



Scriptures and Doctrine :: Some questions about the proposed Millennium

Some questions about the proposed Millennium, on: 2016/4/22 19:41

Isa 59:20 has always been regarded as a Messianic prophecy by the Christian Church of Jesus Christ coming to deliver (save) us from our sins.

"And the Redeemer shall come to Zion, and unto them that turn from transgression in Jacob, saith the LORD."

And we see Paul, himself a Jew, referring to this same fulfilled Messianic Prophecy.

Rom 11:26 And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob:

Matt 1:21 And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.

He shall DELIVER (save) His people from their sins.

Paul says this after dealing with "the fulness of the Gentiles" having come in and now Jews are saved. Together, they are regarded as "All Israel". ALL Israel cannot only be the Gentiles or only be the Jews.

Remember, Paul speaks of two Israels in Romans 9.

Rom 9:8 That is, They which are the children of the flesh, these are not the children of God: but the children of the promise are counted for the seed.

9:8 is the explanation of 9:6.

Rom 9:6 Not as though the word of God hath taken none effect. For they are not all Israel, which are of Israel: (ALL ISRAEL are believing Jews and Gentiles who are saved by faith in Christ)

Back to the Messianic prophecy of Isa 59. Jesus Christ is the Deliverer and He came out of Zion (Jerusalem). But this verse is reinterpreted as a future verse regarding the millenium (end of the tribulation, beginning of the millenium). Since we know Jesus Christ came out of Jerusalem the first time, died and resurrected to DELIVER us from our sins, premillennialists also use this verse for the 2nd coming to emphasize Jesus Christ will deliver Israel from their physical enemies which is what Israel has always believed, and thus missed the Messiah the first time. Evangelicals are supporting this notion that Christ is coming again to set up a physical kingdom on earth and slay the carnal enemies of ethnic Israel.

Why do we know that "All Israel shall be saved", does not mean all earthly Israel will be saved? Because in v14, Paul says "MIGHT SAVE SOME OF THEM".

Rom 11:14 If by any means I may provoke to emulation them which are my flesh, and MIGHT SAVE SOME OF THEM.

Let's just deal with the first time Jesus came to see if this verse works: Could it mean ALL JEWS will be saved the first time? This does not mean all ethnic Jews at the time of Christ's first appearing will be saved because Judas, who was called "the son of perdition", obviously died in his sins. Jesus also told many Jews, "If you do not believe I am He, you will die in your sins" (John 8:24). Not every Jew believes in Jesus Christ, thus many will "die in their sins" and be lost.

So, if this verse does not apply to the 1st century, let's see if it applies, later. Many Christians today interpret Romans 11:26 as applying to the end of the seven-year tribulation when Jesus appears in the clouds at His Second Coming. In other words, they don't apply the verse to all Jews throughout history, but only to "all Jews" who are alive at the end. Supposedly, at the end of the tribulation, all remaining Jews in Israel will look up, see Christ coming in the clouds, realize He is the true Messiah, believe in Him, and thus "All Israel will be saved."

How can this not be false teaching? Let me show you why it is a false Messiah and a false Gospel.

1. The context of Romans 11 is not the Second Coming.

2. "There is no partiality with God" (Romans 2:5-11). It would be an act of partiality to save "all Jews" at the end, but not "all Jews" in history. The idea is, "When all final Jews see Christ coming in the clouds, then they will believe." But this would give those final Jews a supposedly irresistible opportunity to believe in Jesus Christ which past Jews have not had. Nor would this be fair to "all Gentiles" living at the end. Why would God save all Jews at the end but not all Gentiles? All Gentiles will see Jesus coming just like all Jews. What if some Gentiles say, "hey that is Christ, I repent", will they be saved? No, according to premillennialists.

3. Is it too late to believe in Christ when He appears? What does the scripture say? When Christ finally appears in the clouds, IT'S TOO LATE TO BELIEVE IN HIM. Rev. 22:11,12 says that before He comes in the clouds, all decisions have already been made. Jesus said it will be like Noah's day (Mat. 24:37-39). In Noah's day the door of the ark closed before the flood came (Gen. 7:16). When the flood came, it was too late. To save all Jews AT THE SECOND COMING would be like saving all those outside the ark WHEN THE RAIN STARTED FALLING.

4. When Jesus comes in the clouds, this is the time of judgment upon ALL unbelievers who don't know God nor obey the gospel (2 Thess. 1:7-10; Jude 14,15).

So what does all this mean, "All Israel shall be saved"? First of all, Romans 9:6 says there are two Israels. One is an Israel according to the flesh (Romans 9:3,4) and the other is the Israel of God (Galatians 6:14-16). The Israel of God is composed of both Jews and Gentiles who believe in Jesus Christ (Gal. 3:29). Gentiles who believe are grafted in. They become part of the "same body" with believing Jews (Eph. 3:6). Paul calls this unity of believing Jews and Gentiles, "the mystery of Christ" (Eph. 3:4).

The immediate context of Romans 11:26 is vs. 25. When "the fullness of the Gentiles has come in," then "all Israel will be saved." Or, to be exact, "And so all Israel will be saved." In other words, the coming in of the fullness of the Gentiles results in "all Israel" being saved. Paul's idea seems to be that when the Gentiles have come in, that is, have been grafted into the Vine, they, uniting with the Jews who have become believers, will form the total number of the saved (All Israel). Paul also reveals that when Gentiles come in, God can use this to motivate some Jews to believe (verses 11 & 14). Vs. 25 calls this whole thing, "this mystery," which we have already proven to be the "mystery" of both Jews and Gentiles being united in one body through Christ (Eph. 3:4,6). Vs. 27 says all are saved because Christ takes away their sins through His covenant, which must be the New Covenant, which applies to all believers, Jew and Gentile. Thus the "all Israel" that is saved is the total group of believing Gentiles and Jews combined.

The "all Israel that is saved" does not apply to all Jews throughout history, nor can it apply to a select favored group who become instant believers at the end of history, when Jesus Christ comes crashing down through the sky. By that time, it is too late to believe.

This selective, instantaneous, sovereign salvation denies the blood of Christ and salvation by faith. It clearly is another Jesus and the fables that Peter talked about. I am convinced that Paul had to fight not only the issue of the law with the Judaizers but he also had to fight the issue (lies) that the Messiah was coming again to establish a physical kingdom on earth and slay ethnic Israel's carnal enemies for this is what the Judaizers believed. You know they were contending with Paul regarding a future earthly kingdom. Paul knew that the kingdom of God is not of this world.

The Jesus that is taught by premillennialists is a Jesus that I do not know neither is it a "voice" that I am familiar with.

John 10:5 And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him: for they know not the VOICE of strangers.

Re: Premillennialism - False Gospel, False Christ, False Salvation - posted by brothagary, on: 2016/4/22 19:50

You lost me. Big time ,,that really bad exegesis, where did find that

Re: Premillennialism - False Gospel, False Christ, False Salvation, on: 2016/4/22 20:24

Julius,

Well at least You finally didn't beat around the bush & hide what you really believe so confirming so much for me (& others frankly), but your post BEGS THE QUESTION, since you said yourself the following below:

"The Jesus that is taught by premillennialists is a Jesus that I do not know neither is it a "voice" that I am familiar with.

John 10:5 And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him: for they know not the VOICE of strangers."

Besides the extremely bad exegesis & use of scripture repeatedly out of its context again (& conjecture what "Paul was dealing with" in addition to what the whole scripturally stated point of Galatians and elsewhere really is), I have a question: if "it's another voice of a stranger that the sheep don't follow" (that would be a damnable heresy claim friend), but you said yourself YOU USED TO BE A DISPENSATIONALIST, were you not saved then? If you were, why did you follow the wrong voice (using your own construct)? So which is it friend?

This just highlights again for me the main big problem with Preterist style of Biblical hermeneutics, interpretation & refusal to look at everything in its greater context.

the Battle begins!, on: 2016/4/22 20:37

and in this corner, at 15 stone....."IST"....and in the other corner! we have "ISM" at 15 stone!

it shall last until one or the other, tires, or realizes the horror of religious PRIDE....and meanwhile many new forum members shall be aghast and stumbled.

and in the Heavenly Courts, JESUS WEPT.

Re: the Battle begins!, on: 2016/4/22 20:46

Neil,

God Bless you friend. My heart is not to "win" but to warn. I don't fast & pray to win arguments. Sorry if it comes across that way. I never said people who bought into what I believe is false (Preterism) are "False Salvation". I am warning Against the teaching, not attacking & accusing those who believe it as "False Believers". I think something I have Been praying about just showed its head. I may just get off & stay off & let the preterists have their way here then. That's clearly what I saw when I came back. The Gospel of Preterism & Replacement theology. If I didn't feel compelled It was dangerous I wouldn't spend time on it brother.

God Bless you,
Jeff

Re: , on: 2016/4/22 22:47

I'm also a bit lost here...yes there are all sorts of "false gospels" out there.

Most importantly we need to know the true Gospel in order to save .

According to the Evangelical Dictionary of Theology edited by Walter Elwell, "the gospel is the joyous proclamation of God's redemptive activity in Christ Jesus on behalf of man enslaved by sin."

Salvation is ultimately the work of the HS, a new believer becomes a "new creation" and "by their fruit we shall know them."

Re: , on: 2016/4/22 22:54

Let's take it one at a time, just to make it less complicated.

Isa 59:20 has always been regarded as a Messianic prophecy of Jesus Christ coming to deliver Israel from sin in His first advent. Of course, many Jews saw this as physical deliverance from their carnal enemies and still do.

"And the Redeemer shall come to Zion, and unto them that turn from transgression in Jacob, saith the LORD."

