 6. False Teaching of Biblical Prophecy - (Continued)

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

## 7. Amillennialism Ignores the Miracle of Israel's Rebirth as a Nation (Continued)

And, as Zechariah tells us, someday they will recognize that the One they pierced is indeed their true Messiah.

### **Mourning for the Pierced One**

Zechariah 12:<sup>10</sup> “And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for *his* only son, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn. <sup>11</sup> In that day there shall be a great mourning in Jerusalem, like the mourning at Hadad Rimmon in the plain of [\[c\]](#)Megiddo. <sup>12</sup> And the land shall mourn, every family by itself: the family of the house of David by itself, and their wives by themselves; the family of the house of Nathan by itself, and their wives by themselves; ...

# Causes of Disbelief in Biblical Prophecy

## 6. False Teaching of Biblical Prophecy - (Continued)

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

#### **Post-Millennialism**

“About the year seventeen hundred a new error crept into the Church, to-wit, Post-millennialism.

This was instituted by Daniel Whitby, an English divine, or proclaimed by him as a new hypothesis, namely, that the Church would prosper and extend until the world should be converted, and this triumph of the Church would constitute the Millennium; and that Jesus would not come until after the Millennium.

No wonder that he calls it a “new hypothesis,” for he himself bears testimony in his “Treatise on Traditions” that the doctrine of the Millennium, or the reign of Saints on earth a thousand years, passed among the best of Christians for two hundred and fifty years, for a tradition apostolical, and as such is delivered by many fathers of the second and third century, who speak of it as the tradition of our Lord and His apostles.”

# Causes of Disbelief in Biblical Prophecy

## 6. False Teaching of Biblical Prophecy - (Continued)

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

#### **Post-Millennialism – Continued**

“For want of space we refer the reader to “The Voice of the Church,” by D. T. Taylor, to show the long line of eminent witnesses, embracing Hermas, Justin and the Martyrs, Luther, Melanchthon, Mede, Milton, Burnett, Isaac Newton, Watts, Charles Wesley, Toplady, and a host of others, illustrious in the annals of the Church, who, through the past eighteen centuries, have borne overwhelming testimony to the truth of the pre-millennial coming of Christ.”

# Causes of Disbelief in Biblical Prophecy

## 6. False Teaching of Biblical Prophecy - (Continued)

### b. Replacement Theology – Evangelicals: Covenant Theology - (Continued)

#### Post-Millennialism - Continued

“Strange, indeed, that the Church, in the face of such evidence, should drift away from the simple teaching of the Word and the faith of the fathers. And yet, though of such recent origin, this error of post-millennialism has not only crept into the Church, but has been accepted by the great majority of Christians, pastors and people. This, then, is the principal point of the question, namely: Will the coming of Christ occur before the Millennium, and may it therefore happen at any moment, as Pre-millennialists believe, or will it occur after the Millennium, and thus be, at least, a thousand years in the future, as Post-millennialists believe?”

William E. Blackstone

# Causes of Disbelief in Biblical Prophecy

## 6. False Teaching of Biblical Prophecy - (Continued)

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

#### **Preterism**

According to preterism, all prophecy in the Bible is really history. The preterist interpretation of Scripture regards the book of Revelation as a symbolic picture of first-century conflicts, not a description of what will occur in the end times. The term preterism comes from the Latin *praeter*, meaning “past.” Thus, preterism is the view that the biblical prophecies concerning the “end times” have already been fulfilled—in the past. Preterism is directly opposed to futurism, which sees the end-times prophecies as having a still-future fulfillment.

Preterism denies the future prophetic quality of the book of Revelation. The preterist movement essentially teaches that all the end-times prophecies of the New Testament were fulfilled in AD 70 when the Romans attacked and destroyed Jerusalem.

# Causes of Disbelief in Biblical Prophecy

## 6. False Teaching of Biblical Prophecy - (Continued)

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

#### **Preterism – (Continued)**

“Preterism teaches that every event normally associated with the end times—Christ’s second coming, the tribulation, the resurrection of the dead, the final judgment—has already happened. (In the case of the final judgment, it still is in the process of being fulfilled.) Jesus’ return to earth was a “spiritual” return, not a physical one.

