



# **THE ERRORS WITH PREMILLENNIALISM**

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# REVELATION 20:4

*"And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Then I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received his mark on their foreheads or on their hands. And they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years."*

- Countless religious people use this verse to teach that when the second coming of Jesus occurs, He will set up an earthly kingdom and reign 1,000 years on earth. This doctrine is known as premillennialism.
  - Surveys show that at least 65% of Bible believers accept this doctrine as truth even though numerous passages prove it to be false.

# THE BIBLICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST

*"For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord" (1 Thess. 4:16-17).*

- This passage teaches that when Christ returns He will not set foot on earth. Instead, the dead in Christ will rise from the graves, then those who are still alive will follow, and both will meet Jesus *"in the air."*
  - How could Jesus return to establish a kingdom and reign on earth without ever setting foot on the earth?

# THE BIBLICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST

*"Knowing this first: that scoffers will come in the last days, walking according to their own lusts, and saying, 'Where is the promise of His coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation' . . . But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up" (2 Pet. 3:3-4, 10).*

- This passage shows how when “*the day of the Lord*” (Jesus’s second coming) occurs, the earth and everything in it will be burned up.
  - How could Jesus possibly reign 1,000 years on earth when the earth has been destroyed?

# THE BIBLICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST

*"But each one in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, afterward those who are Christ's at His coming. Then comes the end, when He delivers the kingdom to God the Father, when He puts an end to all rule and all authority and power. For He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet. The last enemy that will be destroyed is death" (1 Cor. 15:23-26).*

- Premillennialists argue that the second coming of Christ and the end of the world are not the same events, but the Holy Spirit says otherwise in this passage.
  - If the kingdom is not established before Christ's second coming like premillennialists say, then the consequence of that logic is that the kingdom will never be established, based on what this passage teaches in regards to the second coming and the end of the world being the same event. And, of course, if the kingdom is never established, how then could Jesus deliver something that does not exist over to God at the end of the world?

# JESUS IS ALREADY REIGNING

*"And I heard, as it were, the voice of a great multitude, as the sound of many waters and as the sound of mighty thunderings, saying, 'Alleluia! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns' (Rev. 19:6).*

- Note that "reigns" (present-tense) and not "will reign" (future-tense) is used in this verse to indicate that the Lord's reign began in the first century.

*"These will make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them, for He is Lord of lords and King of kings; and those who are with Him are called, chosen, and faithful" (Rev. 17:14).*

- Jesus is King over His kingdom right now.

*"I, John, both your brother and companion in the tribulation and kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was on the island that is called Patmos for the word of God and for the testimony of Jesus Christ" (Rev. 1:9; see also Col. 1:13).*

- John was a member of the kingdom of Christ at the time of writing Revelation.

# IF THERE IS ANY DOUBT THAT THE KINGDOM ALREADY EXISTS . . .

*"Assuredly, I say to you that there are some standing here who will not taste death till they see the kingdom of God present with power" (Mark 9:1).*

- If Christ's kingdom has not yet come, we sure do have some old folks walking around this earth!

# WHAT IS THE KINGDOM?

- Jesus stated that His kingdom was spiritual, not physical (John 18:36).
- The Lord's reign over this spiritual kingdom began upon His resurrection (Acts 2:30-31).
- The church (all saved people) is the spiritual kingdom in which Christ currently reigns (Acts 2:38, 41-42, 46-47; Eph. 1:22-23, 5:23-25; Col. 1:18-24).
  - While the words "church" and "kingdom" are not always interchangeable in scripture, evidence that the church and the kingdom in which Christ reigns are one and the same is found in Matt. 16:18-19 where the Lord referred to the "**church**" and the "**kingdom of heaven**" synonymously.
  - This spiritual kingdom - the church - is the same kingdom prophesied by Daniel in Dan 2:44; 7:13-14 (consider also Heb. 12:18-28).



# CONCLUSION

- The errors with premillennialism are obvious.
  - By rightly dividing God's Word (2 Tim. 2:15), we can see how Rev. 20:4 has nothing to do with a physical kingdom in which Jesus reigns for 1,000 years because when Christ returns again, it will be "**the end**" of this world (1 Cor. 15:23-24), not the beginning of a 1,000 year reign on it.
  - Christ's figurative 1,000 year reign began in the first century after His resurrection and with the establishment of the church.
  - Members of the Lord's church are presently members of the kingdom of Christ.
  - When Christ returns on the last day, He will transfer faithful members of His kingdom over to God to receive their eternal reward.
  - **THE QUESTION MUST BE RAISED THEN - ARE YOU IN THE KINGDOM?**