"transgression in Jacob" --> speaking of Jews

Peter, speaking out and proclaiming that "ALL THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL" needs to know this!! After speaking, 3,000 souls were saved. Therefore, Isaiah 59:20 is fulfilled because the Redeemer (who came out of Zion), came to 3,000 souls that turned from transgression that day. And Isaiah continues to be fulfilled each time a Jew turns from his transgression to the Redeemer.

Acts 2:36 Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ.

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Acts 2:41 Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.

Do Futurists/Premillennialists agree with the fulfillment of this verse or do they reinterpret this verse to mean this will happen in the millennium and it means that Jesus is going to deliver ethnic Israel from its carnal enemies when He comes again and sets up shop on earth?

Is this a carnal deliverance or a spiritual deliverance.

Notice, that Roman 11:26 is not talking about delivering Israel from carnal enemies but from their ungodliness. It is a spiritual deliverance which first took place in the Book of Acts.

Rom 11:26 And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Zion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob:

Re: - posted by brothagary, on: 2016/4/22 23:48

25For I do not want you, brethren, to be uninformed of this mystery-- so that you will not be wise in your own estimation-- that a partial hardening has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in; 26and so all Israel will be saved; just as it is written, "THE DELIVERER WILL COME FROM ZION, HE WILL REMOVE UNGODLINESS FROM JACOB"

Clearly this has not happened yet, clearly the fullness of the time of the Gentiles has not come yet, and clearly he has not removed the ungodliness away from Jacob, because there is still a huge partial hardening happen to date ,,,,

Re: , on: 2016/4/22 23:52

Quote:

-----by jeffmar1130 on 2016/4/22 20:24:40

I have a question: if "it's another voice of a stranger that the sheep don't follow" (that would be a damnable heresy claim friend), but you said yourself YOU USED TO BE A DISPENSATIONALIST, were you not saved then? If you were, why did you follow the wrong voice (using your own construct)? So which is it friend?

I was kind of a dispensationalist by default, meaning I accepted the pre-wrath rapture of the church, but did not know at the time that dispensationalism/millennialism came along with it. At that time I was only concentrating on the theologies surrounding the rapture and I was very young in the Lord.

For a very, very long time, I used to receive Marv Rosenthal's monthly magazine called Zion's Hope. I intellectually accepted the Pre-Wrath Rapture of the Church because I did not believe in "Escapism", but never really seriously studied different end-times views. I bought his book, "The Pre-Wrath Rapture of the Church", and at the time it sounded better than the Pre-trib rapture nonsense. So, at that time I was mainly concentrating on theology surrounding the so-called "Rapture", but not studying millennialism at all. Here is Marv's website if you are interested in knowing who I am talking about. I loved his missions oriented, evangelical outreach to the Jews, but I have grown in my own scriptural views of his end-time views since then. I think as we study the word and pray and seek the Lord concerning His word, we should grow and it's

ok to say that I believed this or that a long time ago. I don't think anyone arrives on day 1 with a full understanding of God's Word, and in fact no one in this life ever reaches that point, period.

I do think it is important to take a critical look at all of our beliefs and see if they make scriptural sense from all angles. I find your presentation lacking and not making any scriptural sense. Hence my original questions to you in the first post of this thread.

Here is Marv's site.

<http://www.zionshope.org/index.aspx>

Re: , on: 2016/4/23 0:07

Quote:

-----by brothagary on 2016/4/22 23:48:09

25For I do not want you, brethren, to be uninformed of this mystery-- so that you will not be wise in your own estimation-- that a partial hardening has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in; 26and so all Israel will be saved; just as it is written, "THE DELIVERER WILL COME FROM ZION, HE WILL REMOVE UNGODLINESS FROM JACOB

Clearly this has not happened yet ,clearly the fullness of the time of the Gentiles has not come yet,and Clearly he has not removed the ungodliness away from Jacob ,because there is still a huge partial hardening happen to date ,,,,

Like you said, "there is still a huge partial hardening". That is because it is a process not a single futuristic event.

"Blindness IN PART" has happened, so the Deliverer HAS COME and removed ungodliness from those who were not blinded and had not hardened their hearts, such as the 3,000 on the day of Pentecost. We cannot say that Jesus did not deliver them from their ungodliness because He did exactly that? Paul the Apostle is one that was delivered from ungodliness.

Paul is saying there are more that the Deliverer will deliver from their ungodliness and when that has happened "ALL Israel", (speaking of spiritual Israel) Jew and Gentile together will be complete/saved. It is a process that is taking place. It is not a set time only in the future of a single sovereign event and the book of Acts proves that and Jews that have been saved throughout the last days (last 2,000 years) prove it.

We all must be saved by faith in the Gospel. "Having not seen Him, we love Him".

Why would only secular, unbelieving Jews recognize the Messiah coming in the clouds and Gentiles not recognize Him? Both are secular, both are faithless and godless, many atheistic and many are even friends of one another. What is it that Jesus is going to do sovereignly that only saves Jews? What Gospel is that?

Re: Premillennialism - False Gospel, False Christ, False Salvation - posted by proudpapa, on: 2016/4/23 0:32

I have to say that I find the title of this thread a bit provocative and disturbing.

Though the majority of the content I did not find to reflect the title.

RE: ///The "all Israel that is saved" does not apply to all Jews throughout history, nor can it apply to a select favored group who become instant believers at the end of history, when Jesus Christ comes crashing down through the sky. By that time, it is too late to believe.

This selective, instantaneous, sovereign salvation denies the blood of Christ and salvation by faith.///

My understanding is that most here are believing that the nation of Israel will get a chance similar to that of Thomas, I believe that they are using Zechariah 12:10, Revelation 1:7 etc.

I do not see this as the case, but to insinuate that all those whom intellectually believe this, are following a false Christ, I feel is a bit overboard.

Lets remember "we see through a glass, darkly"

Re: More homework required - posted by docs (), on: 2016/4/23 0:51

/This selective, instantaneous, sovereign salvation denies the blood of Christ and salvation by faith. It clearly is another Jesus and the fables that Peter talked about./

You might have prefaced these untrue remarks with something like, "In my opinion..."

If only the teaching did indeed deny the blood of Christ and salvation by faith.

Since it does employ the saving work of Christ it can't be another Jesus nor a false salvation.

Back to the homework room obviously needed I would think. The misunderstanding here, whether deliberate or not, is pretty astounding.

Peace.

Re: , on: 2016/4/23 1:05

Yeah, I would like to change the title, too. I have not been comfortable with it. In reflection, I admit it is too provocative. Any ideas?

I will change it to, "Some questions about the Millennium"

Re: , on: 2016/4/23 1:19

You still didn't answer my question/s Julius? Let me try again (cause your accusations of my, or anyone who believes like I do, as having received a false Gospel, a false Christ, & a false salvation are not "a small thing" friend. Please read and answer this question:

your post BEGS THE QUESTION, since you said yourself the following below:

"The Jesus that is taught by premillennialists is a Jesus that I do not know neither is it a "voice" that I am familiar with.

John 10:5 And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him: for they know not the VOICE of strangers."

Besides the extremely bad exegesis & use of scripture repeatedly out of its context again (& conjecture what "Paul was dealing with" in addition to what the whole scripturally stated point of Galatians and elsewhere really is), I have a question: if "it's another voice of a stranger that the sheep don't follow" (that would be a damnable heresy claim friend), but you said yourself YOU USED TO BE A DISPENSATIONALIST, were you not saved then? If you were, why did you follow the wrong voice (using your own construct)? So which is it friend?

Re: , on: 2016/4/23 1:22

PP, political, ethnic salvation is a false gospel message.

Ancient Rabbinitism is being used in premillennialism. Jesus rejected the idea of setting up an earthly kingdom.

Christ's kingdom on earth is spiritual in character not political and it is not the true Jesus who will wipe out carnal enemies of a particular ethnic group.

But come to think of it maybe I shouldn't use the word ethnic since Jews are of all ethnic backgrounds, but I can say religious group since many are not religious. So, I must use nationalistic group.

Let me rephrase now. If a "Christ" comes, who is responsible for influencing the destruction of nationalistic Israel's carnal enemies, then it is a false Christ.

This explains what I mean by false gospel and false Christ. I'm not saying the brothers participating in this thread believe

in a false Christ. Sorry, if I communicated that. Though, they may unwittingly be preaching and teaching things that Christ already rejected when He came the first time.

Re: , on: 2016/4/23 1:24

Jeff, I answered your question. You missed it.

Re: - posted by brothagary, on: 2016/4/23 2:16

I don't Julius ,you just don't make sense to me ,respectfully..

The idea of a partial hardening upon the Jewish hearts resulted , in only few being saved ,while the Harding is taken place ,and at a date in the future ,which will be at a time when the fullness has come ,the bible clearly says there will be no more partial Harding ,which henceforth will result in the hearts of the whole tribe of Jacob have soft hearts which will result in a general nation wide revive at that time paul quotes ,in that context with the flow of context being a time in the future when the fullness of the Gentiles has come ,that then Jesus will return and turn their hearts away from ungodliness , they will look on him who they peared ,and know the mistake they made, and realise that Jesus was the Christ ,and in a general way all will be saved

I didn't get that from reading commentaries, I've never really read any ..

So I don't know what they say about it ,but ,that just reading it at face value rather they let some eschatology shape the scripture

I'm bowing out of this ,honestly can't be bothered talking about this any more ,

Blessings

More questions about the Millennium, on: 2016/4/23 11:19

Here are some other questions surrounding the "Millennium" that I have.

If you are a premillennialist, whether dispensational or not how do you answer these important questions?

