



**Doctrine: The Rapture  
Preterism and Satan's Little Season?  
Part 3  
2 Peter 3:3-9**

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Here at Calvary Chapel, we are premillennial dispensational in our viewpoint. We believe in the pre-tribulation rapture of the church, followed by a 7-year period of time known as the Tribulation/Great Tribulation. At the end of which Jesus Christ returns as per the request of His people, the Jews, and then establishes the 1,000-year rule and reign of the Kingdom. At the end of which Satan is released for a "little season." (Revelation 20:7-8)



One more thing, we also believe the book of Revelation is prophecy and was written after 90 AD. We take a futurist viewpoint.

Premillennial means we hold that the second coming of Jesus Christ will be before the beginning of the millennium, and we believe He will physically rule and reign here on planet earth for 1,000 years following His visible second coming. What are the other views about the millennium.

Postmillennial is a system of theology that teaches Jesus will return a second time after the millennium. Literally, the whole world will be Christianized prior to the return of Christ. There are some with this viewpoint who we see wanting to take over the "Seven Mountains" of the culture.

They have gone another step further and believe the church must take control of the culture. "Here are the seven mountains, according to the seven-mountain mandate: 1) Education 2) Religion 3) Family 4) Business 5) Government/Military 6) Arts/Entertainment 7) Media." (Got Questions Ministries 2014-2021) This is based on dominion theology and is found in NAR as well as other churches. Some Christian Nationalists fall into this group as well. Yes, no rapture.

There is also an amillennial view. No millennium at all. The only thing we can expect is to see Jesus only return to earth for the purpose of judgment.

There are various other nuances of these views. There are also different views of when the rapture takes place. We believe it is before the tribulation begins. There are those who believe it is in the middle of the Tribulation. Others at the end. Some say before the wrath and then there are those who say only those who are ready to go when Jesus comes, go.

Now there, is another viewpoint that has popped up in recent years that has roots in what is called preterism. There are partial preterists and full preterists. The view of the preterist is based on a much earlier dating of the book of Revelation and the belief that it is history, not prophecy.

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. (Got Questions Ministries 2014-2021)

Needless to say, we take a futurist viewpoint.

I am bringing this all up because, as we see the proponents of this begin to multiply, we discover the goal of many who are coming up with these unique methods of interpretation are doing so pretty much at the direction of the enemy who has been about the business of confusing ever since the fall. Peter made that clear.

2 Peter 3:3–9

**"knowing this first of all, that scoffers will come in the last days with scoffing, following their own sinful desires. They will say, "Where is the promise of his coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all things are continuing as they were from the beginning of creation." For they deliberately overlook this fact, that the heavens existed long ago, and the earth was formed out of water and through water by the word of God, and that by means of these the world that then existed was deluged with water and perished. But by the same word the heavens and earth that now exist are stored up for fire, being kept until the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly. But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a**



**thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.” (ESV)**

And let me be clear, some who are teaching so called new views of the things that they have thrown in as last things these days, are teaching deceptive doctrines of demons.

Let me talk a little bit more about the false teaching of preterism. I call it that because one who is a full preterist denies the future prophetic quality of the book of Revelation.

Most preterists believe that the law was fulfilled in 70 AD and as such, God’s covenant with Israel has ended. Many are into Replacement Theology as a result.

As we have already discovered in our study in Romans, God is not through with Israel yet and all the promises made to them still are applicable (Jeremiah 31:33-37). Israel will be restored (Isaiah 11:12, Ezekiel 37:21-28).

Preterism destroys hope that Paul in Titus says we have as believers waiting for Christ to return, and also destroys faith.

Titus 2:11–14

“For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all people, instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously, and in a godly manner in the present age, **looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus**, who gave Himself for us to redeem us from every lawless deed, and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession, eager for good deeds.” (NASB 2020)

But leave it to Satan to come up with something new. The latest deception is that not only is there no rapture, By the way, the second coming already happened and we missed it, we also apparently missed the Millennium too and are now in Satan’s Little Season. Dr. Sixbert Sangwa says the following.

The core belief of this false doctrine is that Christ’s second coming was fulfilled in 70 AD with the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem. According to Rise Radio (2025), proponents claim that Jesus physically reigned on Earth for a literal thousand years but that historical records of this reign have been erased. They argue that we are now in the period described in Revelation 20 where Satan is released to deceive the nations before the final judgment. Some even assert that major world events, such as the founding of the United States in 1776, mark the beginning of this "little season." (Sangwa 2025)

Biblically speaking, Satan’s Little Season takes place at the end of the Kingdom and after Satan is judged, comes the Great White Throne Judgment.

