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# THE RAPTURE

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## QUESTIONS:

- 1) What are the three systems of interpreting the Book of Revelation?
- 2) What did Alexander Campbell believe about the millennium?
- 3) Why did postmillennialism lose its popularity?
- 4) How is truth determined?
- 5) What did the United Nations do in 1948?
- 6) According to the premillennial doctrine, how many times will Jesus return?
- 7) How many resurrections does the Bible describe?
- 8) What will be destroyed when Jesus comes again – according to scripture?

## INTRODUCTION

**“Rapture”** – *“The transporting of a person from one place to another, especially to heaven”* (American Heritage)

The word ***“rapture”*** is actually never found in the Bible, but it is believed the concept of the rapture IS found:

### **Matthew 24:40-42**

<sup>40</sup> Then two men will be in the field: **one will be taken** and the other left.

<sup>41</sup> Two women will be grinding at the mill: **one will be taken** and the other left.

<sup>42</sup> Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming.

### **1 Thessalonians 4:16-17**

<sup>16</sup> 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.

<sup>17</sup> 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.

So this “*caught up*” business is called the “*rapture*.”

When most people speak about the “*rapture*,” they believe in a doctrine called “*premillennialism*.”

Premillennialism has to do with how people interpret one chapter in the Bible – **Rev 20**.

(So in this sense, Rev 20 is one of the most popular chapter in all the Bible.)

## **THREE SYSTEMS OF INTERPRETATION**

The word “*millennial*” means **1000 years**.

### **Revelation 20:1-4**

<sup>1</sup> Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand.

<sup>2</sup> He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for **a thousand years**;

<sup>3</sup> and he cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal on him, so that he should deceive the nations no more till the thousand years were finished. But after these things he must be released for a little while.

<sup>4</sup> 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**.

Here is the “*millennial*” reign of Christ.

There are three common ways of viewing Rev 20:

- Premillennialism
- Postmillennialism
- Amillennialism

**Premillennialism**. “*Pre*” means before. This means the 2<sup>nd</sup> coming of Jesus will occur before the 1000 years.

**Postmillennialism**. “*Post*” means after. This means the 2<sup>nd</sup> coming of Jesus will occur after the 1000 years.

**Amillennialism**. “*A*” is a negative particle in Greek. It functions like the “*un*” prefix we have on certain words.

An ***un***believer is the opposite of a believer.

An ***a***theist is the opposite of someone who is a theist.

Amillennialism holds that the 2<sup>nd</sup> coming of Jesus has nothing to do with the 1000 years.

## **POSTMILLENNIALISM**

Postmillennialism is not so popular any more, but it use to be very, very popular.

The scholars who use to believe this believed the Bible taught a great period (not a literal 1000 years, but simply a long period of time) of Gospel success – success like the world has never known before.

People will obey the gospel in massive numbers and then Christ will come again.

- Things will simply get better and better.
- People will obey more and more.
- This is called the millennium.
- Then Jesus returns after this. (Postmillennialism).

Alexander Campbell believed this. During his time massive numbers of people were obeying the gospel. They were leaving denominations and obeying the gospel and things were improving.

- About this time the industrial revolution was beginning.
- Progress was being made in medicine, industry, education and other areas.

Campbell believed God was using him to usher in the millennial reign of Christ.

Campbell was the editor of a monthly paper called *“The Christian Baptist.”* He changed the name to *“Millennial Harbinger.”*

“Harbinger” – a forerunner; one who brings a message before the king arrives.

Campbell actually believed that he was being used by God to bring about the millennial reign of Christ. Things were going to get better and better. More and more would obey the gospel. Then Jesus would come again.

But as time went on, people stopped obeying the gospel so much. People were losing interest.

Then brethren began to argue among themselves:

- Was it scriptural to have **missionary societies**?
- Was it scriptural to have **instrumental music**?
- Was it scriptural to have **a paid preacher** who did all the preaching?
- Was it scriptural to have **a choir**?