1. Does this belief system propose that physical death will continue to exist beyond the time of Christ's second coming?
2. Does this system believe that the natural creation will continue, beyond the time of Christ's second coming, to be subjected to the curse imposed by the Fall of man?
3. Does this system believe that the New Heavens and New Earth will not be introduced until 1,000 years following the return of Christ?
4. Does this system believe unbelieving men and women will still have the opportunity to come to saving faith in Christ for at least 1,000 years following His return?
5. Does this system believe that unbelievers will not be finally resurrected until at least 1,000 years following the return of Christ?
6. Does this system believe that unbelievers will not be finally judged and cast into eternal punishment until at least 1,000 years following the return of Christ?

It seems to me that sin in the lives of God's people, corruption of the natural creation, and the experience of physical death would terminate upon the appearance of Jesus Christ. And that the resurrection of the body, and the final judgment, would commence?

Re: More questions about the Millenium - posted by joliboy11, on: 2016/4/23 11:47

Honestly, brother, I don't know all the answer to your question regarding tje future reign of Christ, but I believe that the Bible has plentitude of references to it:

Psalms 22:27-29 (KJV)

27 All the ends of the world shall remember and turn unto the LORD: and all the kindreds of the nations shall worship be fore thee.

28 For the kingdom is the LORD'S: and he is the governor among the nations.

29 All they that be fat upon earth shall eat and worship: all they that go down to the dust shall bow before him: and none can keep alive his own soul.

Psalms 86:9 (KJV)Â All nations whom thou hast made shall come and worship before thee, O Lord; and shall glorify thy name.

Psalms 102:13-16 (KJV)

13 Thou shalt arise, and have mercy upon Zion: for the time to favour her, yea, the set time, is come.

14 For thy servants take pleasure in her stones, and favour the dust thereof.

15 So the heathen shall fear the name of the LORD, and all the kings of the earth thy glory.

16 When the LORD shall build up Zion, he shall appear in his glory.

I recommend listening to Art Katz, "Theocratic Kingdom" sermon

Re: , on: 2016/4/23 17:39

Quote:

-----by joliboy11 on 2016/4/23 11:47:05

Honestly, brother, I don't know all the answer to your question regarding tje future reign of Christ, but I believe that the Bible has plentitude of referen ces to it:

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15 So the heathen shall fear the name of the LORD, and all the kings of the earth thy glory.

16 When the LORD shall build up Zion, he shall appear in his glory.

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Yes, brother Joliboy, we have an answer in Rev 7:9:

After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and t ongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands;

Paul is differentiating between the 2 Jerusalems.

"Which things are an allegory: for these are the two covenants; the one from the mount Sinai, which gendereth to bonda ge, which is Agar. For this Agar is mount Sinai in Arabia, and answereth to Jerusalem which now is, and is in bondage w ith her children. But Jerusalem which is above is free, which is the mother of us all." (Gal 4:24-6)

Today, we are members of Jerusalem above by faith in Christ. We serve a spiritual King in His spiritual kingdom, which i s within us.

Re: That spiritual king within us - posted by docs (), on: 2016/4/23 17:59

/Today, we are members of Jerusalem above by faith in Christ. We serve a spiritual King in His spiritual kingdom, which is within us./

Yet that spiritual king within us is destined to physically and bodily return to a PHYSICAL EARTH and the Jerusalem which is above above is destined to ascend from above and come to a PHYSICAL EARTH.

10 And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming DOWN OUT OF HEAVEN from God, (Rev 21:10)

23 And the city has no need of the sun or of the moon to shine upon it, for the glory of God has illumined it, and its lamp is the Lamb.

24 And THE NATIONS (of earth) shall walk by its light, and the kings OF THE EARTH shall bring their glory into it. (Rev 21:23-24)

9 For THE EARTH shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. (Isaiah 11:9)

The EARTH will not be missing at all when the spiritual kingdom comes to its full manifestation when the spiritual king within us returns bodily to EARTH. The spiritual king's feet will bodily touch down on solid terra firma.

"...the emphasis on the earth and land is too pervasive and too deeply rooted in the biblical doctrine of creation itself to be explained away on this basis. To dismiss all the emphasis on the earth in favor of a more "spiritual" view of the eternal state raises serious questions." (Waldron, "End Times Made Simple." - 227.)

Re: , on: 2016/4/23 19:04

That spiritual city is "down", now. The Church on earth.

Heb_12:22 But ye are come unto mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels,

It is a statement of divine activity within the Believer (Kingdom of God is within you) not a geographical location. Just like we are born from above (John 3:3,7), but are still on earth.

Rev 21:23 And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof.

Jesus Christ is "the light of the world" (John 8:12), the "light of men" (John 1:4), having "come into the world to enlighten every man" (John 1:9). The light of Christ enlightens all within this holy city.

"God is light, and in Him is no darkness at all" (I John 1:5), so in the eternal day of the Lord "there will be no night there" (21:25; 22:5).

Rev 21:25 And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day: for there shall be no night there.

Jesus Christ is the "way" (John 14:6), having provided open access to this "holy city" by His substitutionary death.

"Its gates shall never be shut" (21:25), just as Isaiah explained that "your gates will be open continually; they will not be closed day or night" (Isa. 60:11). No security measures are necessary, for "Jerusalem will dwell in security" (Zech. 14:11).

Rev 21:27 And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.

Residency in this city is exclusive to those "whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life" (21:27), recorded in the heavenly register as having been identified and spiritually united with Jesus Christ.

Rev 22:1 And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb.

Just as there was "a river that flowed out of Eden" (Gen. 2:10), John sees "a river of the water of life, clear as crystal, coming from the throne of God and of the Lamb" (22:1). Ezekiel saw water flowing from the temple, and it was announced that "everything will live where the river goes" (Ezek. 47:1-12). Jesus provides that "water of life" (Rev. 7:17; 21:6), for He is the "well of water springing up to eternal life" (John 4:14) and His indwelling presence produces "rivers of living water" (John 7:38). The psalmist referred to this reality of "a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy dwelling places of the Most High" (Ps. 46:4). Just as "the tree of life was in the middle of the garden" (Gen. 2:9), so John sees the river "in the middle of the street, and on either side of the river was the tree of life" (22:2). Throughout Scripture the "tree of life" represents the abundance of the expression of the character of God. Jesus said, "I came that you might have life, and have it more abundantly" (John 10:10). This speaks of "the fruit of the Spirit, which is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control" (Gal. 5:22,23). "The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations" (22:2), John continues, for they abrogate the effects of the fall of man and restore God's intent for all of His creation.

Rev 22:3 And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him:

Is there any more curse to those who are in Christ? Is the throne of God (speaking of authority) and the Lamb in Zion, the Church? Do we not serve the Lord, now? "God is not served with human hands, as though He needed anything" (Acts 17:22), but is "served" by our availability and submission to His Lordship wherein we allow Him to "form Christ" in us (His character expressed in our behavior). Thus we serve as "bond-servants of Christ" (Gal. 1:10).

In accord with Zechariah's prophecy that "there will be no more curse" (Zech. 14:11), John also indicates that in the "beloved city" the "curse" that came in the fall of man (Gen. 3:17) would no longer be present (22:3). Christ took the curse for us on the tree of crucifixion (Gal. 3:13), and Christians need not incur the curses for disobedience (Deut. 27,28) but may participate in the "blessings that are ours in Christ Jesus" (Eph. 1:3).

Rev 22:4 And they shall see his face; and his name shall be in their foreheads.

John saw an intimate heavenly relationship and he describes it as seeing God "face to face". To Moses, God said, "You cannot see My face, for no man can see Me and live" (Exod. 33:20). In His sermon on the mount Jesus said, "Blessed are the pure in heart; for they shall see God" (Matt. 5:8).

There is a sense in which we can "see God" as Christians, for "God has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ" (II Cor. 4:6), but we still look forward to "seeing Him just as He is" (I John 3:2) "face to face" (I Cor. 13:12). Meanwhile, like Moses, "we endure, as seeing Him who is unseen" (Heb. 11:27).

Those who reside in the spiritual and heavenly "city of peace" have "His name on their foreheads" (22:4), which seems to mean that they are identified with God in Christ as the fruit of the Spirit and the character of Christ is evidenced in their lives.

"They shall reign forever and ever" (22:5). Though we "reign in life now through Christ Jesus" (Rom. 5:17,21) throughout the "thousand years" - Last Days - (Rev. 20:4,6), "if we endure, we shall continue to reign with Him" (II Tim. 2:12) eternally.

I said once that the Book of Revelation was written to serve as an encouragement for Christians of all ages to endure and persevere during the time between the Lord's first coming and second coming as they hope for the consummated victory in Christ. Until that time, Christians must be willing to share in Christ's suffering even unto death. The emphasis of the book of Revelation is not on charting future events eschatologically, but on the life and character of Jesus Christ lived out through His Church despite probable mistreatment (in the world ye shall have tribulation) and the temptation to revert t

o religious self-preservation.

Re: , on: 2016/4/23 19:27

What's the point. The twisting never ends in this place from the other side

Re: The spiritual city "down" now? - posted by docs (), on: 2016/4/24 2:43

/That spiritual city is "down", now. The Church on earth.

Heb_12:22 But ye are come unto mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels, /

No it's not. This city comes down after the resurrection from the dead seen in Rev ch 20 and after "the sea gave up the dead which were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead which were in them; and they were judged every one of them according to their deeds" (Rev 20:13). The city comes down out of heaven from God in ch Rev 21 after all this. If the city is "down" now then the resurrection of the dead has taken place already (Rev 20) and Satan has already been thrown into the lake of fire and brimstone (Rev 20:10). If the city is "down" now then the resurrection of the dead and the final judgment of the devil have already taken place and are just figurative metaphors I guess or things that have already occurred. If that is what you advocate then your hyper-spiritualistic interpretation has caused you to embrace a view full of unmitigated ERROR.

