

## Chapter Twenty Three: Last Days

### Amillennialism

**(“Christ reigns now —  
in an already/not yet way”)**

**Why this position?**

**It honors the “already/not” yet  
victory Christ won in the NT**

- Lk 10:18
- Mk 3:27
- Jn 12:30-33
- Col 2:15
- Eph 2:1-10 & 6:12ff
- Compare Rev 20:3 with Ac 26:18

**It preserves the biblical teaching  
of a single resurrection at the  
end of time**

- Dan 12:2; Jn 5:28-29; Ac 24:15

**It holds (along with postmil'm)  
that Christ's return puts an end  
to sin, suffering, & death ... once  
for all**

- ICo 15:50ff

### Postmillennialism

**(“Christ's reign has begun, but we can expect it to  
intensify before his return”)**

**Why this position?**

**It stresses the victory of the gospel in the world**

- Mt 13:31-33

**It resists compartmentalizing the gospel's impact  
into “spiritual” vs “historical/cultural”**

- ICo 10:31

### Premillennialism

**(“Christ's reign is not yet [except maybe in a limited  
way] and will begin when he returns — even that  
reign will not be his final reign”)**

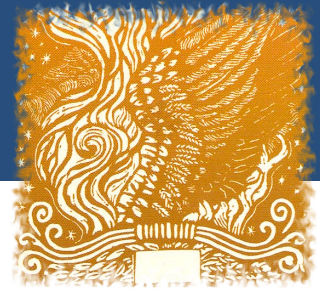
**Why this position?**

**It allows for the most straightforward reading of the  
flow of Rev 19 into Rev 20 and for the language of  
Rev 20 itself**

**It honors the earthy language of the promises to  
Israel — assuring that God's intentions for Israel do  
not get “spiritualized” out of existence.**

- Isa 65:18-20
- Jer 29:10-14

**Its strong sense of the “not yet” makes sure the  
church does not become haughtily triumphalistic**



## Preterism

**(“Many, if not all, the promises of Jesus’ return were fulfilled by God’s judgment against Jerusalem in the Roman-Jewish War of A.D. 66-70”)**

**Why this position? It honors the “immediacy” language of the NT sayings about Jesus’ return**

- Lk 21:31-32

**It answers to aspects of the Olivet Discourse**

- Lk 21:20-24

**It provides a theological rationale for the elimination of the physical Temple, so our focus can be on the Spiritual House — the Final Temple — God is building**

- Eph 2:11-22
- 1Pt 2:4-5

## The Already but Not Yet

*“Postmils, amils, and preterists emphasize the already, premils the not yet. A balanced eschatology will recognize the importance of both.” — Frame*

## Eschatology & the Christian Life

**Reordered priorities** — 2Pt 3:11-12

**Purification of ourselves** — 1Jn 3:2-3

**Encouragement** — 1Co 15:58

**Readiness** — Mt 24:44; 1Th 5:1-10; 1Pt 1:7; 2Pt 3:14

**Reward** — Mt 25:21,23, 31-37