

Premillennialism

Rev. 20:1-4

Introduction:

- A. Premillennialism is the doctrine that Christ will return before (pre) the millennium (1000 yrs).
 - 1. Teaches 1000 year reign of Christ on earth following Second Coming.
 - 2. Teaches Christ will reign in Jerusalem on throne of David after Jews return to Palestine.
 - 3. Teaches church was established instead of the kingdom because of Jewish opposition.
- B. Premillennialism is wide-spread and crosses denominational lines– has even affected the church.
- C. Premillennialism thrives on *perversions* of Bible prophecy to fit its ideas of Rev. 20:4

Discussion:

I. It Perverts Christ's Promised Return.

- A. Christ returns to “deliver up” not “set up” kingdom (1 Cor. 15:24)
- B. Christ's return not subject of Rev. 20:4 - It does not mention:
 - 1. 2nd coming of Christ.
 - 2. Bodily resurrection
 - 3. Reign on earth
 - 4. Literal throne of David
 - 5. Jerusalem nor Palestine
 - 6. Christ on earth.
- C. People in Kingdom in 1st Century – after 1st coming (Col. 1:13)

II. It Perverts God Promises to Abraham

- A. National promise (Gen. 12:2; 13:15; 15:5) - fulfilled in Ancient Israel (Ex. 19:6)
- B. Land promise (Gen. 13:15; 15:18) – fulfillment recorded (Josh. 23:14-16; 2 Chr. 9:26; 1 Kings 4:21)
- C. Spiritual promise (Gal. 3:16; Acts 3:25, 26; Gal 3:6-9, 26-29).

III. It Perverts God's Prophecy Concerning Christ's Reign.

- A. Jesus fulfilled Messianic prophecy at 1st Coming (Mt. 5:17; Acts 3:18-26; 13:25-34; 15:13-17)
- B. Jesus is now reigning on David's throne (Psa. 110:1-4 w/ Heb. 1:3; Acts 2:33; Heb. 1:8; Rev. 22:17; Heb. 6:20; Acts 2:29-36 w/ Jer. 22:28-30)

IV. It Perverts God's Purpose for His Kingdom.

- A. Not of this world (John 18:36-37)
- B. Spiritual Kingdom - His church (Acts 2:30-36 with Eph. 1:20-23)

Conclusion:

- A. Premillennialism is more than innocent speculation of “unfulfilled prophecy”
 - 1. It takes us from under the rule of Christ for now.
 - 2. It makes us still under the power of darkness (cf. Col. 1:13)
 - 3. It makes us take the Lord's supper without any right (Lk. 22:29-30)
 - 4. It makes Christ a failure His first time, thus casting doubt on second coming and promises.