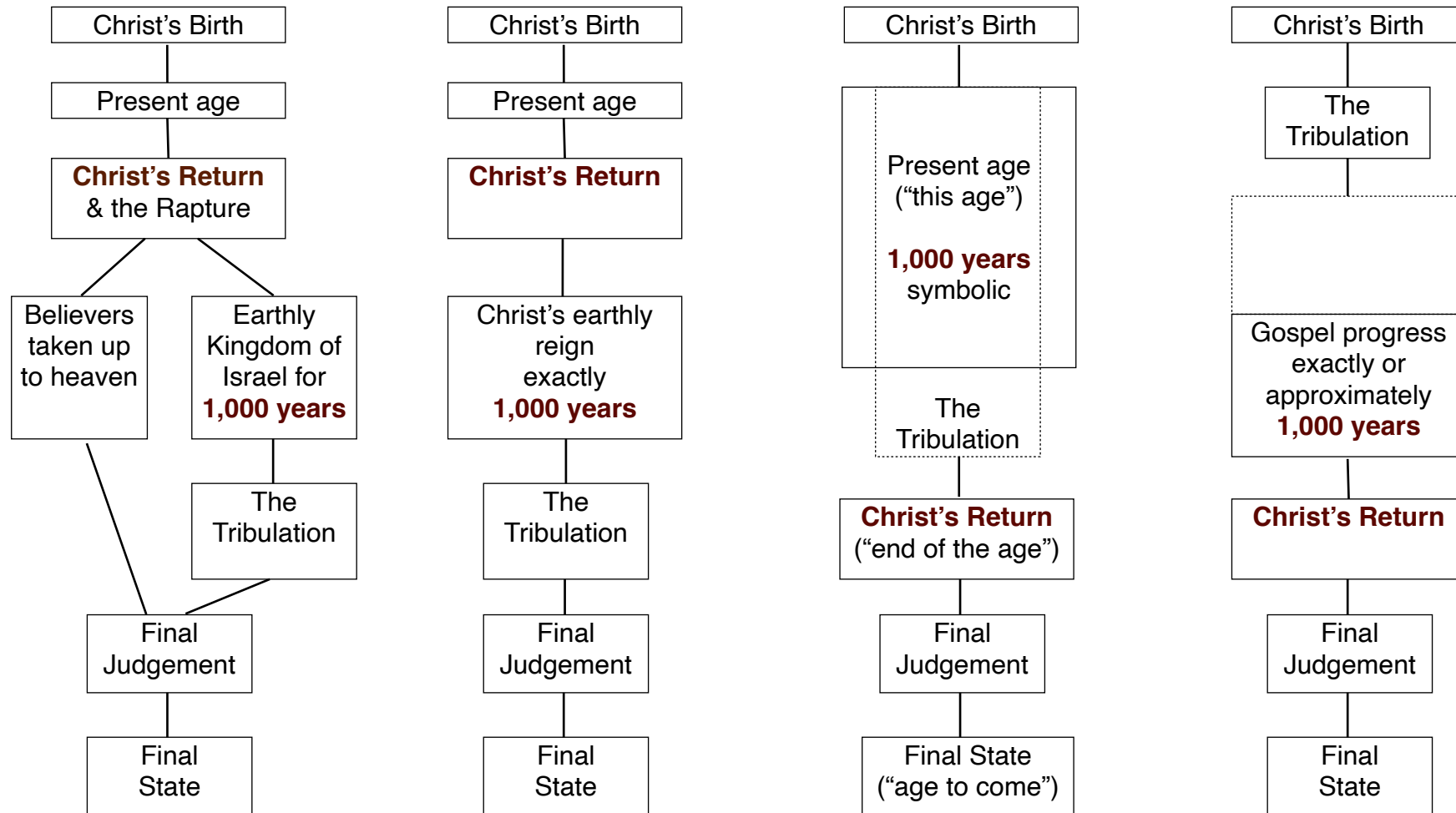


Millennial views

The 1,000 years of Revelation 20.2-7



Christ returns before (pre) the millennium

Christ returns after (post) the millennium

**Dispensational
Pre-millennialism**

**Historic
Pre-millennialism**

A-millennialism

Post-millennialism

Dispensational Premillennialism

1. Redemptive history divided up into seven dispensations with God dealing with men differently in each.
2. Christ came to offer a renewed earthly Davidic Kingdom but this was rejected by Jews and so postponed.
3. Church Age was unforeseen and unexpected by OT prophets.
4. God has a separate and distinct program and plan for racial Israel, distinct from the church. The church was not part of God's original plan.
5. The church may experience occasional small scale successes but will ultimately lose influence, fail in mission and become corrupt towards the end of the Church Age.
6. Christ will return secretly in the sky to rapture living saints and resurrect the bodies of deceased saints (the first resurrection). They will thus escape the tribulation. The saints are judged in heaven during the time of tribulation.
7. At the conclusion of 7 year great tribulation Christ will return to the earth to establish a Jewish political kingdom centered in Jerusalem. The Temple and Sacrificial systems will be re-established. Christ will rule and Satan will be bound for 1,000 years.
8. Toward the end of the Millennial Kingdom, Satan will be loosed so that he may surround and attack Christ at Jerusalem.
9. Christ will call down fire from heaven to destroy his enemies. The second resurrection and judgment of the wicked will occur, initiating the eternal order.

Historic Premillennialism

1. The NT era church is the initial phase of Christ's kingdom, which the OT anticipates especially in its prophetic books.
2. The NT church may win occasional victories in history, but ultimately she will fail in her mission, lose influence, and become corrupted as worldwide evil increases toward the end of the current era, the Church Age.
3. The church will pass through a future, worldwide, unprecedented time of travail. A personal Antichrist will arise, with great religious and political power. The great tribulation will punctuate the end of this era.
4. Christ will return to rapture the church, resurrect deceased saints, and conduct the judgment of the righteous in the "twinkling of an eye."
5. Christ will come to earth with his glorified saints, fight the battle of Armageddon, bind Satan, and establish a worldwide, political kingdom ruled by Christ for 1,000 years (not all see it as exact).
6. At the end of the millennial reign, Satan will be loosed and will cause a massive rebellion against the kingdom and an attack on Christ and the saints.