Campbell feared the movement was getting bogged down. He wanted to keep “*on course*” and bring about the 2<sup>nd</sup> return of Christ. He began to rebuke brethren for arguing over these things which he now considered petty.

At one time he didn’t consider these things petty. At one time Campbell himself insisted that we must have scripture for everything we do.

But now ushering in the 2<sup>nd</sup> return of Christ became more important.

Since more and more people were accepting these innovations, Campbell himself began to accept them.

**NOTE:** Campbell lowered his standards. The object was to have more and more people obey the gospel – at all cost. Things must get better and better and then Christ will return.

Campbell became the first president of ***The American Missionary Society***. He became more and more liberal.

**THEN CAME THE WAR! – WWI.** This was the “*war to end all wars.*” But it didn’t end all wars!

**NEXT CAME WWII.** It became obvious with the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War that things weren’t going to get better and better.

***Postmillennialism has almost died.*** Very few scholars believe this anymore.

## **AMILLENNIALISM**

Amillennialists do not agree on the significance of the 1000 year reign in Rev 20. However they do unite in opposing postmillennialism and premillennialism.

Most amillennialists believe the millennium is *the Christian age*.

- Satan has been defeated by Christ when He arose from the dead and the gospel was preached.
- The church was established and men could have the actual forgiveness of their sins and actually be in fellowship with God.
- The number of people who obey God is not the determining factor as to whether Christ is in control and winning the battle.
- Simply the fact that some accept the gospel and obey is significant to heaven.
- Satan is defeated and loses when he doesn't win every single soul to hell.

### **Acts 2:30-31**

<sup>30</sup> Therefore, being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that of the fruit of his body, according to the flesh, He would **raise up the Christ to sit on his throne,**

<sup>31</sup> he, foreseeing this, **spoke concerning the resurrection** of the Christ, that His soul was not left in Hades, nor did His flesh see corruption.



This passage teaches Christ began reigning on **the throne of David** when He resurrected.

### **Matthew 28:18**

<sup>18</sup> And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, **“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.**



If He has *“all authority,”* He can't have more some day in the future.

### **John 18:36**

<sup>36</sup> Jesus answered, “**My kingdom is not of this world**. If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would fight, so that I should not be delivered to the Jews; but now My kingdom is not from here.”



The kingdom of Christ is not a physical kingdom but rather a spiritual kingdom. This kingdom comes in the form of the church.

So when men obey the gospel and become part of the church – they are in the kingdom of God:

### **Colossians 1:13**

<sup>13</sup> He has delivered us from the power of darkness and **conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,**

It may not seem this way to people in the world, but according to the Bible, when people obey the gospel and are added by the Lord to the church, they become part of the spiritual kingdom of Christ.

**Amillennialists** – do not believe there will be another form of the kingdom. They do not believe Jesus will ever have a worldly kingdom and literally reign on the earth.

Not so many people believe this, but remember: ***Truth is not determined by how many people accept something.***

**ILL:** At one time most people thought the earth was flat – but that didn't make the earth flat.

Truth is determined by the word of God.

### **John 17:17**

<sup>17</sup> Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.

So we should be more interested in what the Bible says than what the masses say.

## **PREMILLENNIALISM**

Premillennialism comes in a variety of flavors.

The flavor of premillennialism that is making headway today is called ***“dispensational” premillennialism.***

The people who made this theory popular are:

- J. N. Darby (the “grandfather” of this theory)
- Cyrus I. Scofield (Scofield Bible)
- Hal Lindsey (“Great, Late Planet Earth”)
- Tim LaHaye & Jerry Jenkins (“Left Behind” books and movies)
- Billy Graham (“Approaching Hoofbeats”)

Premillennialists tend to be literalists! They pride themselves in taking the Bible and saying they simply *“believe what it says.”* They’re implying that if someone doesn’t believe their premillennial doctrine – they don’t believe the Bible!