/It is a statement of divine activity within the Believer (Kingdom of God is within you) not a geographical location. Just like we are born from above (John 3:3,7), but are still on earth./

But your "it is not a geographical location" view nullifies it seems any future inclusion of anything earthly. This view that since the kingdom of God is within you and spiritual and therefore altogether non earthly is a Hellenistic and western notion promoted solely by Gentiles who lost sight of the Hebrew worldview that the spiritual and the earthly have always dwelt together in harmony. The scriptures don't go there but go in just the opposite direction. The "spiritual king" you referred to living on the inside of each of us will one day return bodily to a physical earth and the knowledge of the Lord will cover the EARTH like waters cover the sea. The EARTH is a specific geographical location wouldn't you think?

/Jesus Christ is "the light of the world" (John 8:12), the "light of men" (John 1:4), having "come into the world to enlighten every man" (John 1:9). The light of Christ enlightens all within this holy city.

"God is light, and in Him is no darkness at all" (1 John 1:5), so in the eternal day of the Lord "there will be no night there" (21:25; 22:5).

Rev 21:25 And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day: for there shall be no night there.

Jesus Christ is the "way" (John 14:6), having provided open access to this "holy city" by His substitutionary death.

"Its gates shall never be shut" (21:25), just as Isaiah explained that "your gates will be open continually; they will not be closed day or night" (Isa. 60:11). No security measures are necessary, for "Jerusalem will dwell in security" (Zech. 14:11). /

You've basically then contradicted yourself. If Christ is the light that enlightens everyone within this city and also "there will be no night there" then why does Isaiah 60:11 which you quoted say, you gates will not be shut DAY OR NIGHT. Why does one verse say there will be no night there because Christ will be the light yet Isaiah 60:11 describes the city as experiencing DAY and NIGHT.

/The emphasis of the book of Revelation is not on charting future events eschatologically, ... /

Then why does it prophesy and speak of the future second advent of Christ at which time the resurrection from the dead will occur? Along with the resurrection from the dead at Christ's advent which is a future eschatological event Satan's final judgment and destiny is yet eschatological and future (Rev 20:10) The scriptures of Revelation give no credibility at all to the view that the book of Revelation has nothing to do with any future eschatological events. Hyper-spiritualism run quite a bit amok I think needs to be restrained in your instance. It just ain't like that good bro.

Your friend,

Peace.

Re: - posted by sermonindex (), on: 2016/4/24 7:09

Saints,

The position of SermonIndex is that there is a physical thousand year kingdom on earth where the Lord will reign. This has been the position of almost the entire Church since the beginning, ie Apostles, Early Church, right up through to now. Of course there have been different thinking at times but overall this has been the main viewpoint on the larger scale of Church history.

So it seems strange that all of a sudden we can find out the better truth in the last few years before our Lord comes back. It reminds me of things like Head Coverings for sisters, this was a practice in the ENTIRE church for almost 2000 years and now in the last 40-50 years through feminism and liberal theologians many denominations have re-interpreted this passage in 1 Corinthians 11. It should be noted that views on Divorce and Marriage have also been changed but were always believed in one-way for the entire Church age. Name me a denomination that would allow a divorced person to be a teaching elder 50 years ago. There were none! But today it does not matter. The only explanation is that the Church was under severe legalism for almost 2000 years and now it has seen the "light" so to speak.

This is a wonderful statement of faith from the underground house churches in China (a large segment of them): https://archive.org/download/principlesv4/64_StatementofFaith.pdf

Re: - posted by proudpapa, on: 2016/4/24 8:33

RE: /// This has been the position of almost the entire Church since the beginning, ie Apostles, Early Church, right up through to now.///

As Frank rightly pointed out it was not the view of the Anabaptist.

From newworldencyclopedia.org "

"Although the term amillennialism, coined sometime in the 1930s, is a new term, its view is never new. The Dutch Reformed amillennialist L. Berkhof correctly observes that this view is "as old as Christianity." It is true that premillennialism in its posttribulational form, known as "chiliasm" (from Greek chilioi, meaning "thousands"), flourished in the first three centuries of the Christian era, during which the Christians generally expected the imminent return of Christ in face of persecutions in the Roman Empire. But, amillennialism also existed side by side. Thus, Justin Martyr (c.100-165), who himself was a premillennialist, referred to the existence of differing views:

I admitted to you formerly, that I and many others are of this opinion, and that such will take place, as you assuredly are aware; but, on the other hand, I signified to you that many who belong to the pure and pious faith, and are true Christians, think otherwise.

Pseudo-Barnabas (first century), an Apostolic Father who wrote the Epistle of Barnabas, is considered to have been an amillennialist...."

RE: ///It reminds me of things like Head Coverings for sisters, this was a practice in the ENTIRE church for almost 2000 years///

What did the ante nicine headcovering look like ?

Re: - posted by TMK (), on: 2016/4/24 8:41

I wish someone would answer J's 6 questions with "yes" or "no" answers. It would help clarify what is actually believed by premillennials.

David- you seem to be suggesting, as others have that Julius (or I) do not believe in a literal and physical 2nd coming of Jesus.

I can tell you that I certainly do, and I fairly certain Julius does too.

I just think that when Jesus returns, the Church is raptured and that is when the new heavens and earth are created. There are no second chances for anyone beyond that point.

The belief in a literal 1000 mile cube resting on or near the earth, given the extreme and pervasive symbolic and apocalyptic language of Revelation, is dubious at best.

Chrch History - posted by proudpapa, on: 2016/4/24 8:55

I still have not found anything from before the time of maimonides that taught the modern Judeo-centric Premillennialism!

Over 1,000 years of Church history with out anything of the central theme of modern Premillennialism

Re: , on: 2016/4/24 9:31

Docs,

The mistake that many make is to view Revelation as sequential, chronological events. I don't know about you, but one thing this study has done for me is to remind me of the wonderful, present realities that are available in Jesus Christ. An anemic, powerless, worldly church ignores these realities.

I will let the Word speak for itself. Are these realities present in your life or are you waiting for them to be manifested in the future?

Rev 21:3 And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.

Heb 8:10 For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people:

Joh 14:23 Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.

Rev 21:4 And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

Death had always caused sorrow and tears but death has now been defeated by Jesus Christ and we no longer lament death.

Isa 35:10 And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads: they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

All of Isaiah 35 is now a present reality to those who lay hold of Christ.

Rom 14:17 For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.

Joh 16:22 And ye now therefore have sorrow: but I will see you again, and your heart shall rejoice, and your joy no man taketh from you.

2Co 7:4 Great is my boldness of speech toward you, great is my glorying of you: I am filled with comfort, I am exceeding

g joyful in all our tribulation.

The early church was a rejoicing church.

Act 5:41 And they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for his name.

1Pe 4:13 But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy.

1Pe 4:14 If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye; for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified.

Isa 61:3 To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he might be glorified.

Rev 21:5 And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful.

Isa 43:19 Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert.

2Co 5:17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

Rev 21:6 And he said unto me, IT IS DONE. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.

Joh 19:30 When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, IT IS FINISHED: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost.

Isa 12:3 Therefore with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation.

Joh 4:10 Jesus answered and said unto her, If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink; thou wouldest have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water.

Joh 7:37 In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink.

And as you can see in the midst of these verses we have this admonition which is a promise for the future: this underscores that John is encouraging the Church with present realities.

Rev 21:7 He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.

On the underground church, I don't know if one statement of faith can speak for millions and millions of Chinese Christians. We have to remember that many Chinese Christians were heavily influenced by Darbyism, and even deceived by the rapture teaching. Corrie Ten Boom highlighted this and said this teaching caused many to fall away when persecution came. No where in the NT is the millennium taught. Many take the thousand years on Revelation 20, to be a computationally exact time, rather than a figure of speech as it has previously been used in the Bible.

Modern teachings of Revelation nullify many present realities because they want to turn the book into a book of sequential, chronological events.

Re: , on: 2016/4/24 9:34

On the underground church, I don't know if one statement of faith can speak for millions and millions of Chinese Christians. We have to remember that many Chinese Christians were heavily influenced by Darbyism, and even deceived by the rapture teaching. Corrie Ten Boom highlighted this and said this teaching caused many to fall away when persecution came. No where in the NT is the millennium taught. Many take the thousand years on Revelation 20, to be a computationally exact time, rather than a figure of speech as it has previously been used in the Bible.

Modern teachings of Revelation nullify many present realities because they want to turn the book into a book of sequential, chronological events.

I think the Chinese church would tell us not to take their word for it, search the scriptures for yourself.

Re: - posted by sermonindex (), on: 2016/4/24 9:37

Quote:

-----What did the antenicine headcovering look like ?

probably like this brother: <http://www.earlychristiandictionary.com/Veil.html>

Re: A literal second coming - posted by docs (), on: 2016/4/24 10:20

/David- you seem to be suggesting, as others have that Julius (or I) do not believe in a literal and physical 2nd coming of Jesus./

No, I was not suggesting that because I know that you have expressed clearly in the past your belief in a literal second coming. I heard you when I said that and I remember it and intend to remember it. What I was pointing out, or at least trying to, was the flawed logic in the proposal that the holy city that John saw coming down to the earth is already down and here. Then it was said this is so because this city is the church. I attempted to point out that the city is portrayed as coming down from God after the resurrection of the dead and Satan's final expulsion to the lake of fire has occurred. So if the holy city is already down, following this line of reasoning, shouldn't we reasonably expect that the resurrection of the dead (Rev 20:4-5) and Satan's expulsion to the lake of fire (Rev 20:10) would have already occurred also? Satan's final expulsion occurs after the thousand years are completed (Rev 20:7-10). Since the resurrection of the dead coincides with and occurs at the same time as the second coming of Christ, then under Julius' reasoning that the "city is already down," Christ should have already made His second advent. The only alternative to get around this conundrum in logic is to spiritualize the second coming and resurrection etc. And since you don't do that then it just shows that the holy city described by John cannot have yet descended down to earth. The resurrection, at Christ's second coming, is portrayed in Rev ch 20 and the holy city begins to be spoke of in Rev ch 21 - AFTER the resurrection. Therefore, the proposal that the holy city is already down is caught of the horns of its own contradiction in logic much less the unsound and text denying exegesis it employs.