Preterism teaches that the Law was fulfilled in AD 70 and God’s covenant with Israel was ended. The “new heavens and new earth” spoken of in Revelation 21:1 is, to the preterist, a description of the world under the New Covenant. Just as a Christian is made a “new creation” (2 Corinthians 5:17), so the world under the New Covenant is a “new earth.” This aspect of preterism can easily lead to a belief in replacement theology.”



# Causes of Disbelief in Biblical Prophecy

## 6. False Teaching of Biblical Prophecy - (Continued)

### b. Replacement Theology – **Conclusion**

#### Israel's Rejection is Not Final

Romans 11:11 I say then, have they stumbled that they should fall? Certainly not! But through their fall, to provoke them to jealousy, salvation has come to the Gentiles. 12 Now if their fall is riches for the world, and their failure riches for the Gentiles, how much more their fullness!

13 For I speak to you Gentiles; inasmuch as I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I magnify my ministry, 14 if by any means I may provoke to jealousy those who are my flesh and save some of them. 15 For if their being cast away is the reconciling of the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead?

# Causes of Disbelief in Biblical Prophecy

## 6. False Teaching of Biblical Prophecy - (Continued)

### b. Replacement Theology – **Conclusion**

When we see denominations or individuals going against the nation of Israel, I hope that we'll remember the false theology that's likely behind their beliefs. Amillennialism, Post-Millennialism and Preterism all torture scripture by twisting it into allegorical pictures which deny many, yet to be fulfilled, prophetic events, some of which we are seeing unfold before our very eyes.

Whether ignorance, fostered by false teaching, or an individual heart issue, those who follow these false teachings are denying the truth of God's word. This denial will further separate the bible believing Church from the rest of Christendom.

# Causes of Disbelief in Biblical Prophecy

## 6. False Teaching of Biblical Prophecy - (Continued)

### b. Replacement Theology – **Conclusion**

#### **Future Joy of Zion and Many Nations**

[Zechariah 2:8](#) For thus says the LORD of hosts: “He sent Me after glory, to the nations which plunder you; for he who touches you touches the apple of His eye. [9](#)For surely I will shake My hand against them, and they shall become spoil for their servants. Then you will know that the LORD of hosts has sent Me.

[10](#)“Sing and rejoice, O daughter of Zion! For behold, I am coming and I will dwell in your midst,” says the LORD. [11](#)“Many nations shall be joined to the LORD in that day, and they shall become My people. And I will dwell in your midst. Then you will know that the LORD of hosts has sent Me to you. [12](#)And the LORD will take possession of Judah as His inheritance in the Holy Land, and will again choose Jerusalem. [13](#)Be silent, all flesh, before the LORD, for He is aroused from His holy habitation!”

# Causes of Disbelief in Biblical Prophecy

## 6. False Teaching of Biblical Prophecy - (Continued)

### b. Replacement Theology – **Conclusion**

Romans 11:16 For if the firstfruit is holy, the lump is also holy; and if the root is holy, so are the branches. 17 And if some of the branches were broken off, and you, being a wild olive tree, were grafted in among them, and with them became a partaker of the root and fatness of the olive tree, 18 do not boast against the branches. But if you do boast, remember that you do not support the root, but the root supports you.

19 You will say then, “Branches were broken off that I might be grafted in.” 20 Well said. Because of unbelief they were broken off, and you stand by faith. Do not be haughty, but fear. 21 For if God did not spare the natural branches, He may not spare you either. 22 Therefore consider the goodness and severity of God: on those who fell, severity; but toward you, goodness, if you continue in His goodness. Otherwise you also will be cut off.

# Causes of Disbelief in Biblical Prophecy

## 6. False Teaching of Biblical Prophecy - (Continued)

### b. Replacement Theology – **Conclusion**

Romans 11:23 And they also, if they do not continue in unbelief, will be grafted in, for God is able to graft them in again. 24For if you were cut out of the olive tree which is wild by nature, and were grafted contrary to nature into a cultivated olive tree, how much more will these, who are natural branches, be grafted into their own olive tree?

25For I do not desire, brethren, that you should be ignorant of this mystery, lest you should be wise in your own opinion, that blindness in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in. 26And so all Israel will be saved, as it is written:

“The Deliverer will come out of Zion,  
And He will turn away ungodliness from Jacob;  
27For this is My covenant with them,  
When I take away their sins.”



GRAFTED IN

**Romans 11:24**