

End-Times Words to Know

Eschatology

- The study of the Bible's teachings about the events leading up to the second coming of Jesus.
- From Greek, *eschatos* [final] + *logos* [word or idea] = "a word about the final things."

End-Times Words to Know

First Coming of Christ

- The earthly life and ministry of Jesus Christ, about 4 BC–AD 30.

Second Coming of Christ

- The bodily return of Jesus to earth to reign as king.

End-Times Words to Know

Church Age

- The time period from the beginning of the church (about AD 30) until Jesus Christ returns for everyone who has trusted in him.



End-Times Words to Know

Millennium

- The thousand-year reign of Jesus on earth, described in Revelation 20:4–6. From the Latin, *mille*, meaning “thousand.”

Premillennial

- The belief that the millennium is a future event and Jesus will return before (pre-) the millennium.

End-Times Words to Know

Amillennial

- The millennium is a symbol of Christ’s present reign among his people.

Postmillennial

- Jesus will return after (post-) the millennium. The millennium is the time in which most of the world submits to Jesus, and peace and justice reign.

End-Times Words to Know

Preterism

- The eschatological viewpoint that suggests some, if not all, biblical prophecies about the end times refer to specific events that happened in the first century. From the Latin, *praeter*, meaning “beyond” or “after.”

End-Times Words to Know

Preterism

- From a preterist view, the antichrist may refer to Emperor Nero.
- The tribulation may refer to the Jewish War (AD 66–73).
- The destruction of the temple in prophecy may have been fulfilled in AD 70.



Emperor Nero, who ruled Rome AD 54–68, severely persecuted Christians

End-Times Words to Know

Rapture

- Event described in [1 Thess. 4:16–17](#) when Jesus Christ returns for his people.
- From Latin, *raptus*, meaning “carry away.”
- Historical premillennialists, amillennialists, and postmillennialists understand the second coming of Jesus and the event described in 1 Thess. 4:16–17 as the same event.



End-Times Words to Know

Rapture

- Dispensational premillennialists believe that the rapture and the second coming of Jesus are two separate events.
- They place the rapture before the great tribulation and the second coming after the tribulation.



End-Times Words to Know

Tribulation (Great)

- The time when disasters happen on the earth and people who are faithful to Jesus suffer intense persecution, possibly lasting seven years.
- Premillennialists place the great tribulation near the end.
- Dispensational premillennialists typically believe that the tribulation will last exactly seven years.

End-Times Words to Know

Tribulation (Great)

- Many historical premillennialists view the reference to “seven years” as a symbol of the completeness of God’s dealings with the world as the end of time approaches.
- Most amillennialists and postmillennialists treat the tribulation as a symbol of calamities and persecutions that have occurred throughout church history.

End-Times Words to Know

Tribulation (Great)

- Some amillennialists and postmillennialists are preterists—they believe that the great tribulation occurred AD 63–70, during the Jewish-Roman.



Destruction of the Jewish Temple, AD 70

Menu

Dispensational Premillennialism

Christ's return and rapture are separate events.



Menu

Dispensational Premillennialism

What is Dispensational Premillennialism?

- It's the belief that Jesus will come back to earth after a seven-year tribulation and will rule during a thousand-year millennium of peace on earth.



Dispensational Premillennialism

What is Dispensational Premillennialism?

- God will give the nation of Israel the land described in [Genesis 15:18](#)—from the river of Egypt to the river Euphrates—the full extent of King Solomon's kingdom.



Dispensational Premillennialism

What is Dispensational Premillennialism?

- The rapture comes before the great tribulation, and the second coming after the great tribulation.



Dispensational Premillennialism

What is Dispensational Premillennialism?

- Most dispensational premillennialists are “pre-tribulationists.” They understand Revelation 4:1–2 to refer to “the rapture.”



Dispensational Premillennialism

What is Dispensational Premillennialism?

- The rapture is understood as the event when Christ removes Christians from the earth before the great tribulation begins.



Dispensational Premillennialism

What is Dispensational Premillennialism?

- Some dispensational premillennialists, known as mid-tribulationists, believe the rapture will occur during the great tribulation.



Dispensational Premillennialism

What does this view emphasize?

- During the seven years of tribulation, people who are faithful to Jesus will suffer intense persecution.
- Natural disasters and wars will occur.
- This view emphasizes literal interpretations of Revelation.



Dispensational Premillennialism

According to this view ...

- During the great tribulation, many Jews will turn to Jesus Christ.
- God's promises to Abraham and his offspring were unconditional. Jews will still receive the land described in Genesis 15:18.



Dispensational Premillennialism

According to this view ...

- The establishment of the modern state of Israel in 1948 fulfilled a key end-times prophecy.
- References to Israel in Revelation refer to the nation of Israel.



