

**THE  
CHURCH  
IN  
ISAIAH 2:2-4**



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Premillennialism, Transmillennialism, Amillennialism, Isaiah, the church, Realized Eschatology and Eschatology.

**ABSTRACT**

To look at the problems caused by the false doctrines of Premillennialism and Transmillennialism upon the church in our present age. Both of these doctrines have done detrimental damage to the church. Premillennialism has led people down the path of destruction believing the doctrine that Christ will return to set up an earthly kingdom because he failed to convince the Jews the first time around. While on the other hand Transmillennialism has lead people down a different path of destruction believing that Christ has already returned and that the earth will stand forever and that the only judgment will be when one dies. In this thesis we want to look at the true doctrine (which many label as Amillennialism) and show it to be the only consistent doctrine with Biblical teaching on the matter of what Isaiah was teaching in Isaiah 2:2-4.

## INTRODUCTORY MATTERS

“And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the LORD'S house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it. And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more” (Isa 2:2-4).

The problems of Premillennialism and Transmillennialism (the A.D. 70 doctrine) have bombarded the church for decades. Both of these doctrines are soul damning in nature so it really doesn't matter which path of error one goes down because error is still error, and all error leads to damnation. The transmillennialist cannot say that his doctrine is any better than the Premillennialist because it isn't. Both are erroneous, and both will condemn. When dad taught me how to drive, he taught me that it didn't make any difference which side of the car I tore up because the car would still be wrecked. He said to stay out of the ditch on the left and on the right, in other words “Keep it between the ditches.” I have tried to practice that in all areas of my life because it doesn't matter which extreme you fall into, an extreme is still an extreme. The truth is somewhere in between the two extremes. Between the two extremes of Premillennialism and Transmillennialism lies the truth of the matter and that is what we search for. We need to avoid the extremes for they will only lead us to condemnation.

While Premillennialism means before the 1000 year reign Transmillennialism points to the transformation of ages, from the Old to New Covenant, which, as they claim, occurred during the apostolic age as Jesus

predicted. In actuality Transmillennialism would literally mean “changing 1000 year reign” since “trans” literally means to change and millennial means 1000 years. In their effort to be like everyone else and have a “millennialism” tagged to their doctrine the A.D. 70 proponents have come up with one that is completely clueless, useless, and meaningless. There is one more “millennialism” doctrine which needs to be considered here and it is named “postmillennialism” which means “after the 1000 years are over.”

“**postmillennialism** is an interpretation of chapter 20 of the [Book of Revelation](#) which sees [Christ's second coming](#) as occurring *after* (Latin *post-*) the "[Millennium](#)", a [Golden Age](#) or era of Christian prosperity and dominance. The term subsumes several similar views of the end times, and it stands in contrast to [premillennialism](#) and, to a lesser extent, [amillennialism](#)" (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Postmillennialism>).

Does the true position have a name? Does it need a name? Many think that if a position doesn't have a name then it isn't worth looking at, so in their plight to “be like the nations about them” some have given the true position the name of “Amillennialism.” A meaning “without” and **millennialism** meaning 1000 year reign; in other words the position that says that there is no 1000 year reign. We need to leave off the “millennialism” name, completely, and just call it the truth. By the time one considers all of the “millennialisms” one wonders why those who hold to the truth would even want to have the truth marked with such a name. The very thought of it is a buzz word for “eschatology” [second coming] and strange ideas usually come with that word. The latest Hollywood version of the end of time events is the up and coming movie *2012* which is scheduled to hit theaters this fall. Though this is a movie it is based on real superstitions:

“2012 WARNING THE BLESSED MOTHER WARNS US OF EARTH CHANGES WHEN TWO SUNS CAN BE SEEN IN THE SKY Mayan Calendar Ends, Planet X Returns, the Milky Way Aligns with the Earth & Sun all on December 21, 2012 911 STARTED IT, THEN KATRINA, IOWA FLOODS, CALIFORNIA FIRES, NWO, INCREASED NATURAL DISASTERS, THE COUNTDOWN HAS BEGUN” (<http://www.2012warning.com/>).

