

Four Views on the Millennium

| | Dispensational Premillennialism | Historical Premillennialism | Amillennialism | Postmillennialism |
|---|--|---|---|---|
| Will Jesus return physically? | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| When Will Jesus Return? | After a 7 year tribulation; before the millenium | After a 7 year tribulation; before the millennium | Anytime, a detailed time frame is not important | After the millennium |
| Do the rapture and second coming of Christ occur at the same time? | No, they are events separated by either 7 years (pre-trib. rapture) or 3 ½ years (mid-trib. rapture) | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Will there be a great tribulation? | Yes | Yes | The tribulation occurs any time Christians are persecuted or wars and disasters occur | The tribulation is the conflict between good and evil since Jesus' death and resurrection |

Four Views on the Millennium (continued)

| | Dispensational Premillennialism | Historical Premillennialism | Amillennialism | Postmillennialism |
|--|---|--|---|--|
| Will Christians suffer during the tribulation? | Christians are either raptured before the tribulation or 3 ½ years into the tribulation | Yes, Christians will go through the tribulation and endure suffering and persecution for the cause of Christ | Yes, Christians will suffer and endure persecution until Jesus returns; | Yes, Christians are called to share the gospel, and tribulation will occur when that gospel is opposed |
| Will there be a literal 1,000-year millennium? | Yes, after the 7 year tribulation, Christ will return and reign for 1,000 years. | Yes, after the tribulation, Christ will return and reign for 1,000 years | No, the millennium refers to the reign of Christ in the hearts of his believers | No, the millennium refers to a period of peace when the gospel reaches all people |
| Is the modern state of Israel relevant to the prophecies in Revelation? | Yes | No | No | No |
| When was this view most held? | Became popular after 1860. Has increased in popularity | The earliest view of the end times, emerging at the end of the first century | Popularized in AD 400, continues to be accepted today | May have been popular as early as AD 300, less popular today |

Four Approaches to Revelation

| | Historicist | Preterist | Futurist | Idealist |
|--|--|--|--|---|
| How Revelation is viewed | Revelation is prophecy about church history from the time of John to the end of the world | Revelation is prophecy that was fulfilled primarily in the first century AD | Revelation is prophecy primarily about the future end of the world | Revelation is a non-historical and non-prophetic drama about spiritual realities |
| The seven churches of Asia Minor Rev. 2:1 - 3:22 | The prophecy begins with the seven actual churches in John's day and proceeds through history from there | The prophecy begins with the seven actual churches of Asia minor. It then focuses on Israel before AD 70 | The seven churches may be the actual churches, or symbolic types of churches present in the last days. | The seven churches symbolize tendencies in the church that can occur in every age |
| The 144,000 Rev. 7:1-8 | The 144,000 is a symbolic number that represents the entire church | The 144,000 may be the Jewish Christians who escaped the destruction of Jerusalem | The 144,000 are Jewish Christians in the last days | The 144,000 are the true spiritual Israel: the church on earth |
| 666 Rev. 13: 18 | It is the number of imperfection and human evil, it may also refers to the Roman Catholic Pope | It is the number that the letters in the name "Nero Caesar" add up to. | It is the number of the future Antichrist – someone who will be like Nero back from the dead | It is the number of imperfection and human evil that leads to idol worship |