Revelation 20:7–10

“When the thousand years are completed, Satan will be released from his prison, and will come out to deceive the nations which are at 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.” (NASB 2020)



John Piper tells us “The view that you are referring to — namely, that the second coming has already happened — is a very rare view. I don’t think it has ever been considered orthodox. It is sometimes called full preterism or hyper-preterism. (Piper 2021)

This deception mirrors Gnosticism. “Gnosticism” is a modern term (first used in 1669) to describe a complex of movements in the ancient church. People who belonged to these sects believed they possessed secret knowledge; therefore, the second-century church father Irenaeus and the third-century Neoplatonist philosophers called them “Gnostics” (gnosis is the Greek word for knowledge).” Yes, Paul warned us of those who would want to take the word and twist it for themselves. (Sholer 2021)

If we took God’s word seriously, following Paul’s guidance here, it would end a lot of speculative false teaching going around today.

1 Timothy 1:3–4

“Just as I urged you upon my departure for Macedonia, to remain on at Ephesus so that you would **instruct certain people not to teach strange doctrines, nor to pay attention to myths and endless genealogies, which give rise to useless speculation rather than advance the plan of God**, which is by faith, so I urge you now.” (NASB 2020)

Continuing with Dr. Sangwa, This teaching is often linked to fringe historical revisionism, including theories about lost civilizations and hidden architectures supposedly built during Christ’s millennial reign. These claims, however, lack biblical and historical support and bear dangerous resemblances to esoteric Gnostic narratives that seek to rewrite Christian history.

There are even those who falsely claim that Jesus is already present on Earth in an undisclosed location, waiting to reveal Himself. Others teach that the Millennium is not a literal reign of

Christ but a spiritual dominion in the hearts of believers, thereby stripping biblical eschatology of its physical fulfillment. Such views contradict the clear teachings of Scripture that Jesus will return in a visible, bodily manner to establish His Kingdom on Earth (Acts 1:11). (Sangwa 2025)

Acts 1:11

“and they said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into the sky? **This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you have watched Him go into heaven.**”” (NASB 2020)

Revelation 1:7

“BEHOLD, HE IS COMING WITH THE CLOUDS, and every eye will see Him, even those who pierced Him; and all the tribes of the earth will mourn over Him. So it is to be. Amen.” (NASB 2020)

And about those lost civilizations. This would be the alleged Tartarian Empire which was allegedly scrubbed from history after a mud flood.

Not all preterists agree with this view, which is relatively new.

Preterists, at least those who adhere to full preterism, “look at the Second Coming of Christ such a way that it refers only to his power being shown in various historical manifestations, like the sack of Jerusalem. He’s not hidden somewhere in the world — you can get that out of your mind; that’s not what they mean. He’s not hiding out somewhere in the world because he’s already come back; he’s in heaven and has “come back” in the sense that he showed up in judgment at the destruction of Jerusalem. (Piper 2021)



Again, full preterists believe this, partial preterists are still looking for the second coming. But for those who are full preterists, they have neglected to see what Paul said in 2 Timothy 2.

2 Timothy 2:16–18

“But avoid worldly and empty chatter, for it will lead to further ungodliness, and their talk will spread like gangrene. Among them are **Hymenaeus and Philetus, men who have gone astray from the truth, claiming that the resurrection has already taken place; and they are jeopardizing the faith of some.**” (NASB 2020)

What this does to the believer is this. Those who follow this view tend to separate themselves from other believers since they are the ones with the “special” knowledge. Gnosticism for sure.

We already discussed how it robs the hope of Christ’s imminent return since it does to us what the Thessalonians believed, we missed it all.

If all recorded history is false, then nothing is true. This opens the door to further deception. When you reinterpret the clear meaning of scripture, then you undermine the integrity and authority of God’s word.

Paul wrote 1 and 2 Thessalonians because there were those who had showed up to a church in distress and suffering severe persecution and lied to them with false doctrine as well as flat out impersonating Paul. We see that more severely in 2 Thessalonians.

The people were told the same that this false doctrine teaches, you have missed it.

The church in Thessalonica was concerned that those who had died were going to miss out on what Jesus had in store for the church when He would return to take us to be with Him in the rapture. When some of their church members died, the others grieved because those members hadn’t lived long enough to see Christ come again. They were afraid their deceased loved ones had missed the Rapture—indeed, that those loved ones had missed heaven itself. (Jeremiah 2023, 20-21)

Paul is answering this concern, brought to him via Timothy and what he provides is good news. His answer also shows us that there are other topics he has also taught to the new believers.

They already had a basic understanding of the day of the Lord and what that involved. What death meant for the believer versus the unbeliever. And the teachings of Jesus on the topic.

For us today, we see an increase in those who intentionally are taking advantage of others and the overall supposed confusion of the timing of the rapture and last things in general. This is one of the reasons why the Holy Spirit made it clear for me to teach last things.

Let’s pray

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