And, yet, we ask why we are losing our children to atheism? We are losing them because we have stopped being reasonable and logical in our teaching of the Bible. Back when the Lord’s people stood against all these “isms” and taught their children to study the Bible and think logically and rationally, atheists didn’t stand a chance. But when we began to allow all the little “isms” infect our lives, doctrines that made absolutely no sense whatever; our children began to look for something of a more rational and meaningful life.

If someone needs to know what we call ourselves, we need to tell them that we just call ourselves New Testament Christians and that teach only what the Bible teaches on the matter, and that we do not need any other name.

## DISCUSSION:

I. THE FALSE VIEWS OF ISAIAH'S PROPHECY HAVE A LOT TO DO WITH A MISUNDERSTANDING OF THE MEANING OF "THE LAST DAYS." To the Premillennialist, as well as the Postmillennialist, the last days refer to the last days of the world as we know it, or before the second coming. In the Premillennial mindset during the last days the church will be ruptured and there will be seven years of tribulation. Kirk Cameron and Brad Johnson starred in the hit series "*Left Behind*" which attempted to view the second coming from a Premillennial standpoint. Isaiah's prophecy had nothing to do with the end of time, nor did it have anything to do with the destruction of the world.

A new book has been written about the "last days"

"2008 - God's Final Witness

The year 2008 has witnessed many prophecies being fulfilled, especially the Seven Thunders of the Book of Revelation, which the apostle John saw but was restricted from recording. Those thunders, which will continue to increase in strength and frequency, are revealed in this book, as well as detailed accounts of the final three and one-half years of man's self-rule on earth, which are recorded in the account of the Seventh Seal of Revelation.

Some of these prophecies concern the demise of the United States over the coming year, which will be followed by man's final world war. This last war will be the result of clashing religions and the governments they sway. Billions will die! This time will far exceed even the very worst times in all human history.

As these events unfold, the world will increasingly become aware of the authenticity of the words in this book and realize that Ronald Weinland has been sent by God as His end-time prophet.

This book is primarily directed to the people of the three major religions of the world (Islam, Judaism and Christianity), whose roots are in the God of Abraham. Ronald Weinland has been sent to all three"  
<http://the-end.com/2008GodsFinalWitness/?gclid=CNLX-PXH6pwCFVhh2godJDz1kg>).

Premillennialist Allen Torres wrote

“For the church, the "last days" began with the first advent of Christ (Hebrews 1:2) but have special reference to the time of apostasy and decline at the end of this age (2 Timothy 3:1); (2 Timothy 4:3-4). For Israel, the "last days" are the days of Israel's Tribulation and then exaltation and blessing during the Millennial Kingdom (Isaiah 2:2-5)” (<http://www.biblicist.org/bible/lastdays.shtml>).

In *Theopedia, An Encyclopedia of Biblical Christianity* the following is written about the term the last days:

“The **Last Days** are referred to by name eight times in the Bible. Many see these references depicting events that will take place in the final period of God’s plan on earth. The Old Testament prophets Jeremiah and Amos also refer to the last days with the expression ‘the days are coming.’ [Isaiah 2:2-3](#) The Old Testament prophet Isaiah prophesied that in the Last Days the Kingdom of God would be established in Jerusalem, as chief among the nations” ([http://www.theopedia.com/Last\\_days](http://www.theopedia.com/Last_days)).

Mattox wrote:

“One of the doctrines that appeared in the church early in the second century and that has reappeared many times was a sort of millennialism. It seems to have been a legacy from Judaism. Some of the Jews had expected a temporal Messiah and some early Christians had transferred the materialistic hope of the Jews to the second of Jesus. Eusebius, on the authority of others, accused the heretic Cerinthus of being the first to bring this doctrine into the church. Cerinthus claimed to have special revelations from angels to the effect that after the resurrection, the kingdom would be established on earth” (*The Eternal Kingdom*, p. 116).

