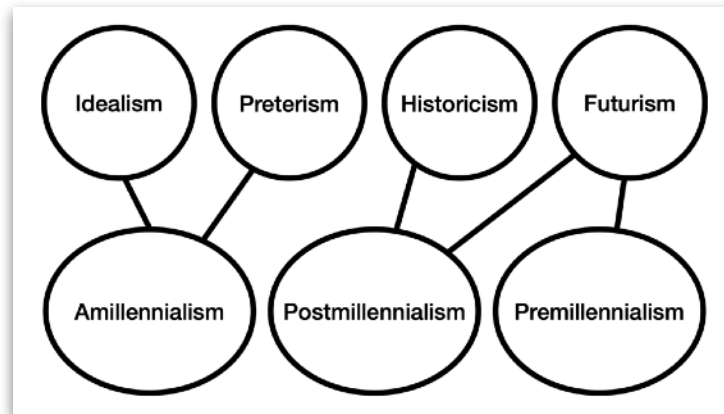


END TIMES LESSON 2 | *Seven Basic Views*

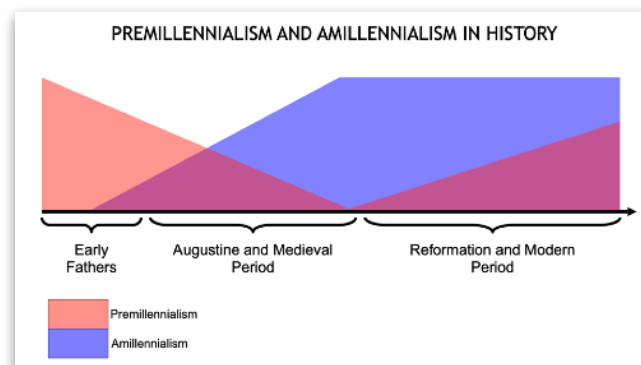


1. **Idealism.** Symbols or events only represent timeless truths that continually recur.
2. **Preterism.** Fulfilment takes place contemporaneously with the biblical account.
3. **Historicism.** At the time, the events were still future, but now they have occurred.
4. **Futurism.** There will be an end time when all the events will come to pass.
5. **Amillennialism.**
 - a. A non-literal or spiritual hermeneutic is to be used in the area of eschatology.
 - b. There will be no millennium before the end of the world.
 - c. Until the end there is a parallel development of both God's kingdom and Satan's kingdom.
 - d. At Jesus' second coming, there will be a general resurrection and a general judgment of all people.
 - e. Millennial passages refer either to the present church age on earth or to the saints in heaven now. There will be no future earthly kingdom.
 - f. Unfulfilled promises relating to the millennium are either fulfilled spiritually in the church or do not need to be fulfilled because they were conditional.
 - g. The land promise of the Abrahamic covenant was conditional and the conditions were never met, or the promise was fulfilled in Joshua's time, in David's time, in Solomon's time, or it is now being fulfilled by the church on earth or in heaven, or it will be fulfilled by all the redeemed on the new earth.
 - h. The church was actually in the Old Testament as a mystery (Eph 3:5) and therefore fulfils all the Old Testament promises.
 - i. The "seventy sevens" (Da 9:24-27) are imprecise in duration, and Daniel's seventieth week is the entire church age, not a future seven-year tribulation.
 - j. Proponents: Origen (d. 254), Augustine (under the influence of Plato)(d. 430), Luther, Calvin, B. B. Warfield.
6. **Postmillennialism.**
 - a. God's kingdom is now extending in the the world though the preaching of the gospel.

- b. Most of the world will be saved. Because the gospel is the power of God (Ro 1:16), it is unthinkable the world will not be converted (1 Ti 2:4).
- c. Christians will become so strong in Christ they will triumph over the power of evil both within and without.
- d. The world is eventually to be Christianised. The church, in fulfilment of the great commission, will bring about the millennium on earth.
- e. Jesus will return at the close of a long period of righteousness, peace, and prosperity called the millennium, not necessarily one thousand years. Not all will be saved, nor will sin be eradicated, but Christian principles will be the rule, not the exception.
- f. Satan is bound at all times, but he will be bound in a special way at the beginning of the millennium.
- g. There may be a brief time of apostasy at the end of the millennium just prior to Jesus' return.
- h. Jesus' second coming will be followed immediately by a general resurrection, a general judgment, and heaven and hell.
- i. Proponents: Joachim of Fiore (d. 1202), Daniel Whitby (d. 1726), liberals, theologians.
 - (1) "Liberals promote a postmillennial goal through humanism. Biblical postmillennialists promote it through the church's preaching of the Gospel. Theologians promote it through the Gospel and the imposition of Old Testament Law."¹

7. Premillennialism.

- a. A literal/normal hermeneutic is to be employed for Isaiah, Daniel, Matthew 24-25, 1 and 2 Thessalonians, and Revelation.
- b. Jesus' second coming will occur prior to the millennium.
- c. Jesus will personally establish his kingdom on this earth for a literal one thousand years.
- d. During the millennium all the yet-unfulfilled promises about the earthly kingdom, including the Abrahamic covenant and its land promise (Ge 15:18) and the Davidic covenant (2 Sa 7:12-16), will be fulfilled.
- e. The church does not fulfil the yet-unfulfilled promises God made to Israel.
- f. A rapture and several resurrections and judgments will take place.
- g. Eternity will begin after the millennium concludes.
- h. Proponents: early church, Anabaptists, Huguenots.



¹ Charles C. Ryrie, *Basic Theology*, Kindle Location 8454.