- It says Christ will reign 1000 years – they simply believe it! (It’s that simple.)
- It says Satan will be bound – they simply believe it! (It’s that simple.)

### **Revelation 20:1-2**

<sup>1</sup> Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand.

<sup>2</sup> He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years;



**Q:** Is the chain that binds the Devil *a literal chain* made out of steel?

**R:** Well ... no, the chain is symbolic of the power of God that binds the Devil.

Okay – then not every thing is literal is it!

When people don't believe the chain is literal – do they not believe the Bible?

Those believing premillennialism are inconsistent when they say they interpret these prophecies literally.

- The “bottomless pit” is not a literal, physical bottomless pit.
- The “key” in the hand of the angel is not a literal key to a literal lock.
- The Devil is not a literal dragon.
- The Devil is not a literal serpent.

## **WHAT THEY BELIEVE**

Dispensational premillennialists hold that God has two grand purposes to be fulfilled in human history:

- One concerns **the church**.
- The other concerns **the nation of Israel**.

### **1) The church.**

Mr. Lindsey and his colleagues tell us the “*church*” was in the mind of God from eternity ... BUT ... He never told anyone about it.

- God kept the church a secret until NT times.
- The church is not an “*afterthought*.”

- They insist, however, that God said not one word about the church in the OT.

They use passages in the NT to try to prove this point.

## 2) **The nation of Israel.**

God's purpose of blessing the nation of Israel is His 2<sup>nd</sup> major purpose in the world (supposedly).

This purpose is "*clearly*" revealed in the OT beginning with Gen 12:1-3.

Let me summarize what they believe:

- Abraham's descendants would form a great nation – the nation of Israel.
- God would give them the land of Canaan for an "everlasting" possession.
- They never actually received this entire piece of land when Joshua led the people into Canaan. They're still waiting for God to fulfill this promise.
- A covenant was made with David that his seed would rule over Israel forever.
- The nation of Israel was punished for its unfaithfulness by being sent into Babylonian captivity.
- The Messiah would come and restore their land to them and reign over them.
- Surprisingly, when Jesus came to do this, the Nation rejected Him and Jesus was not able to restore them to their land and reign over them as king!

Just stop for a moment and think about that! The Jews themselves prevented God from working out one of His two great plans!

(We'll say more about this in a moment.)

- Since the Jews rejected their Messiah, the church was established on an interim basis. Men will be part of the church for the time being.
- The Lord will re-gather the Jews to the land He promised would be theirs forever.

## **THE YEAR 1948**

This began in 1948 (supposedly) when the United Nations forcibly confiscated the land of the Palestinians, gave it to the Jews, and officially declared their land ***the Nation of Israel***.

**Q:** Why did the United Nations do this?

**A:** Because in 1948 the Jews had just come thru Hitler's holocaust. Six million Jews had been murdered by Hitler.

The United Nations didn't know what to do with the Jews who had fled Hitler's Germany. They were scattered all over the world and no one wanted the Jews.

Think about that. They had just come thru the holocaust and now no one wanted them.

This was horrible.

But listen to this:

### **Deuteronomy 28:1-6**

<sup>1</sup> "Now it shall come to pass, **if you diligently obey the voice of the LORD your God, to observe carefully all His commandments which I command you today**, that the LORD your God will set you high above all nations of the earth.

<sup>2</sup> And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, because you obey the voice of the LORD your God:

<sup>3</sup> "Blessed shall you be in the city, and blessed shall you be in the country.

<sup>4</sup> "Blessed shall be the fruit of your body, the produce of your ground and the increase of your herds, the increase of your cattle and the offspring of your flocks.

<sup>5</sup> "Blessed shall be your basket and your kneading bowl.

<sup>6</sup> "Blessed shall you be when you come in, and blessed shall you be when you go out.

These were wonderful blessings, but they are conditional.