From all of this we can see that Premillennialism is a soul damning doctrine that is dangerous to anyone it comes into contact with. It is so dangerous that Polycarp tells about John saying of Cerinthus when he came into the bath house: “Let us flee, lest the bath-house fall in, for Cerinthus the enemy of the truth is within” (Ibid). In our permissive society today such a statement would be considered rude and unacceptable, but this was the statement by an inspired apostle. John saw that to even be in the company of one who held to the

“millennial” doctrine would cause detrimental damage. Today we not only stay in their company, but we welcome them in our work and worship. The Ecumenical movement in the church with all other beliefs has us fellowshiping with all kinds of errors regardless of the damage that they do. We tell our preachers to soften their sermons so they won’t hurt anyone’s feelings. We encourage fellowship across enemy lines and we wonder why we are losing our young. Most congregations would not allow the apostle John to preach from their pulpits today, especially making statements like the one he made concerning Cerinthus; that would just be too harsh for soft Christians today.

The problems that Premillennialism has caused, just, in our recent past generation is enough to see the dangers of allowing such a doctrine. In 1970 Hal Lindsay and Carole Carlson wrote the best selling book *The Late Great Planet Earth*, in which they predicted that Christ would return in the 1980’s. On October 22, 1982 many predicted that Christ would return on that day. In the town of Oskaloosa, Kansas, children were terrified because preachers would run up to them in the hallways at school and tell them that they were never going to see their parents again. Many of these children had to go through counselling because of these maniacs overreacting. When Christ did not return in 1982 some got the idea that he was going to return in 1985, so in Oskaloosa these children had to go through this again. I moved there two years later, and these children were still traumatized.

Randy and Vicki Wheeler used Lindsay’s book as their Bible. They taught their children to carry automatic weapons, and taught them to kill government

zionist agents. During an attempt to serve a warrant on the Wheeler home at Ruby Ridge three people died, a US Marshal, Sami Wheeler and Vicki Wheeler. All because of Premillennialism. Vicki had a vision where the battle of Armageddon was going to be fought on their doorstep, and they did everything they could to make that happen.

In 1992 people were encouraged to give their earthly belongings to their churches and prepare to join Christ in heaven. October 22, 1992 came and went but Christ did not return. These people had given up everything they had to their churches with no way to get it back. One person, at this point, became an atheist. He began to write me and tell me how hypocritical churches were. I was never able to respond because he never left a return address. However, Farrell Till knew who he was and he told me the story. And people have the audacity to ask me what is wrong with false doctrine? Nothing, nothing at all! It just leads people further away from God. It breaks up homes. It breaks up minds. It steals from people. It scares people. What's not to like? No wonder John reacted the way he did. He knew something that most people today don't know. Anyone who holds to that doctrine is dangerous.

Is the Premillennial doctrine false? Yes it is! One of the primary doctrines of the Premillennial doctrines is that Christ came to set up an earthly kingdom and that the Jews rejected him and he had to set up the church as an afterthought after he was crucified and he went back to heaven to wait for a more appropriate time, and that when that time comes he will return and set up that kingdom here on this earth. There are four things that prove this doctrine false:

- Jesus told Pilate that his kingdom was not of this world *“Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence”* (Joh 18:36).
- The church was in the mind of God from eternity
 

*“To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God, According to the eternal purpose which he purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord”* (Eph 3:10-11).
- The cross was not a surprise to God:
 

*“Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know: Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain: Whom God hath raised up, having loosed the pains of death: because it was not possible that he should be holden of it”* (Act 2:22-24).
- Christ came at the right time: *“But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law”* (Gal 4:4).

Therefore we have seen from the above that (1) Jesus, himself, said that his kingdom was not of this world, that if it were his servants would have fought to keep him from being delivered into the Jews’ hands. However, when Peter tried that very thing Jesus rebuked him for his actions:

*“Then said Jesus unto him, Put up again thy sword into his place: for all they that take the sword shall perish with the sword. Thinkest thou that I cannot now pray to my Father, and he shall presently give me more than twelve legions of angels? But how then shall the scriptures be fulfilled, that thus it must be?”* (Mat 26:52-54).