1 - I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth passed away, and there is no longer any sea.

2 - And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, made ready as a bride adorned for her husband. (Rev 21:1-2)

It seems clear that the first heaven and earth have to pass away before the new Jerusalem comes down. If the holy city is already here then we are already living in the new heavens and new earth. I feel I can safely propose that it just isn't so!

/The belief in a literal 1000 mile cube resting on or near the earth, given the extreme and pervasive symbolic and apocalyptic language of Revelation, is dubious at best./

When has it ever been proposed that this will be so? Perhaps some have but why not let scripture be our guide. Scripture tell us first of all, in the above verses, if it does rest on the earth it will be resting on a newly created earth and not the one we have now. The new earth would likely be well able to accommodate such a structure. Why have you missed I guess

that the setting for this "new Jerusalem" is on a new earth after the present one has passed away? Who has said it will be resting perhaps near and above the earth? The true premill teaching does not teach so and it makes me think again that those who repeat these things have still a BASIC MISUNDERSTANDING of the premill teaching in much of its particulars. It's in the same vein as you saying as far as you can tell the premill view says Jews will automatically get saved at Christ's return and all Gentiles will be doomed from that point on. That's not true and in my opinion only shows you need to go back to the drawing board a bit and dig more deeply into what is really being taught. Even if people are wrong it's still a good thing to properly represent them even if you think they are wrong. I know you believe that but from my observation, many people who openly criticize the premill view still suffer from a basic misunderstanding of the view in many areas. Sure I admit, it bothers me to see the teaching I believe in misrepresented. I plead guilty. Yet these forums can be a good place to more fully understand one another and I don't believe trying to do so is a bad thing. Yet to say that the holy city is already down is illogical given the chronological order scripture gives and is therefore exegetically untenable in my opinion.

Summary:

- How can the holy city be down already if scripture shows it coming down after the second advent and the resurrection? (John 6:44,54; Rev 20:4-5)
- How can the holy city be already down if it is to occur only after the new heavens and new earth come into being? (Rev 21:1-2)

Re: , on: 2016/4/24 10:23

Let's not talk about headcoverings in this thread, if you don't mind.

Quote:

-----by TMK on 2016/4/24 8:41:09

I wish someone would answer J's 6 questions with "yes" or "no" answers. It would help clarify what is actually believed by premillenials.

David- you seem to be suggesting, as others have that Julius (or I) do not believe in a literal and physical 2nd coming of Jesus.

I can tell you that I certainly do, and I fairly certain Julius does too.

I just think that when Jesus returns, the Church is raptured and that is when the new heavens and earth are created. There are no second chances for anyone beyond that point.

The belief in a literal 1000 mile cube resting on or near the earth, given the extreme and pervasive symbolic and apocalyptic language of Revelation, is dubious at best.

Thanks, TMK. I will repost those questions that no one has answered.

If you are a premillennialist, whether dispensational or not how do you answer these important questions?

1. Does this belief system propose that physical death will continue to exist beyond the time of Christ's second coming?
2. Does this system believe that the natural creation will continue, beyond the time of Christ's second coming, to be subjected to the curse imposed by the Fall of man?
3. Does this system believe that the New Heavens and New Earth will not be introduced until 1,000 years following the return of Christ?
4. Does this system believe unbelieving men and women will still have the opportunity to come to saving faith in Christ for at least 1,000 years following His return?

5. Does this system believe that unbelievers will not be finally resurrected until at least 1,000 years following the return of Christ?

6. Does this system believe that unbelievers will not be finally judged and cast into eternal punishment until at least 1,000 years following the return of Christ?

It seems to me that sin in the lives of God's people, corruption of the natural creation, and the experience of physical death would terminate upon the appearance of Jesus Christ. And that the resurrection of the body, and the final judgment, would commence?

Additional questions:

When you read Revelation 20:4-6 carefully, notice the things that are NOT mentioned:

- 1) The Second coming of Christ
- 2) A bodily resurrection
- 3) A reign of Christ on earth
- 4) The literal throne of David
- 5) Jerusalem of Palestine
- 6) Conversion of the Jews
- 7) The church on earth.

These are things which have been "read into" this passage in a vain attempt to give support to imaginative theories and erroneous doctrines.

Those who teach a literal thousand year reign of Christ on earth also teach that the resurrection of the righteous and the resurrection of the wicked will occur at different times, one thousand years apart.

This simply will not fit the words of Jesus in John

John 5:28, 29

28* "Do not marvel at this; for an hour is coming, in which all who are in the tombs will hear His voice,

29* and will come forth; those who did the good deeds to a resurrection of life, those who committed the evil deeds to a resurrection of judgment.

Whose words are you going to accept? The words of Jesus, or the words of men?

Re: , on: 2016/4/24 10:29

Edited for additions..

David,

Good points brother. Well said & thank you for saying them.

Brother Greg,

Apparently now you're going to get told what you are and aren't allowed to bring up & not bring up in the SI Forum threads? I guess you just have to "stick to the predecided narrative" some are dead-set intent on pushing? Don't forget that the original title & intent of this thread was to call those of Premillineal persuasion deceived false believers who bought a false Gospel (which de facto means one thinks Amil/Supercessationism/Preterism, whether partial or full, IS the (true) Gospel). When you start there, and call other believers false believers (& twist scriptures out of their clear meaning/context to do it), continually answering questions just engenders more strife & argument. Like casting pearls only because someone wants to trample them, & that public ally. And what difference would it make if they were all answered again from scripture: after all, why would anyone receive from someone they've already stated openly they believe to be deceived false brethren?

God Bless,

Jeff

Re: , on: 2016/4/24 10:33

Quote:

-----by jeffmar1130 on 2016/4/24 10:29:59

David,
Good points brother. Well said & thank you for saying them.

Brother Greg,
Apparently now you're going to get told what you are and aren't allowed to bring up & not bring up in the SI Forum threads?

God Bless,
Jeff

I am just asking respectfully that this not be turned into a headcovering topic. I complied with Blane when he asked not to turn the "Satan defeated thread" into an endtimes thread.

I'm just asking, that's all. If Greg wants to continue, that is his prerogative. I think he only made a side comment and don't believe Greg is intending to turn this into a headcovering thread, but then another responded and you know how it goes. We can all get on a rabbit trail. I am probably the biggest offender and I try to keep aware of that fact.

Thanks Greg, thanks PP.

Re: A scriptural sequence (edited) - posted by docs (), on: 2016/4/24 10:42

(Edited this AM to remove statements regarding info I formerly misconstrued. Soorry bout that!)

/The mistake that many make is to view Revelation as sequential, chronological events. I don't know about you, but one thing this study has done for me is to remind me of the wonderful, present realities that are available in Jesus Christ. An anemic, powerless, worldly church ignores these realities./

I plead guilty to wanting to follow the chronological sequence that scripture presents. Only those who want to spiritualize many things believe the sequence is not important.

Speak for yourself regarding an anemic church nullifying present realities. Every person I go to church with and every pro mill teacher I know believe in the wonderful and present life changing realities of Christ. To want to have a clear knowledge as possible of what is coming - "that day shall not overtake you like a thief" -is not at all a practice that nullifies the present realities of Christ within each believer. To study the future scripture portrays can be a robust sign of proper spirituality.

Re: , on: 2016/4/24 10:48

Thanks Doc for pointing that out.

We all can be wrong & grow in our understanding in humility (the whole point of iron sharpening iron), but when we constantly shift, are dishonest about our positions, seemingly "change" all the sudden in our public narrative & then deny it & then accuse those who disagree of being false converts & of another spirit, something is actually really seriously wrong.

I am not quick to that conclusion, nor joyful or gleeful about it (quite the opposite), but quite convinced of it (it's called discernment) at this point. Talk about an agenda. I don't know if it's even a "conscience" one or not, but I definitely clearly see it's there.

God Bless,
Jeff

Re: , on: 2016/4/24 11:13

Docs, you said I said "the book of Revelation is not concerned with any future events".

I did not say that and don't believe that.

Will you answer my questions regarding the Millennium?

Re: , on: 2016/4/24 13:42

Hi docs,

Unless someone else would like you to answer the questions there is no need to respond to me as I am bowing out of discussions on the millennium.

Please continue if you so desire.

Re: - posted by TMK (), on: 2016/4/24 15:58

quote: "That's not true and in my opinion only shows you need to go back to the drawing board a bit and dig more deeply into what is really being taught. Even if people are wrong it's still a good thing to properly represent them even if you think they are wrong. I know you believe that but from my observation, many people who openly criticize the premill view still suffer from a basic misunderstanding of the view in many areas."

That is why I am hoping someone with a premillennial view will answer J's question with yes or no answers.

Re: It takes more than a simple yes or no - posted by docs (), on: 2016/4/24 16:33

Reasons for deductions after putting together the scriptural data have to be given. If someone answers yes or no on the questions then why the yes or the no? Then if one gives answers from the sincerity of their heart is the other side just sitting there waiting to immediately pounce on your answers with sarcastic disdain? Even if people can give answers why should they if their answers will then be subjected to mockery instead of a well reasoned and polite response? How can one be interested in a simple yes or no answer when that would fall very short of a needed and well explained answer? The way the question has been asked, asking for a simple yes or no answer, hints that the side asking already knows the answers to expect and will just be waiting to pounce. That's the way Julius' questions appear. Theology and eschatology can be fun even and full of edification for both sides if these things that hinder can be gotten around.