Now watch:

### **Deuteronomy 28:15-19**

<sup>15</sup> “But it shall come to pass, **if you do not obey the voice of the LORD your God, to observe carefully all His commandments and His statutes which I command you today**, that all these curses will come upon you and overtake you:

<sup>16</sup> “Cursed shall you be in the city, and cursed shall you be in the country.

<sup>17</sup> “Cursed shall be your basket and your kneading bowl.

<sup>18</sup> “Cursed shall be the fruit of your body and the produce of your land, the increase of your cattle and the offspring of your flocks.

<sup>19</sup> “Cursed shall you be when you come in, and cursed shall you be when you go out.

The remainder of the chapter continues like this. Watch the final five verses:

### **Deuteronomy 28:64-68**

<sup>64</sup> “Then **the LORD will scatter you among all peoples, from one end of the earth to the other**, and there you shall serve other gods, which neither you nor your fathers have known — wood and stone.

<sup>65</sup> And among those nations you shall find no rest, nor shall the sole of your foot have a resting place; but there the LORD will give you a trembling heart, failing eyes, and anguish of soul.

<sup>66</sup> Your life shall hang in doubt before you; you shall fear day and night, and have no assurance of life.

<sup>67</sup> In the morning you shall say, ‘Oh, that it were evening!’ And at evening you shall say, ‘Oh, that it were morning!’ because of the fear which terrifies your heart, and because of the sight which your eyes see.

<sup>68</sup> “And the LORD will take you back to Egypt in ships, by the way of which I said to you, ‘You shall never see it again.’ And there you shall be offered for sale to your enemies as male and female slaves, but **no one will buy you.**”

At the end of WWII the Jews were scattered among all the nations and no one wanted them.

In 1948 the United Nations came up with this idea: ***We will take the land of Palestine and give it to the Jews and they can all move there and live.***

The Palestinians were not happy. This was their land. They were being driven out of their land so that Jews (whom no one else wanted in their countries) could live in Palestine.

**Q:** Do you understand why the Palestinians are angry with the Jews? Do you understand why Palestinians hate the United States and United Nations?

How would you feel if you were driven from your property to make room for someone else?

Especially if the ones driving you out of your property don't want the Jews either!

**ILL:** Imagine the city of Atlanta being upset with homeless people. They don't want them hanging around downtown – they beg, they bother tourists, they litter. The city doesn't know what to do with them.

So the city takes your house and my house and they don't pay us for our houses. And they stick these homeless people in our houses so they can have a place to live and now you and I are homeless.

This is what happened in the Middle East.

## **WHAT THEY BELIEVE**

(Continued)

Let's continue with what the premillennialist believe.

- At the end of the "church age" a rapture will occur. Here all saved Christians will be secretly snatched up off the earth. They will simply vanish.

- The dead saints of all the ages are also resurrected and snatched up during the rapture.
- With no saved people left on the earth, there are no good people left to warn others. No one left to preach and persuade sinners.
- Things get worse and worse.
- This is the beginning of the 7 year tribulation – the most sinful time the world has ever known.
- A supreme ruler will arise – the Antichrist.
- This Antichrist will make an agreement with the unbelieving Jews left in the world.
- These Jews will begin to rebuild their temple with the approval and help of the Antichrist.
- For 3 ½ years things will go well with this project, but the Antichrist will break his promise with the Jews and begin to persecute them.
- The next 3 ½ years will be awful for the Jews.
- Then Christ comes again.

This is actually the third time He has now come.

The “*rapture*” was His second coming, but who’s counting!

- Christ reigns in Jerusalem on the literal throne of David for 1000 years.
- During this time Israel is the supreme nation.
- The temple, priesthood and animal sacrifices are restored.
- At the end of the 1000 years Satan is released for a short time.
- The Battle of Armageddon occurs and Satan is defeated once and for all.

Christ has now come back for a fourth time to fight this battle!

- All of the wicked dead are raised.

Remember, the dead saints were raised 1007 years ago when the rapture occurred.

So there are two resurrections (one for the saints, a separate one for wicked people) *separated by 1007 years.*

- The final Judgment occurs.
- The world is destroyed by fire and a new heaven and earth are made.
- Eternity begins.

