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Jesus Christ, Son of God, Savior

The Book of Revelation

The Millennium, Revelation 20:1-10

Revelation 20:1-3 Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, holding the key of the abyss and a great chain in his hand. And he took 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.

Revelation 20:4 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 foreheads and on their hands; and they came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.

Revelation 20:5-6 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.

Revelation 20:7-8 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.

Revelation 20:9-10 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.

Seven Views of the Millennium

Amillennialism: Revelation 20:1-10 describes the present church age. The present church age will continue until the time of Christ's return. When Christ returns there will be a resurrection of both believers and unbelievers along with final judgment.

Postmillennialism: Christ will return after the millennium. The progress of the gospel and the growth of the church will gradually increase, so that a larger and larger proportion of the world's population will be Christians. This "millennium" will last for a long period of time, at the end of

this period, Christ will return to earth. When Christ returns there will be a resurrection of both believers and unbelievers along with final judgment.

Premillennialism: The present church age will continue until, as it nears the end, a time of great tribulation and suffering comes on the earth. After that time of tribulation at the end of the church age, Christ will return to earth to establish a millennial kingdom...

...When he comes back, believers who have died will be raised from the dead, their bodies will be reunited with their spirits, and these believers will reign with Christ on earth for one thousand years. Christ will be physically present on the earth in his resurrected body, and will reign as King over the entire earth.

Dispensational Premillennialism: Similar to the premillennial view, but with the rapture of the church prior to the tribulation and the tribulation period focused around the special "dispensation" of God's revelation and judgment.

Full Preterist view: all events already occurred in AD70. Christ came back in judgment on Jerusalem when the Roman general Titus destroyed the city, killed many of the inhabitants and sold the rest into slavery. Now we live in the post resurrection period of the indefinite church age. Death of the believer means a spiritual presence with God forever but there is no bodily resurrection for the believer or the unbeliever.

Partial preterist: almost all endtime events occurred in AD70 but there is still a future, bodily resurrection of the believers and unbelievers and an ushering in of a physical everlasting life for believers and a physical everlasting hell for unbelievers. This view is similar to Postmillennialism but takes the events of AD70 as a significant, prophetic event.

Typological preterist view: The events of AD70 were a fulfillment of the prophetic statements of Christ and are a type of the ultimate fulfillment of the events yet future. This view takes the events of AD70 as significant, prophetic events. However, this view holds to future, global events that will mimic the AD70, local events in Jerusalem.