Re: Why Not Look at the Text Itself, on: 2016/4/24 17:02

Brothers I have no dog in this fight. I have tried to stay off the multitudes of end times threads. Bear in mind more godly saints than us have debated these issues. With the result being we still don't have a full understanding of Revelation 20. And there is still disagreement.

If I might humbly suggest go back and read Revelation 20 asking God to open up that chapter. As I looked at the chapter these questions come to mind.

Who are the saints who reign with Christ for a thousand years?

What is the first resurrection?

What is the second death?

What are the thousand years?

When I was involved with The Navigators we were taught inductive study analysis. We were taught to take a passage of scripture and to quiz the passage. We were taught to observe the passage. We were taught to interpret the passage. And then we were taught to apply the passage.

In observing the passage. We were taught to ask who, what, when, where, why, how. You can go online or go to any Christian bookstore and find a handbook on Bible study methods. The best way to analyze a passage is to observe, interpret, and apply.

And by the way the above is done generally without the use of commentaries. But then you have the Holy Spirit who's the greatest commentator.

If you would take the time to do this. The blessings of Revelation 20 maybe will open up. And if this is done in humility. God will reveal His truth.

I would urge those of you in the forum who are really interested in Revelation 20. And this is where the controversy lies. Do an inductive study analysis of the passage.

At this point I do not have the time or the will to do such. But there are some obviously that have a burning interest in the question of the millennium. So I implore you. Do an inductive study analysis of Revelation 20. And then bring your conclusions back to the Forum.

If this is done. Maybe we can get away from throwing the pots and pans at each other. And come in humility to the word of God. Asking the Holy Spirit what He is saying to our hearts.

Saints simply my thoughts posted in humility.

Bro Blaine

Re: Inductive Bible Study, on: 2016/4/24 17:11

If you Google inductive Bible study. Some good sites come up. Inductive Bible study consist of three components. Observation, what does the passage say. Interpretation, what does the passage mean. Application. What does the passage mean to my life. Or how does the passage apply my life.

So forum, any takers to do an inductive study analysis of Revelation 20. If you do. I believe there will be greater blessing than reading the insights of other men. For you will be getting your insights directly from the Lord Jesus Christ.

Simply my faults. Now I will bow out.

Brother Blaine

Re: Future events - posted by docs (), on: 2016/4/24 17:16

/Docs, you said I said "the book of Revelation is not concerned with any future events"

I did not say that and don't believe that./

/I said once that the Book of Revelation was written to serve as an encouragement for Christians of all ages to endure and persevere during the time between the Lord's first coming and second coming as they hope for the consummated victory in Christ. Until that time, Christians must be willing to share in Christ's suffering even unto death. The emphasis of the book of Revelation is not on charting future events eschatologically, but on the life and character of Jesus Christ lived out through His Church despite probable mistreatment (in the world ye shall have tribulation) and the temptation to revert to religious self-preservation./

That last reference is the reference I was referring to. Especially,

"The emphasis of the book of Revelation is not on charting future events eschatologically, but on the life and character of Jesus Christ lived out through His Church despite probable mistreatment (in the world ye shall have tribulation) and the temptation to revert to religious self-preservation."

Perhaps I misconstrued it a bit and if I did I apologize. Yet at the same time, your reference seems to indicate that the book of Revelation was not written to provide any emphasis or foresight on the future. Your view expressed above of why it was written is up for much debate at the very best. The book proceeds in an orderly and chronological way many of the details Daniel, Ezekiel, Jeremiah and others didn't include. The downfall of the devil is in the details of the earlier prophets as they say. Revelation describes the final persecution Israel and the church will undergo, the ascendancy for a brief period of the Antichrist, his unholy rage against Israel and those who keep the testimony of Jesus and the pouring out of

inal wrath upon the world. It includes the resurrection of the dead which coincides with the physical return of Christ, the creating of a new heavens and earth after 1,000 years and of the final expulsion of Satan to the lake of fire. Then the new Jerusalem comes down from God. If a large part and even the majority was not written and preserved to give us instruction about future events then the Holy Spirit didn't get the memo! It may include the church over the centuries etc. as you said but that isn't all brother. A large part of the emphasis in Revelation is on future events and not just the personal conduct of believers over the centuries. I believe one can understand much of the future's coming chronology by studying Revelation. Its emphasis after the beginning letters to the various churches is to forecast for the church what is to come to it during the final tribulation the church will endure and therefore what to expect and how to arm themselves to conduct themselves properly during this time. And to install hope since God has everything under control.

Re: , on: 2016/4/24 17:29

Yes, you misconstrued. The "emphasis" of Revelation is not a book to chart events, but rather as John outlined in the first chapter, The emphasis is the Revelation of Jesus Christ and that is why Christians in every age will be blessed if they read it. It is not solely applicable to the very last generation on earth, but equally applicable to every Christian in every century.

Revelation 1:1-3

The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servants things which MUST SHORTLY COME TO PASS"; and he sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John: Who bare record of the word of God, and of the testimony of Jesus Christ, and of all things that he saw. BLESSED IS HE THAT READETH, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: FOR THE TIME IS AT HAND.

And, what were the things that John was referring to that "must shortly come to pass", for the NT saints and is equally applicable for saints in every century?

Surely, John was referring to something.

Re: Applicable in all ages - posted by docs (), on: 2016/4/24 17:45

/It is not solely applicable to the very last generation on earth, but equally applicable to every Christian in every century./

Equally applicable? It would seem the the generation facing the end of the age and the church's greatest persecution ever leading to the second advent of Christ that coincides with the resurrection of the dead would have more than just a equally applicable "it's all happened before" interest in the chronology of events set forth in Revelation. Equally applicable with an asterisk for the last few generations. But your chronology is that we are already living in the new heavens and earth and "new Jerusalem" has already ascended down from God.

Re: , on: 2016/4/24 17:59

Docs,

There are events that revelation speaks of that happen in every age. It is not a book of events that only happen in the last generation that earth puts forth. I'm sorry, I can't be any clearer than that.

Jeff and I both made a promise to bow out of end times conversations for awhile. Go and study what events in Revelation are common to every generation.

Re: Not every generation - posted by docs (), on: 2016/4/24 19:16

Yet not every generation will see the second advent of Christ and the resurrection of the dead and the final expulsion of Satan to the lake of fire and brimstone. How can every generation see a final great persecution from a fourth and final beast and man of sin prophesied to appear at the end of the age? How much clearer can that common sense fact be?

Re: , on: 2016/4/24 19:19

Blessings to you, docs.

Re: A nation of servants - posted by docs (), on: 2016/4/24 19:25

Contrary to much popular opinion, not all persons on the earth will perish during the final tribulation. Christ didn't say everyone will perish to the very last person. Rather He said, "If those days had not been cut short, no life would have been saved" (Matt 24:22). So some life will be saved and will have survived when Christ returns to earth. The scriptures also speak of the survivors of Israel:

2 In that day the Branch of the Lord will be beautiful and glorious, and the fruit of the earth will be the pride and the adornment of the "survivors of Israel."

3 And it will come about that "he who is left (survived)" in Zion and remains in JERUSALEM will be called holy - everyone who is recorded for life in Jerusalem. (Isaiah 4:2-3)

Jerusalem is the place Christ ascended from and is the place where Christ will return to. Not all of this nation will have perished and He will reveal Himself to the surviving remnant as He takes His place upon the throne of David (Zech 12:10). Nature will have the curse lifted and nations will not be allowed to learn war anymore. Christ will rule with a 'rod of iron' so to speak meaning His word will not be voted on by committee. I believe Jerusalem, the literal Jerusalem, will become a city of renown and praise in the earth (Isaiah 62:1-5) for many reasons but the chief reason being the personal presence of its long departed King and Savior. It will give Israel a place of prominence among the nations the same as any nation would have prominence if Christ personally resided there. Before this return, the final tribulation will have left Israel as a humble and contrite people.

12 But I will leave among you a humble and lowly people, and they will take refuge in the name of the Lord.

13 The remnant of Israel will do no wrong and tell no lies, nor will a deceitful tongue be found in their mouths; for they shall feed and lie down with no one to make them tremble. (Zeph 3:12-13).

This contrite humility, forever purged of nationalistic pride (â€œWe have Abraham as our father so what can you tell us?â€) will have forever been purged from their heart and they will be able to serve the nations instead of lording it over them. Therefore when the nations submit to Israel and its Christ they will be submitting to a blessing because the blessings will issue forth from a SERVANT NATION not dedicated to its own interests but one intent on serving the interests of others. Christ the head was a servant and He will rule over a nation of servants.

25 But Jesus called them to Himself, and said, â€œYou know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great men exercise authority over them.

26 It is not so among you, but whoever wishes to become great among you shall be your servant.

27 and whoever wishes to be first among you shall be your slave; (Matthew 20:25-27)

The word of the Lord will issue forth from a servant nation (Isaiah 2:3, Micah 4:2). Priestly service is best manifested in service to others and the nation will be a kingdom of priests fulfilling its foremost duty of priestly service by serving the nations. God will send survivors from among them to declare God's glory among the nations and those who survived in the nations.

19 And I will set a sign among them and will send SURVIVORS from them to the nations: Tarshish, Put, Lud, Meshech, Rosh, Tubal, and Javan, to the distant coastlands (all the earth) that have neither heard My fame nor seen My glory. And they (the survivors of Israel) will declare My glory among the nations. (Isaiah 66:19)

The millennium will be a thousand year vindication in the sight of the nations of God's covenant promises. God will open

and beyond doubt be revealed as having been faithful to His word. It will be a sure and unmistakable thousand year lesson for all to see including the unseen powers. God will clean things up in time and history at the scene of the crime (man's sin) before moving on to the eternal state. If God doesn't vindicate himself in time and history then He lost history after the fall yet the millennium will be an open vindication of the Lord and His word for all to see. At the scene of the crime.