## **WHAT'S WRONG WITH THIS?**

What's wrong with all this?

Let me give you **11 reasons why this is not right:**

### **1) The rapture is not going to be secret.**

According to premillennialism, when the Lord comes again the second time, no one will see Him.

Richard W. DeHaan of the *Radio Bible Class*:

“One of these days, as sure as this is the Word of God, those who have pled with you, who have warned you, who have prayed for you, will be missing. The preacher will be gone, mother will be gone, wife will be gone, and the baby's crib will be empty. Oh, what an awakening that is going to be. Imagine, getting up some morning and your wife is not there, and you call for her, but there is no answer. You go downstairs but she is not there. You call upstairs to your daughter asking her where mother is, but no answer from her. Your daughter is gone too...Down the street runs a woman shrieking at the top of her voice, ‘Some one has kidnapped my baby’. And in a moment the streets are full of people, weeping, crying,

and howling over the disappearance of loved ones. What has happened? The Lord has come, like a thief in the night. He has quietly stolen away those who trust Him, like Enoch, and no one is left behind to warn you any more, to pray or show you the way" (*What The Bible Says About The End Time. Russell Boatman, pp. 192-193*)

But according to the Bible, everyone will know when it happens:

### **1 Thessalonians 4:16-17**

<sup>16</sup> 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.

<sup>17</sup> 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.

### **Revelation 1:7**

<sup>7</sup> Behold, He is coming with clouds, and **every eye will see Him**, even they who pierced Him. And all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of Him. Even so, Amen.

## **2) Neither saints nor Jesus are coming back to the earth after the "rapture."**

### **1 Thessalonians 4:17**

<sup>17</sup> 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.

**"and thus" (οὕτως)** – "thus, in this way"

In the way they met the Lord "in the air" "**in this way**" ("**thus**") they will always be with the Lord.

There is no passage in all scripture which teaches the Lord will ever set foot on the earth again.



If someone interprets a prophetic passage to mean Jesus will land on the earth again, that interpretation would contradict this plain passage of scripture.

### 3) **The Lord is only going to return a 2<sup>nd</sup> time.**

Premillennialism has the Lord returning three more times!

- He came the first time when He was born of Mary.
- He comes the 2<sup>nd</sup> time during the secret rapture.
- He comes the 3<sup>rd</sup> time to reign on the earth for 1000 years.
- He comes the 4<sup>th</sup> time to fight the Battle of Armageddon and defeat Satan.

#### **Hebrews 9:27-28**

<sup>27</sup> And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment,  
<sup>28</sup> so Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many. To those who eagerly wait for Him He will appear **a second time**, apart from sin, for salvation.

Jesus is returning **only one 2<sup>nd</sup> time**. He is not coming back again and again and again!

### 4) **There is only one resurrection.**

Premillennialism says there will be two resurrections:

- The 1<sup>st</sup> will occur when the secret rapture happens. This is for the saints.
- The 2<sup>nd</sup> occurs 1007 years later. This is for the wicked.

#### **John 5:28-29**

<sup>28</sup> Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which **all who are in the graves will hear His voice**

<sup>29</sup> and come forth — those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation.

When the Lord returns *“all who are in the graves”* will come forth – the wicked and just.

## 5) **Death will be destroyed when Jesus returns.**

Premillennialism has Jesus returning the 2<sup>nd</sup> time and secretly rapturing the saved away. The lost people left behind will continue dying – it will be awful as the 7 year tribulation occurs.

Then after the 1000 year reign the Lord comes again and fights the Battle of Armageddon – the most horrible war ever to be fought. More dying.

### **1 Corinthians 15:23**

<sup>23</sup> But each one in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, afterward those who are **Christ's at His coming.**



Watch carefully. We are about to read what will happen when Christ comes the 2<sup>nd</sup> time.

### **1 Corinthians 15:24-26**

<sup>24</sup> 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.