Dispensational Premillennialism

What Scriptures seem to support this view?

- God will remove Christians before the outpouring of his wrath during the tribulation (Revelation 3:10).
- God's promises to Abraham and his offspring were unconditional (Genesis 15:7–21).
- The church is not specifically mentioned between Revelation 4 and 19.

Dispensational Premillennialism

When has this view been popular?

- Emerged in the 1800s among the Plymouth Brethren.
- Increased in popularity in the late 1800s and remains widespread today.



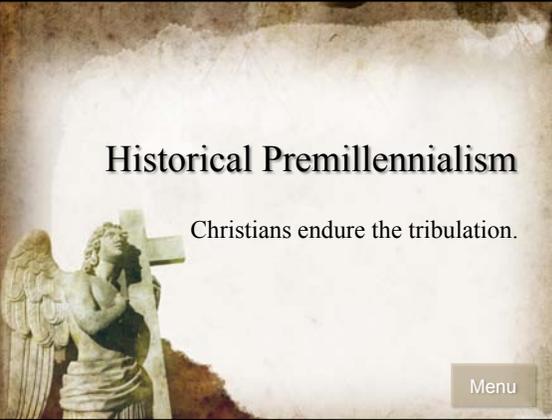
J. Nelson Darby (1800–1882) of the Plymouth Brethren advocated Dispensational Premillennialism

Dispensational Premillennialism

Prominent dispensational premillennialists:

- J. Nelson Darby
- C.I. Scofield
- Harry A. Ironside
- Gleason Archer
- Donald G. Barnhouse
- Charles Ryrie
- Hal Lindsey
- Chuck Smith
- John MacArthur
- Tim LaHaye
- Charles Stanley
- Norman L. Geisler

Menu



Historical Premillennialism

Christians endure the tribulation.

Menu

Historical Premillennialism

What is Historical Premillennialism?

- The belief that Christians will remain on the earth during the great tribulation.

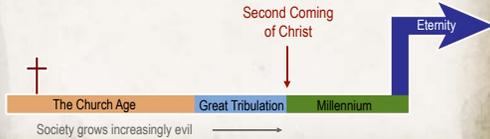


The diagram shows a horizontal timeline with four segments: 'The Church Age' (orange), 'Great Tribulation' (blue), 'Millennium' (green), and 'Eternity' (indicated by a blue arrow pointing right). A red cross is positioned above the 'The Church Age' segment.

Historical Premillennialism

What is Historical Premillennialism?

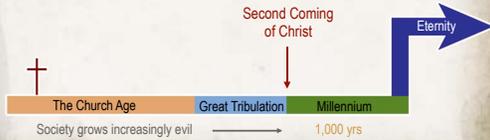
- The tribulation will purify the churches by rooting out false believers.
- The second coming of Christ will precede the millennium.



Historical Premillennialism

What is Historical Premillennialism?

- The church has replaced the nation of Israel as God's covenant people.
- The thousand-year millennium is a literal future event.



Historical Premillennialism

What is Historical Premillennialism?

- The earliest church fathers envisioned an earthly millennium, a physical reign of Jesus following a time of testing.
- All creation would be restored to its original goodness in a millennial kingdom.



Historical Premillennialism

What is Historical Premillennialism?

- Historical premillennialism began to fade as later church fathers downplayed the idea of an earthly millennium because of:
 - Greek philosophy that viewed the physical world as evil.
 - The aftermath of some Christians' false expectations of a physical millennium.

Historical Premillennialism

What does this view emphasize?

- Historical premillennialists try to balance symbolic and literal interpretations of Revelation.
- They emphasize both what the book meant to first-century readers and how it might apply for people's lives today.

Historical Premillennialism

According to this view ...

- God's promises of land and blessings to Abraham and his offspring were conditional promises, based on their obedience.
- Israel's persistent disobedience violated God's covenant with them.

Historical Premillennialism

According to this view ...

- God has maintained a covenant of grace throughout the Old and New Testaments with all who trusted in him.
- These believers—embodied today in the Church—are the true Israel.
- Most references to “Israel” in Revelation refer symbolically to the church.



Historical Premillennialism

What Scriptures seem to support this view?

- The revealing of the Antichrist precedes Christ’s return (2 Thessalonians 2:3–4).
- The tribulation will root out false members from the churches (Revelation 2:22–23).
- The saints are on earth during the tribulation (Revelation 13:7).

Historical Premillennialism

What Scriptures seem to support this view?

- God’s promises to Abraham and his offspring were conditional (Genesis 22:17–18).
- The New Testament frequently uses “Israel” and “the twelve tribes” to refer to Christians (Romans 9:6–8).
- Historical premillennialism seems to have been the earliest view of the end times among Christians who lived just after the apostles.