Israel, the coming nation of redeemed servants, has had promises made to it that no other nation has. Yet there's not an iota of scriptural evidence anywhere that says God has to do for all nations what He does for this one particular nation. That modern concept, "if God does it for one nation then He has to do it for all nations", is rooted in deeply inbred subterranean humanism. That doesn't mean anyone and everyone in all the nations cannot partake of Christ's salvation. It's just that one nation has been chosen as a peculiar vessel from which all the blessings originate. In keeping with this, God has promised to raise up an Israel that will be faithful to Him forever beginning in the millennium.

34 And they will not teach again, each man his neighbor and each man his brother, saying, 'Know the Lord,' for they shall all know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them," declares the Lord, "for I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more" (Jer 31:34).

There will not be a person among the surviving remnant of Israel who will not know the Lord and their millennial fidelity is assured.

21 "And as for Me, this is My covenant with them," says the Lord: "My Spirit which is upon you, and My words which I have put in your mouth, shall not depart from your mouth, nor from the mouth of your offspring, nor from the mouth of your offspring's offspring," says the Lord, "from now and forever." (Isaiah 59:21)

Not one person among Israel will not know the Lord and Israel will NEVER AGAIN depart from the Lord. It will be a perfect thousand year demonstration of the perseverance of the believer.

9 Then their offspring will be known among the nations, and their descendants in the midst of the peoples. All who see them will recognize them because they are the offspring whom the Lord has blessed. (Isaiah 61:9)

If this nation has a place of pre-eminence among the nations, as the chief servant of the nations, then what is the problem if they will be modeling their Savior in this respect - He is first and foremost a servant and they will model this openly. If from them manifold blessings will flow then why be concerned about whom the blessings come from? Their blessings will result in blessings for all. If I have to go to a certain house each day to get a drink of water then why should I complain about who runs the house? Especially if the house with the water is run by a household of servants who will lay down their life for me and are dedicated to my interests and not their own. The last thing I should raise as a complaint is if God has done that for them HE HAS to do it for me! If God chose Israel originally and not other nations and Christ came to Israel and will return to Israel then who should complain if Israel comes to a place of prominence since from the place of prominence nothing but blessings and peace will flow? Man wants to be unhinged from submission but God has designed it so that blessings can come only if submission is the order of the day. The millennium will not be a free-for-all of nations but submission will be required to obtain blessings. But if the blessings come from submission then the required submission of that day will be a divinely inspired piece of practical wisdom if for no other reason than that it deals a burr to the humanistic concept that God is obligated to do for all nations what He has done for one peculiar nation. The reality overlooked by many who kick against this is that this peculiar nation will one day be transformed to the image of its Savior who was a Suffering Servant. After Israel suffers at the end of the age it will corporately bear the image of its Suffering Savior as it will have become a nation of servants who have suffered and bear the image and of its suffering servant Redeemer who emptied Himself and came not to be served but to serve. If man resists he will resist the blessings coming from the servanthood of God.

My thoughts.

Thank you and blessings to all.

Re: , on: 2016/4/24 19:31

Thank you for your viewpoints. I am glad that you can freely share them? I will study them closely but will not reply in deference to Greg's wishes.

http://www.sermonindex.net/modules/newbb/viewtopic.php?topic_id=56763&forum=34

Re: , on: 2016/4/24 20:52

Well stated Docs. Well said.

God Bless,
Jeff

Re: , on: 2016/4/24 21:57

Edited for prior mistakes (sorry ðŸ˜Š)

Docs,

That made me think of a lot of things too brother. For one thing, people with an honest to desire to honor the scriptures might understandably point to the passages which say "there is now neither male, nor female, Jew nor Greek (or gentile) , circumcision nor uncircumcision on Christ", &/or like we read in Ephesians in our fellowship today, "God has broken down the wall of partition between Jew & Gentile..." These are Biblical truths. Praise the Lord! But a difference in specific role/calling is another issue altogether than a difference "in value" or in covenantal nature. Let me explain: sure, no one is saved APART FROM THE GOSPEL OF GOD'S GRACE THROUGH JESUS CHRIST. Amen! No one is getting in just because they belong to this nation or that nation. Maybe that gets lost or misunderstood sometimes (lost in translation). BUT, we must also reconcile Romans 11 in particular, Acts 1, Revelation, & the prophets., so there can be a difference in "roles/calling". And the context shows this very thing! "There is no difference in male nor female". Really? No difference? But doesn't massive swaths of scripture go on to show there are differences? "I don't permit a woman to teach or have authority over a man", and many other similar references. So what gives? A difference in VALUE? NO! A thousand times no. But a difference in role/calling? Yes. Absolutely.

Just like how there are leaders in the body. Shepherds, teachers, elders, deacons. Are they MORE IMPORTANT IN VALUE to God than others? Of course not. But do they have different callings/roles? Yes. Absolutely. And if you look at Romans 11 which clearly speaks of a coming sovereign salvation of Israel being grafted back in, not exalting ourselves against the root & warning sternly against it, etc. You can see that just how the husband is to "love & serve the wife, laying down his life for her, Even as Christ did for the church", you can also see in the prophets many references to Israel in the end ruling & serving the nations (whatever all that looks like exactly) as a "servant leader" too. Otherwise, the prophets make no sense, Romans 11 makes no sense (if you apply a consistent hermeneutic of interpretation of plainly spoken wording, not the language of Romans 9 where he speaks of "spiritual Israel"), unless you read it plainly, but CLEARLY speaks of "the root" & us "being the wild olive shoot grafted into them & not the other way around", etc.

So they aren't "more important" Or valuable than we, but it's about God's covenant & promise keeping reputation & character on this people God Himself has chosen for a specific purpose in the beginning & in the end. I don't have to worship at & kiss the feet of Jews like they are my "master" or something, but I would also never "boast against the root" because to do such is to demand before God, "THATS NOT FAIR!" What God Himself has decreed and His Zeal & prophetic fulfillment will accomplish it. It's a beautiful thing & mystery because it's God at work as He sovereignly wills, not me (who am I to tell God what is or isn't fair? See Romans 7) made me think of a lot of things too brother. I am praying for their salvation & longing for that day (though it comes with great trial), because it means THE KING IS COMING!

I long for that day & seeing God save Israel is the EndTimes mystery of seeing His Grace & sovereign election even still at work in an amazing way. And I love to see the radical (or any) Muslims come to Christ too, because it's like seeing Paul come to Christ. And Christ is going MASSIVELY to the Jews & Muslims at this hour in dreams & visions (as well as other ethnoses) & it all makes me filled the prophetic expectation of the soon coming return of our Lord!

Hallelujah!

God Bless,
Jeff

Re: , on: 2016/4/25 7:47

And even the language in Ephesians, "the two become one man" (Jew & Gentile) reminded me of "the two shall become one flesh" (husband & wife). Again, just an example of "2 becoming one", but still having unique roles/callings.

Re: - posted by joliboy11, on: 2016/4/25 10:06

Just want to share this:

The Nations in Relation to God

-Art Katz

We are all familiar with the Scripture, "The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, and the nations and those that dwell therein." We have quoted this Scripture many times, but we have not really believed it, and have therefore allowed the nations to indulge themselves in their independence as if they have no obligation to God. This is a sinful neglect of God, and when the Lord comes, He will judge the nations for that failure to seek Him.

Every culture is full of hostility against God, although its external appearance may seem gracious. National culture may be dear and familiar to us, but I am persuaded that the origin of national cultures comes not from above, but from below.

The nations have an independent mind of their own. In many cases, they are willing to allow us a Sunday presence. They will tolerate that as long as we respect the difference between the sacred and the secular. They will give us one or two hours for the sacred on Sunday, but the real affairs of men, where the important decisions are made, is where they do not welcome our intrusion.

The church continues to allow the nations to indulge that mentality. Independence from God is as much a sin for a nation as for an individual. We have an obligation to bring them God's perspective, the divine perspective to the secular mind, for if we do not sound a warning to them, who else will? No longer should we condescend to their terms and their categories.

But look what Paul says to the epitome of secular men in Athens, in Acts 17:26-31. This is the glory of ancient Greece, the same architecture that Hitler used in Germany. Greek architecture emphasized great, monumental pillars to underline the importance of their government and culture. Nazism was a re-creating again of those values. It was, and is, a civilization that celebrates man. But God has purposes for the nations; they were formed and created by Him. That is what Paul tells the Greeks, "He has made from one blood every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having appointed their boundaries, times and habitations." If someone makes something, they own it, and the maker decides its purpose and use. That is true with the potter and his clay. It is true of God with His church. It is true of God with Israel. He made it and formed it for Himself, and so also the nations.

It says that God "established their boundaries, their times and their habitations," and who has ever considered that in verse 27 the purpose is given, namely, "that they should seek God, if perhaps they might find Him though He is not far from any one of us." This verse was a turning point for me. Up until that moment I had always thought of this verse only in personal or individual terms. But God has established nations in order that the nations themselves would seek Him. What is God's purpose for us as a nation? Why did God create our nation? Have we sought Him for His purpose for us as a nation? The tragic history of Germany can be traced to their failure to seek God for their purpose in being. Instead, the nation has sought its own national ambitions, and still seeks them now. It has been fifty years since the death of Hitler, but how do we explain Neo-Nazism and nationalism that is springing up again? It is a spirit that is rising again in exact proportion to the rise of German national ambition, independent of God. In fact, I do not know of a single country that has sought God's purposes for itself. What would God say if we asked Him?