This shows that Jesus understood that his kingdom was not going to be an earthly kingdom. (2) We see that the church was in the mind of God from

eternity. People don't seem to give God enough credit. The infidel says that we create God in our image and more than naught they are correct, because we do. The Bible gives God human attributes so that we can understand him, but people often take those figures of speech and make them literally and expect God to be nothing more than a super human walking around above the earth somewhere in the heavens. This is why, when the Russians first went out into space the Russian Cosmonaut came back and said he didn't see God anywhere, but John Glenn came back and said he saw God every place he looked. The difference was that Glenn wasn't looking for an old man with a flowing white beard. Humanity seems to think that God makes mistakes and goof ups like we do, and that he has to have back up plans (plan B) just in case the primary plan doesn't work out. God doesn't work that way. His plan always works. He planned from the beginning to have the church set up, it was in his mind before he created the earth. (3) God wasn't surprised by the cross. Peter clearly stated that Jesus was delivered by the determinate counsel and the **foreknowledge** of God. In other words, God knew that Jesus was going to die on the cross. There was no surprise by the cross. And finally (4) this happened at the right time. Christ is not going to come back at a more convenient time.

There are several things that made this time convenient, but there is one thing that stands out among them all, and that was the mode of execution. In order for Jesus to be the perfect mediator **between** God and man Jesus had to be suspended between heaven and earth. The mode of execution was "crucifixion" in which the accused would be nailed to a cross and placed in a hole and hung there to die. In this manner, he would have his arms outstretched, and

his feet towards the ground. In the perfect manner of taking the hand of almighty God and the hand of lowly man and in his death joining them together “*that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby*” (Eph 2:16). At no other time in man’s history has the method of execution been such. This alone, would qualify this as being the perfect time for Christ’s coming. There were other factors as well, such as, at no other time in man’s history has man been as receptive to the gospel as man was during the first century A.D. The persecution upon the Christians is another thing that made this the perfect time. The more the Christians were persecuted the more they preached the gospel and the faster Christianity spread.

Another thing is that these things happened at a time when people could not offer natural explanations for supernatural events. If people spoke in tongues today, people might say that they learned those tongues. Now people were educated back then and were highly intelligent, but today more people are educated than at that time. At that time only certain people could afford education while today it is relatively easy to get one. While things like raising the dead, healing the sick, and drinking deadly poisons would be noticed today they would still be doubted. The perfect time for all the miraculous gifts was the first century because people’s hearts were more open at that time, than any other time in man’s history. Thus in the fullness of time, God sent forth his Son. Therefore the Bible refutes the Premillennial doctrine and shows it to be false, and if it is false, then it is not a doctrine that we can believe in and participate in.

The next “millennial” doctrine we want to look at is “transmillennialism” or better known as “A.D. 70” (aka Kingism, Realized Eschatology). This doctrine popped up in the 1970’s when Max King from Warrensburg, OH began teaching that the Bible taught that Christ returned in judgment upon mankind in A.D. 70. Ted Clarke wrote:

“Since the 1970s, primarily Max King of Warren, OH has promoted this false doctrine, when he published his book, *The Spirit of Prophecy*. In *The Nichols-King Debate*, King claims: “The Holy Scriptures teach that the second coming of Christ, including the establishment of the eternal kingdom, the day of judgment, the end of the world and the resurrection of the dead, occurred with the fall of Jerusalem in 70 A. D.” (<http://www.kc-cofc.org/39th/Lectures/2000%20Manuscripts/Clarke%20%20AD%2070.PDF>).

Paul wrote about people like these when he wrote to Timothy about Hymenaeus and Philetus: “*And their word will eat as doth a canker: of whom is Hymenaeus and Philetus; Who concerning the truth have erred, saying that the resurrection is past already; and overthrow the faith of some*” (2Ti 2:17-18). When people like this begin to destroy the faith of others they need to be marked and avoided as Paul commanded in his epistle to the church in Rome “*Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them*” (Rom 16:17). The longer we allow people like this to stay in the church the more damage that they do.

