

Premillennialism Unvarnished

Gary McDade

Plenty of good research, observation, and information suggest that most people who call themselves “Christians” today believe in the theory of premillennialism. Evidence emerges every time someone fanaticizes with us about the so called “rapture.” Premillennialists so refer to themselves because they believe we are living in the age just before a thousand year reign of Jesus Christ on earth; hence the “pre” meaning “before” and “millennial” meaning “a 1,000.”

Precious little is ever spoken by the premillennialists about what the 1,000 year reign they believe in will actually be like. Upon digging into volumes of their books on the subject of the 1,000 year reign only a very small amount of information is eked out. I have found two of their beliefs that will show premillennialism in an unvarnished state. I believe by so doing additional reasons to reject the theory will emerge.

The source is John F. Walvoord’s book *The Millennial Kingdom* (p. 302). First he says, “The subjects of the millennial rule of Christ at the beginning of the millennium will consist in those who survive the searching judgments of both Israel and Gentiles as the millennial reign of Christ begins. From many Scriptures it may be gathered that all the wicked will be put to death after the second coming of Christ, and only saints who have lived through the preceding time of trouble will be eligible for entrance into the millennial kingdom.” Now, since this kingdom is allegedly supposed to be here on earth, Walvoord’s picture is a severely gruesome one. He said, “All the wicked will be put to death after the second coming of Christ,” and only saints will remain on earth. A practical question arises: who will bury all those dead people? For example, students of the Civil War in this country learn that there were approximately 750,000 to 1,000,000 on both sides who lost their lives in that war that began in 1861 and ended in 1865. But, given that so many today in America alone are unbelievers and there is a population of approximately 325,000,000 the devastation during the Civil War becomes an infinitesimal speck!

Now, the eternal fate of those dead according to premillennialism is not to occur until after the so called millennium and a third judgment scene referenced by them as the final judgment. So, what you have is the first action that will be necessary once the millennium begins is burying millions of bodies of those who “will be put to death after the second coming.” Clearly, there is no answer coming forth from the premillennialists about how that will be handled.

A second bit of information Walvoord speculates has to do with whether or not children will be born during the supposed earthly reign of Christ. Will they forever live in a state of innocence? Will they be accountable for their sins, if they sin? With the gospel system of salvation now past, how if at all can those who stray from God’s will be saved? Walvoord gives his chilling answer:

As the millennium continues, however, children will be born to those who are thus ushered into the millennial reign of Christ. Before many generations the children born to these tribulation saints will far outnumber their parents. They too will be subject to Christ’s reign and if openly rebellious will be put to death (Isa. 66:20, 24; Zech. 14:16-19). While it is obvious that even under the rule of Christ there will arise from children born in the millennium those who merely profess to

follow the King without actually being saints, the true character of these is manifested at the end of the millennium in the final revolt. Meanwhile they are forced to obey the King or be subject to the penalty of death or other chastisement.

From that statement it becomes clear that there is no plan of salvation to those born in the millennium! According to premillennial belief, the Devil will be restrained during the millennium; every person alive will be a saint. From where then does the temptation to do evil arise? This is supposed to be a worldwide state of perfection with Jesus on David's throne in a brand new Temple in Jerusalem, but now they tell us our children and grandchildren will live without hope in the event they sin, and they will be put to death for their sins! Who will have that morbid duty? Will it be the parents or grandparents? Will it be the neighbors who have passed judgment on them? Who will take the lives of saint's children?

We need to see premillennialism in an unvarnished or unglamorous state. All premillennialists can do about their golden age of the world's existence is speculate because the Bible does not support their theory! The man from whose book quotations have been given here is John F. Walvoord (May 1, 1910-December 20, 2002) past president of the Dallas Theological Seminary from 1952 to 1986. Hundreds, if not thousands, of denominational preachers called "pastors" were trained by him and continue to advance his speculative teachings. Christ is not going to reign over a millennial kingdom on earth in the future because He is reigning right now as King over His kingdom, which is the church of Christ and has been since the first Pentecost following His resurrection (Acts 2:25, 30-36; Romans 16:16, 25-27; Hebrews 12:22-23, 28; Revelation 1:5-6, 9; 3:21).