We ourselves need to understand that Israel is not just "another" ethnic group among the nations. It is God's nation, and He calls it His inheritance. And "according to the number of the sons of Israel," in Deuteronomy 32, "He has established the number of the nations." How humbling for the nations to consider that their whole existence, their boundaries and their times are altogether related to the nation Israel. In other words, Israel is central to the nations, which is why "the law must go forth out of Zion, and the word of the Lord out of Jerusalem," "the appointed center.

But it is not a law for itself alone, but unto the nations, "that they should study war no more and beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks." We, as the church, need to align ourselves with the mind of God, and understand His purposes for His creation. Further, we need to communicate that reality to the nation itself, for we ought to be God's prophetic presence in the nation. How should secular and non-biblical men understand this except it be told them by the "nation" within the nation "God's Israel, His covenantal people, His prophetic people, i.e., His church? It says in verse 31 (Acts 17), "He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness" "not just individuals, but the world itself which He created." "God so loved the world that He sent His only begotten Son" (John 3:16). We have not thought in terms of the world. God has a plan for the nations and this age concludes with God's theocratic rule over the nations.

That which God has created and formed, He has every right to determine its purpose. He has made the nations for Him

self and His purposes, and what do we know as individual believers when we gave up our own autonomy and independence, and gave ourselves to the purposes of God who made us? We received God's peace and joy; to surrender to the purposes of God is life itself.

We need to pray for our own nation, but not in a sentimental way as if revival would be enough. No, the deepest repentance, going all the way back to the origins of the nation that has been so hospitable to pagan gods and still is. Lust, incest, sodomy and abortion are here because we have not sought God who made the nation. There may well be a purpose for our American nation, not yet fulfilled, that has to do with Jews in the Last Days. There is a reason why in Amos 9 God says, "I will sift Israel through all the nations."

What is God's strategy? Not only to find a remnant out of Israel at that time, but also to sift the nations themselves through which Jews will pass through. The nations need to be alerted to that soon-coming time by the prophetic church in its midst. It will blow the trumpet and not hold back, and have a view of its own purpose within the nation, much larger and deeper than what we thought, and not allow the nation to define us as a Sunday afterthought.

Re: Thank you joliboy - posted by docs (), on: 2016/4/25 10:48

I believe I have read that article before some time in the past but I just enjoyed reading it again.

Art speaks of there being a divine strategy behind the nation of Israel and what it will pass through as it is sifted again among the nations. I agree with that and believe that the coming events leading to the second advent of Christ will be divinely designed and wise in strategy so as to instruct the nations. In my opinion, the end days will not be just a set of chronological events to happen one after the other but will be a series of events designed to instruct the nations and mankind. God will allow again the validity and trustworthiness of His word to once again be brought to the attention of the nations and this in itself will be a sifting of the nations. It's my opinion that the controversy which is to swirl around Israel at the end will eventually spill over into the nations as God will allow once more the question of the trustworthiness of His ancient word to be seen and questioned so as to cause the nations to come to a decision. It will be a series of events but also a time of divine instruction. Part of the church's role will be to proclaim the excellencies of Christ and His atoning work and to show how this one peculiar nation is still central in God's redemptive plan and purposes as the eschatology of the everlasting covenant is worked out before the eyes of all. Therefore the nations will not be able to say they were not uninformed or not aware of the issues. The whole globe is to be confronted again so as to force decisions to be made and this confrontation is to come in my opinion through the mouth of the church who are the only ones that have been made stewards over and have knowledge of this insight.

Thank you bro and blessings. These are my opinions.

Re: , on: 2016/4/25 13:23

Good stuff brothers.

Also, thanks for posting "The Theocratic Kingdom" by Art Katz again too. Been many years since I heard that message & going back having done more study, prayer, & seeking the Lord on these things, it was good to hear. Always loved Art Katz.

God Bless,
Jeff

Re: Servanthood and God's glory - posted by docs (), on: 2016/4/26 9:37

It's been said that God's glory is best expressed in His servanthood lived out through others. The glory is not always a powerful presence that radiates with shekinah beams and causes those near it to be hardly able to stand etc. That's a tangible expression of God's glory and is legitimate. But God's "humble glory" can also be seen in acts of servanthood and service to others. When Christ girded Himself and stooped to wash the disciples feet that was a demonstration of God's glory as much as any cloud of glory and power and light hanging over a congregation. In the same way, God's glory will be seen in a redeemed Israel because this now lowly and contrite remnant will have girded themselves so as to wash the feet of the nations. Nations will not learn way anymore and instead will be shown a living example of service to others as the nations themselves begin to model the character of the Redeemer King bodily present again. He is the Suffering SERVANT and the nation will have suffered so as to become a servant. There will be no lording it over the nations as the nation that was the chiefest of sinners will now have become the chiefest of servants. In this way the glory of God will be spread among the nations as the nations learn war no more but begin to learn to wash one another's feet. Amen!

Re: Chrch History, on: 2016/4/26 9:53

PP,

Not trying to dig up bones, but I ran across something that answers your question & does show Judeo-Centric Eschatological Restoration of Israel to the land (again as I said, who said what when in the early church fathers isn't an end all be all "litmus" of anything to me, but you asked):

Ishodad of Merv (FL. 850)

If all of these previous predictions are not satisfactory to prove that these men were not influenced by natural trends or ideas popular in their day (David Baron, Nathaniel West, JC Ryle, Septimus Sears, Charles Spurgeon, Adolph Saphir, Horatio Bonar, Samuel Prideaux Tregelles, Jonathan Edwards, Sir Isaac Newton, Wilhelmus A. Brakel, Thomas Brightman, etc.), then consider this one final prediction that dates back as far back as the ninth century. Ishodad of Merv was a Christian bishop over the city of Hadatha near modern-day Tiberias. In his commentary on Micah 5:3, he wrote, "He shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth." This what the prophet calls Jerusalem. This means He will abandon them to the afflictions of captivity until the time of the return. This means that these predictions will not come true before they are back from their captivity."

When did Ishodad declare this? It is written in 850 AD, 1,100 years before the modern Jewish state was born!"

"When a Jew Rules the World", Joel Richardson, page 203, chapter 14, "The Prophesied Jewish Return to their Land"

Again, don't care to argue & not the strength of why I believe it, but only answering you cause you asked friend.

God Bless,
Jeff

Re: , on: 2016/4/26 10:24

Quote:
-----It's been said that God's glory is best expressed in His servanthood lived out through others. The glory is not always a powerful presence that radiates with shekinah beams and causes those near it to be hardly able to stand etc. That's a tangible expression of God's glory and is legitimate. But God's "humble glory" can also be seen in acts of servanthood and service to others. When Christ girded Himself and stooped to wash the disciples feet that was a demonstration of God's glory as much as any cloud of glory and power and light hanging over a congregation. In the same way, God's glory will be seen in a redeemed Israel because this now lowly and contrite remnant will have girded themselves so as to wash the feet of the nations. Nations will not learn way anymore and instead will be shown a living example of service to others as the nations themselves begin to model the character of the Redeemer King bodily present again. He is the Suffering SERVANT and the nation will have suffered so as to become a servant. There will be no lording it over the nations as the nation that was the chiefest of sinners will now have become the chiefest of servants. In this way the glory of God will be spread among the nations as the nations learn war no more but begin to learn to wash one another's feet. Amen!

Docs, Greg, is it ok if I ask docs a few questions about his paragraph, above?

It won't be about eschatology or the millenium, I'm done with that. Just some questions for clarity sake. Docs and I know how to converse with one another.

Re: thank you Jeff - posted by proudpapa, on: 2016/4/26 13:20

Ishodad of Merv (FL. 850)

I have never heard of him, researching him right now.

You do realize that by Richardson bringing up a little known Ishodad of Merv (FL. 850) to make a historic case, that he is conceding that he has found no Christian before 850 that believed Judeo-Centric Eschatology. something to think about

The reason I keep pressing Maimonides, is because Maimonides realized and taught his followers that they could influence the way that Christians interpreted their Scriptures. Maimonides indicated success in doing this.

I concede that 850 is before Maimonides.

Before you brought Ishodad to my attention, I was not aware of any Christian before Maimonides that taught a Judeo-Centric Eschatology

What I have been trying to figure out is if the modern Idea of a Judeo-Centric Eschatology has been influenced by Judaism, that question of mine is what led me to Maimonides in the first place.

Interesting enough while researching Ishodad of Merv and his commentaries I ran across this :

"The Syrian Church was from its origin...in close contact with the Jews : and in this way their writings often conserve peculiar interpretations that they borrowed from local Rabbis or from their local Jewish neighbours generally, with whom they seem to have been in a friendly relation not known in the West"

https://archive.org/stream/ishodadofmervbis01daaduoft/ishodadofmevbis01daaduoft_djvu.txt

Interesting we have a religion that denies that Jesus was the Christ that came in the flesh, apparently influencing Christianity an interpretation.

And where we find this influence has had an impact, Ironically we find Judeo-Centric Eschatology.

edit : for clarity

Re: , on: 2016/4/26 18:30

PP,

Again, I could say the same but worse type argument that many who held early & later to hard core "replacement theology" (Origen, Augustin, on up to Luther, Calvin, etc.) advocated the destruction & death of the Jews. And they affected a lot of modern theology, so it goes both ways. If someone was "affected by the Jews" (in terms of explaining how Hebraic Rabbinical writings, language, etc. was to help us understand the OT Prophets) vs someone supposedly with "the correct theology" advocated pillaging, burning, & killing the Jews, then which side sounds more "suspect"? Just also something to consider, I think, don't you?

God Bless,

Jeff

Re: - posted by sermonindex (), on: 2016/4/26 18:41

Saints,

Because of the recent arguing and debating that got out of control on this subject we are going to retire this thread.

May we all look forward to the soon coming of our Lord and the culmination of the ages and may the Lord find us obedient in our daily lives abiding with Him.

this thread is locked.