These people have styled themselves as “transmillennialists” which comes from the word “transmillennialism” which according to their own sources is as follows: “Transmillennialism™ sees Christ’s millennial reign in its first-century context, from the Old to the New Covenant, bringing about the transformation of the ages” ([http://www.presence.tv/cms/transmillennial\\_view.php](http://www.presence.tv/cms/transmillennial_view.php)). It is noted

that “In the summer of 1999 we invented a new word – ‘Transmillennialism.’ As a new term, this could stand beside ‘pre-,’ ‘a-,’ and ‘post-’ millennialism, the final forms that had developed in Christian eschatology” (Ibid). This was a new word that was invented for the purpose of standing beside all the millennialisms, as is clearly seen. This is why I feel that it is a bad idea for us to have the word “Amillennialism.” For us to have a word like this puts us on the same level as the Premillennialist, and the postmillennialist as well as the transmillennialist. We have the truth on the matter and as Peter said we “*are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light*” (1Pe 2:9). If this statement by King’s son isn’t enough to convince brethren to abandon the “Amillennial” name then I don’t know what will be.

The problems that have been caused by transmillennialism are just as great as those that have been caused by Premillennialism or postmillennialism. These people have split churches and have caused people to lose their faith just like the other “millennialists” groups have. This group teaches that the judgment will be when we die and that this world will stand forever. Their proof text is “*Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen*” (Eph 3:21).

When one looks at the second law of thermodynamics it can be easily seen that this planet is not going to stand forever. When God created it between 7-8 thousand years ago it was in pristine condition, but the fall of man, the flood, and the many catastrophic events that have happened over the last 7-8 thousand years have taken its toll upon this planet. Evolutionists claim that the earth is

somewhere around 5 to 6 billion years of age and that things started out in disorder and are moving towards order and they teach that evolution does not violate the second law of thermodynamics.

“The Second Law is focused on the concept of entropy. This is a quantity that measures the state of disorder in a system. The Second law, restated in terms of entropy, is ‘The entropy of an isolated system never decreases. It can only stay the same or increase’ (Giancoli 1995)... The key to understanding the Second Law’s relevance to evolution is the word ‘isolated.’ The Second Law is only true for closed systems” (*Evolutionary Analysis, Third Edition*, p. 102).

One of the ways that evolutionists confuse people is their usage of words like “increase of entropy.” Most people don’t understand what the words mean, and they think that they mean that things are staying the same or that they are getting better. However, the words “increase of entropy” mean:

“1: a measure of the unavailable energy in a closed thermodynamic system that is also usu. considered to be a measure of the system’s disorder, that is a property of the system’s state and that varies disorder, that is a property of the system’s state, and that varies directly with any reversible change in heat in the system and inversely with the temperature of the system; broadly; the degree of disorder or uncertainty in a system. 2 a. The degradation of matter and energy in the universe to an ultimate state of inert uniformity b: a process of degradation or running down or a trend to disorder. 3: CHAOS, DISORGANIZATION, RANDOMNESS” (*Merriam Webster’s Collegiate Dictionary, Eleventh Edition*. 417).

So we can see that the increase of entropy refers to disorganization, disorder or running down. Therefore, the meaning is that the disorganization of a system increases, but it never decreases. If it decreased things would get better, but since entropy increases things tend to get worse.

Now for those who understand what entropy is the evolutionist argues that this is only for closed systems and since the earth draws energy from the sun, it isn’t a closed system! Well, the earth isn’t a closed system, to be sure, but the

universe is. Some evolutionists argue that there is no proof that the universe is a closed system, but the increasing entropy of the sun and other parts of the universe (such as stars) which are headed towards disorder show that it is a closed system. However many such as Arthur Strahler, who wrote, “Now, the only truly isolated system of which we can conceive is the universe itself, provided that the universe is finite in extent”( *Science and Earth’s History, The Evolution/Creation Controversy*, p. 87) understand that the universe is a closed system. Those who agree that the universe is a closed system, argue that the net entropy is very slight for the universe. However slight it may be, the point is, it is still moving towards disorder; entropy is still increasing.