7. God will intervene with fiery judgment. The resurrection and the judgment of the wicked will occur and the eternal order will begin. The eternal order may be either a recreated material new heavens and new earth, or it may be simply a heavenly environment.

A-millennialism

1. The Church Age is the kingdom which the Old Testament prophets predict. God expands his people from the one nation of Israel in the Old Testament to the universal Christian church of the New Testament, making this phase of God's people the "Israel of God" (Gal 6:16).
2. Christ binds Satan during his earthly ministry at his first coming. His binding prevents Satan from stopping gospel proclamation. This allows for multitudes of sinners to convert to Christ and insures some restraint upon evil.
3. Christ rules spiritually in the hearts of believers. We may expect occasional, short-lived influences of Christianity on culture and society, especially when Christians live out the implications of their faith.
4. History will gradually worsen as evil's growth accelerates toward the end. This will culminate in the great tribulation, with the arising of a personal Antichrist.
5. Christ will return to end of the age, resurrect all men, and conduct the Final Judgment, ushering in the age to come and the eternal order. The eternal destiny of the redeemed may be either in heaven or in a totally renovated new earth.

Postmillennialism

1. Jesus founds his Messianic kingdom on the earth during his earthly ministry and through his redemptive work. "Kingdom of heaven" established fulfilling OT expectations.
2. The kingdom is essentially redemptive and spiritual, rather than political and corporeal. It has implications for the political realm but is not political in nature.
3. The kingdom transforms society and culture as more and more people are converted.
4. Christ's kingdom will gradually develop and expand through the work of His people before the Lord's return at the end of history.
5. Postmillennialism confidently anticipates a time in earth history (continuous with the present) in which the very gospel already operating will win the victory throughout the earth, fulfilling the Great Commission.
6. After this extended period of gospel prosperity, earth history will draw to a close by the personal, visible, bodily return of Jesus Christ (accompanied by a literal resurrection and a general judgment) to introduce his blood-bought people into the consummative and eternal form of the kingdom. And so shall we ever be with the Lord.

Millennial Views

These four descriptions are an abbreviated from a summary on the website postmillennialism.com. However, there are variations within all four views.

David Phillips, November 2014