<sup>25</sup> For He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet.

<sup>26</sup> **The last enemy that will be destroyed is death.**

Death will end when Jesus returns the second time.

This fits with what we learned in Jn 5:28-29 – *“all who are in the graves will hear His voice and come forth”* – even the wicked. Death is destroyed.

### **1 Corinthians 15:51-54**

<sup>51</sup> Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed —

<sup>52</sup> in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

<sup>53</sup> For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.

<sup>54</sup> So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "**Death is swallowed up in victory.**"

## 6) **Christ will END his reign when He returns.**

Premillennialism says Jesus begins His reign when He returns the 2<sup>nd</sup> time. The Bible says He is reigning now and will end His reign:

### **1 Corinthians 15:24-26**

<sup>24</sup> 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.**

<sup>25</sup> For He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet.

<sup>26</sup> **The last enemy that will be destroyed is death.**

## 7) **There is only one last trumpet.**

Premillennialism says Rev 6-7 is describing the 7 year tribulation period after Jesus had come and raptured the saved!

But Rev 6-7 has the blowing of seven trumpets.

When Jesus comes again, *the "last" trumpet* will have sounded:

### **1 Thessalonians 4:16-17**

<sup>16</sup> 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.

<sup>17</sup> 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 Corinthians 15:52**

<sup>52</sup> in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, **at the last trumpet**. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

## **8) The Lord's death is belittled.**

Premillennialism says the Jews' rejection of Jesus was a surprise.

But it was no surprise.

### **Revelation 13:8**

<sup>8</sup> ... [the Lord is] the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

Isa 53 and Ps 2 both speak in detail of the Lord's death. It was no surprise.

## **9) The temple, priesthood and animal sacrifices will not be re-instituted - at least not with God's approval.**

- The temple was typical of the church (Heb 8:2).
- The priesthood was typical of the priesthood of all believers (1 Pet 2:9).
- The animal sacrifices were typical of Jesus dying on the cross (Heb 10:1-10).

Those animal sacrifices which symbolized Jesus dying will never be re-instituted. This is an insult to the crucifixion of Jesus!

## **10) What if the Jews reject Jesus again?**

Here's a big problem for premillennialism.

Supposedly Jesus was going to set up His earthly kingdom when He came the first time, but the Jews surprisingly rejected Him. This rejection caused Him to delay setting up the kingdom and in the meantime He had to set up the church.

**Q:** How can we be so sure the Jews won't reject Him when He comes again the 2<sup>nd</sup> time (or should I say the 3<sup>rd</sup> time)?

After all ... if they rejected Him once and prevented Him from setting up His kingdom the first time, they might do it again!

## **11) Unbelievers will not have a second chance to obey.**

Premillennialism teaches that those left behind after the rapture will have a second chance to get right with God.

The unbelieving Jews will have even more chances after they have gone thru the 7 yr tribulation!

**NO!** This would not be fair for all the billions throughout history who did not have a second chance.

***God shows no partiality*** (Acts 10:34).

## **CONCLUSION**

While premillennialism seems to be so popular, not everyone believes it.

The reason it seems everyone believes it is because it's getting all the media coverage right now. Popular authors and film makers are making it popular.

But not everyone believes premillennialism or the rapture as it's currently being taught.

**Mark 13:33-37**

<sup>33</sup> Take heed, watch and pray; for you do not know when the time is.

<sup>34</sup> It is like a man going to a far country, who left his house and gave authority to his servants, and to each his work, and commanded the doorkeeper to watch.

<sup>35</sup> Watch therefore, for you do not know when the master of the house is coming — in the evening, at midnight, at the crowing of the rooster, or in the morning —

<sup>36</sup> lest, coming suddenly, he find you sleeping.

<sup>37</sup> And what I say to you, I say to all: Watch!"

When the Lord returns there will be no second chances to get right with God. We must use our time now to prepare for His one and only 2<sup>nd</sup> coming.