There is the movement to show that even in a closed system energy can be stored in parts of open systems within the closed system which will bring order back after so much disorder has taken place. Strahler wrote:

“Within the limits of the universe are many open subsystems within which entropy change can be negative to the accompaniment of the construction of highly ordered states of matter. The largest of the open subsystems are galaxy clusters and galaxies; within there are small subsystems—luminous gas clouds and stars. Many stars have planetary systems, and within each solar system the individual planets and other orbiting objects form another set of subsystems. Each planet, in turn, includes numerous subsystems. Associated with a typical energy subsystem is a subsystem of matter that may be closed or open. Subsystems of all types and scales continue to be formed. After the growth stage of decreasing entropy is completed, the system may enter a steady state, and this may be followed by a decay state in which system entropy increases along with increasing disorder, until the system goes out of existence” (Ibid, pp. 88, 89).

Strahler’s argument here is that within the closed system of the universe are a number of open systems which feed energy to the closed system. However, as he was forced to admit that after the decreasing entropy is complete the system may enter a steady state and then be followed by a state of increasing entropy until the

system goes out of existence. His final words were “Meantime, the universe as a whole precedes on its general course toward increased entropy and increasing disorder” (Ibid, p. 89).

Regardless of how many subsystems there are which can store energy to replace the used energy and bring a semblance of order back to the disorder, the universe continues towards disorder. In other words, it continues to run down and die. They argue that the second law applies to both open and closed systems, but this is true only when the open systems are subsystems of a closed system.

Therefore the idea that everything is running to order is absurd. Everything is running to disorder and with that being the case, this world will not stand forever. Only with a miracle would it last forever, and God is not performing miracles for those days are over. The next supernatural thing that will happen will be when the Lord returns. Until then everything relies upon natural law to operate it and the second law of thermodynamics is part of natural law, and according to it everything is winding down. So unless they are willing to say that God is going to miraculously rejuvenate this earth their doctrine of an everlasting earth is false.

All of this is something that the transmillennialists don't take into consideration when they argue for their position on Eph. 3:21. That passage has nothing to do with this planet standing forever. Albert Barnes had a very good explanation of this passage:

**“Throughout all ages, world without end** - There is a richness and amplification of language here which shows that his heart was full of the subject, and that it was difficult to find words to express his conceptions. It means, in the strongest sense, forever. It is one of “the apostle’s self-invented phrases” (Bloomfield); and Blackwall says that no version can

fully express the meaning. It is literally, “Unto all generations of the age of ages,” or “unto all the generations of the eternity of eternities, or the eternity of ages.” It is the language of a heart full of the love of God, and desiring that he might be praised without ceasing forever and ever” (*Barnes Notes, e-Sword*).

It is strange how some will take something that is obviously meant to be literal (such as the creation days in Genesis chapter one) and make them figurative while others will take something that is obviously meant to be taken figuratively and make it literal. It is only when one has a pet doctrine to push that one finds way to twist and mingle verses to suit their own needs. These people are ever bit as dangerous to the world as the Premillennialists ever thought about being. While they probably won't cause people to go up into mountains with sawed off shot guns and automatic rifles taking a stand against the government, they will cause people to stop trying to be prepared for the second coming of the Lord.

The Bible tells us that certain things will happen when Christ returns, and these things did not happen when Jerusalem fell in A.D. 70.

- The dead in Christ shall rise and those which remain shall be caught up to meet with them and Christ in the air (1 Thess. 4:16,17). Did that happen in A.D. 70? No, it did not! Therefore that could not be the second coming.
- Every eye shall see him (Rev. 1:7). Did that happen in A.D. 70? No, it did not! Then that could not be the second coming.
- Every knee shall bow and every tongue shall confess (Rom. 14:11,12). Did that happen at A.D. 70? No, it didn't! Therefore, that could not be the second coming.

- We will see Christ come as they saw him go on a cloud (Acts 1:11; Rev. 1:7). Did that happen at A.D. 70? No, it didn't! Therefore, that could not be the second coming.
- The goats shall be parted from the sheep and the goats will be taken away into everlasting damnation and the sheep into everlasting life (Mt. 25: 34-46). Did that happen in A.D. 70? No, it didn't! Therefore that couldn't be the second coming.
- Finally the earth and all the works that are therein shall be burned up (2 Pet. 3:10,11). Did that happen in A.D. 70? No, it didn't! Therefore, it couldn't be the second coming.

Our partaking of the Lord's Supper attests to the fact that Christ has not returned. Paul told the church in Corinth "*For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come*" (1Co 11:26). The word "shew" comes from:

“καταγγέλλω

*kataggéllō*; fut. *kataggelṓ*, from *katá* (G2596), an intens., and *aggéllō* (n.f., see *anaggéllō* [G312]), to tell, declare. To declare plainly, openly, or aloud.

**(I)** To announce, proclaim ([Act 13:38](#)). In the sense of to laud, celebrate ([Rom 1:8](#); [1Co 11:26](#)).

**(II)** By implication meaning to preach, set forth, inculcate ([Act 4:2](#); [Act 13:5](#); [Act 15:36](#); [Act 16:17](#), [Act 16:21](#); [Act 17:3](#), [Act 17:13](#), [Act 17:23](#); [Act 26:23](#); [1Co 2:1](#); [1Co 9:14](#); [Phi 1:16](#), [Phi 1:18](#); [Col 1:28](#)).

**Deriv.:** *kataggeleús* (G2604), a proclaimer, publisher; *prokataggéllō* (G4293), to foretell.

**Syn.:** *kērússō* (G2784), to preach, proclaim.

**Ant.:** *apokrúptō* (G613), to hide" (*Word Study Dictionary, e-Sword*).

As long as we partake of the Lord's Supper we are saying that Christ is coming back. So if Christ has returned, then we should not be partaking of the Lord's Supper. We should be past that stage. All the innovations that people have brought in, fermented wine, leaven bread, humming, turning the lights down low, the cheering squad, etc., don't really mean a thing because if Christ has already returned we have no authority to partake of the Lord's Supper at all, and if we don't have any authority to partake of it we are sinning every time we do.

II. Isaiah prophesied of the time when the gospel of Christ would go out into the whole world and would be preached to all nations of men. He prophesied of a time when God's kingdom would no longer be a kingdom that was concerned with the carnal things of this world. God's kingdom would not go out and fight carnal battles to gain territory as Israel and Judah had done. This would all happen in a time during the last dispensation of time on this earth; what we know as the Christian dispensation. Let us notice the specifics about this prophecy and its fulfillment.

1. This would happen in the last days. The last days undoubtedly refers to the same thing as the last days refers to in Joel's prophecy in Joel chapter 2:

“And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions: And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit. And I will shew wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke. The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the LORD come. And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the LORD shall be delivered: for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the LORD hath said, and in the remnant whom the LORD shall call”  
(Joe 2:28-32).

Now while Joel uses the word “afterward” Adam Clarke noted:

**“Shall come to pass afterward - אחריו כן** acharey ken, “after this;” the same, says Kimchi, *as in the latter days*, which always refers to the days of the Messiah; and thus this prophecy is to be interpreted: and we have the testimony of St. Peter, [Act 2:17](#), that this prophecy relates to that mighty effusion of the Holy Spirit which took place after the day of Pentecost” (*Adam Clarke’s Commentaries on the Old Testament, e-Sword*).

Scofield wrote:

### **afterward**

Compare ([Act 2:17](#)) which gives a specific interpretation of "afterward" (Hebrew, "Acherith", means "latter," "last"). "Afterward" in Joel ([Joe 2:28](#)) means "in the last days" (Greek, "eschatos", and has a partial and continuous fulfilment during the "last days" which began with the first advent of Christ ([Heb 1:2](#)) but the greater fulfilment awaits the "last days" as applied to Israel” (*Scofield Reference Notes, e-Sword*).

Most of all, Peter used the words “in the last days” when he quoted Joel in Acts chapter 2 on the day of Pentecost:

*“And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams”* (Act 2:17).

This forever settles the question of what the “last days” has reference to. It cannot reference the end of time because the end of time has not yet come and Peter did not see the end of time at Pentecost. It cannot reference the destruction of Jerusalem because it was too early for that. It references a new age, the Christian dispensation. There have been three dispensations of time (1) the Patriarical, (2) the Mosaical, and (3) not the Christian, and that is what the “last days” reference—the Christian dispensation of time—the last days or the last dispensation of time.

When this was to happen, on the day of Pentecost, in the last dispensation of time, the mountain of the Lord's house would be established in the tops of the mountains, and would be exalted above the hills, and all nations would flow unto it. When one looks at this prophecy and compares it to Joel's prophecy many similarities can be seen. For example: Isaiah talks about the mountain of the Lord's house being established in the tops of the mountains and being exalted above the hills, while Joel talks about the sun being darkened and the moon being turned into blood. Now it is understood that both are using figurative language (metaphors) to show the importance and recognition that the Lord's church would receive on the day of Pentecost, and forward. It was to be so important and so recognized that it would be as if it was established higher than the highest mountains, and exalted above highest hills. It would be an occasion so recognizable that no one would miss it. If the sun was to become dark, everyone would recognize it. If the moon was to turn blood red everyone would see it. This is the recognition that the church would receive. It would be as if the Sun and turn dark or the Moon had turned blood red. It would be that important. It would be that recognizable, no one would miss it. When God does something, you see it. Thus these figures were employed to show the grandeur and the importance of the Lord's church when it would come into its established state on the day of Pentecost of Acts 2.

Many shall say "*Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem*" (Isa. 2:3). This tells us that Isaiah is prophesying that

the word of the Lord will first be preached in Jerusalem and will then scatter out and go out from there to the world. As we read the book of Acts we see that this is exactly what happened. Jerusalem was the starting point and the gospel went out from Jerusalem to the whole world (Col. 1:23).

They shall beat their swords into plow shears and their spears into pruning hooks and nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn of war anymore. The Premillennialist has used this verse to propagate the false doctrine that when Christ comes back to rule this planet that the lion and the lamb will lie down together. This verse is not teaching this. This verse simply teaches that purpose of the church is not to fight carnal wars. It's purpose is to save souls. It does fight spiritual wars (Eph. 6:10-17), but it will not be engaged in the fighting of carnal wars. Israel was a theocratic kingdom and as such it fought carnal wars, so for God's children to become a spiritual monarchy as Isaiah prophesied it would be, they would have to lay their weapons of carnal warfare aside and become a people of peace. The only weapon God's people have today is the Word of God (Eph. 6:17).

#### CONCLUSION:

The church as Isaiah saw it was not a theocratic kingdom or an earthly kingdom. It was not an afterthought. It was carefully planned and executed in the mind of God. Everything went according to plan and prophesy. When one looks at the church in Isaiah and compares it to the church in the book of Acts the two just go together like a hand in a well fitted glove. We need to be ever careful of how we portray the church of our Lord because it is his body. We need to be ever careful of how we allow others to portray the church of our Lord. When we allow others

to falsely accuse the church of our Lord, we are allowing them to falsely accuse us of being properly married to our Lord. This is something that we cannot under any circumstance allow. We are the army of Christ, and as an army we must stand up and fight. We have but one weapon, the word of God. Therefore it behooves us to learn how to use it effectively and be ready to use it whenever the occasion calls for it.

In Christ Jesus

Jerry McDonald