

# Revelation **Millennium**

Revelation 20:1-6

David Feddes

<sup>1</sup> And I saw an angel coming down out of heaven, having the key to the Abyss and holding in his hand a great chain. <sup>2</sup> He seized the dragon, that ancient serpent, who is the devil, or Satan, and bound him for a thousand years.

<sup>3</sup> He threw him into the Abyss, and locked and sealed it over him, to keep him from deceiving the nations anymore until the thousand years were ended. After that, he must be set free for a short time.

<sup>4</sup> I saw thrones on which were seated those who had been given authority to judge. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony about Jesus and because of the word of God. They had not worshiped the beast or its image and had not received its mark on their foreheads or their hands.

They came to life and reigned with Christ a thousand years. <sup>5</sup> (The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were ended.) This is the first resurrection. <sup>6</sup> Blessed and holy are those who share in the first resurrection. The second death has no power over them, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with him for a thousand years.

# Millennium is now

- Millennium = “last days,” the period between Jesus 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> comings.
- Jesus’ kingdom reign has already begun.
- Satan is already bound and cast down.
- Millions have already refused the beast.
- “First resurrection” has already happened for souls who reign with Christ in heaven.

# Jesus reigns now

The time has come. The kingdom of God has come near. (Mark 1:15)

If I drive out demons by the finger of God, then the kingdom of God has come upon you. (Luke 11:20)

The kingdom of God is in your midst. (Luke 17:21)

# Jesus reigns now

All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. (Matthew 28:18)

Ruler of the kings of the earth... I hold the keys (Revelation 1:5, 18)

The lamb at the center of the throne... opened the seals (Revelation 5:6; 6:1)



# Satan bound now

But if it is by the Spirit of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you. Or how can someone enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man? (Matt 12:28-29)

# Satan bound now

God did not spare angels when they sinned, but sent them to hell, putting them in chains of darkness to be held for judgment. (2 Peter 2:4)

These he has kept in darkness, bound with everlasting chains for judgment on the great Day. (Jude 1:6)

# Satan bound now

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# Satan cast out now

Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself. (John 12:31-32)

- “cast out” is the same Greek root as “casting” Satan into the pit in Rev. 20:3

# Satan locked up

<sup>3</sup> He threw him into the Abyss, and locked and sealed it over him, to keep him from deceiving the nations anymore until the thousand years were ended. After that, he must be set free for a short time.

- Can't cause God's chosen to perish
- Can't cause global assault on the church

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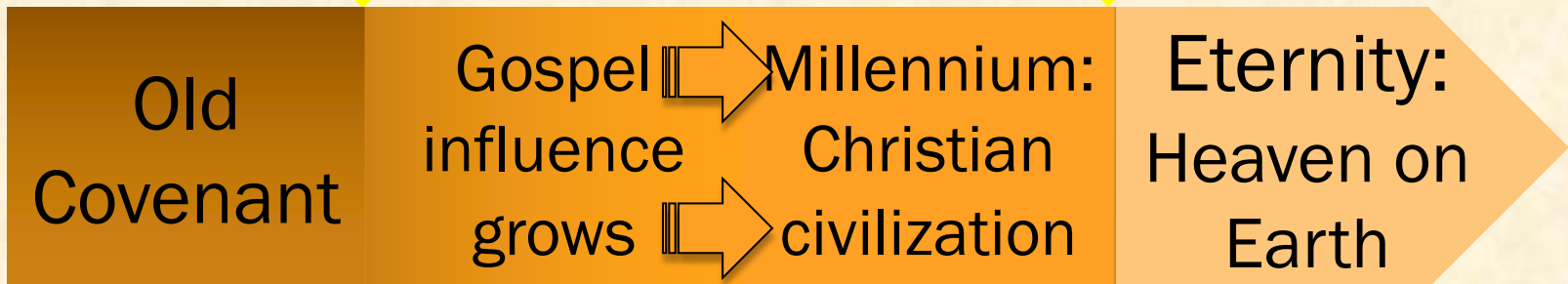
# Millennial views

- **Premillennial:** Jesus returns before;  
millennium lasts exactly 1,000 years
- **Postmillennial:** Jesus returns after;  
millennium is a figurative period of time
- **Amillennial:** Jesus returns after;  
millennium is now, between comings

# Amillennial

(Augustine, Calvin, Luther)

Satan  
loosed



# Postmillennial (Edwards, Hodge)

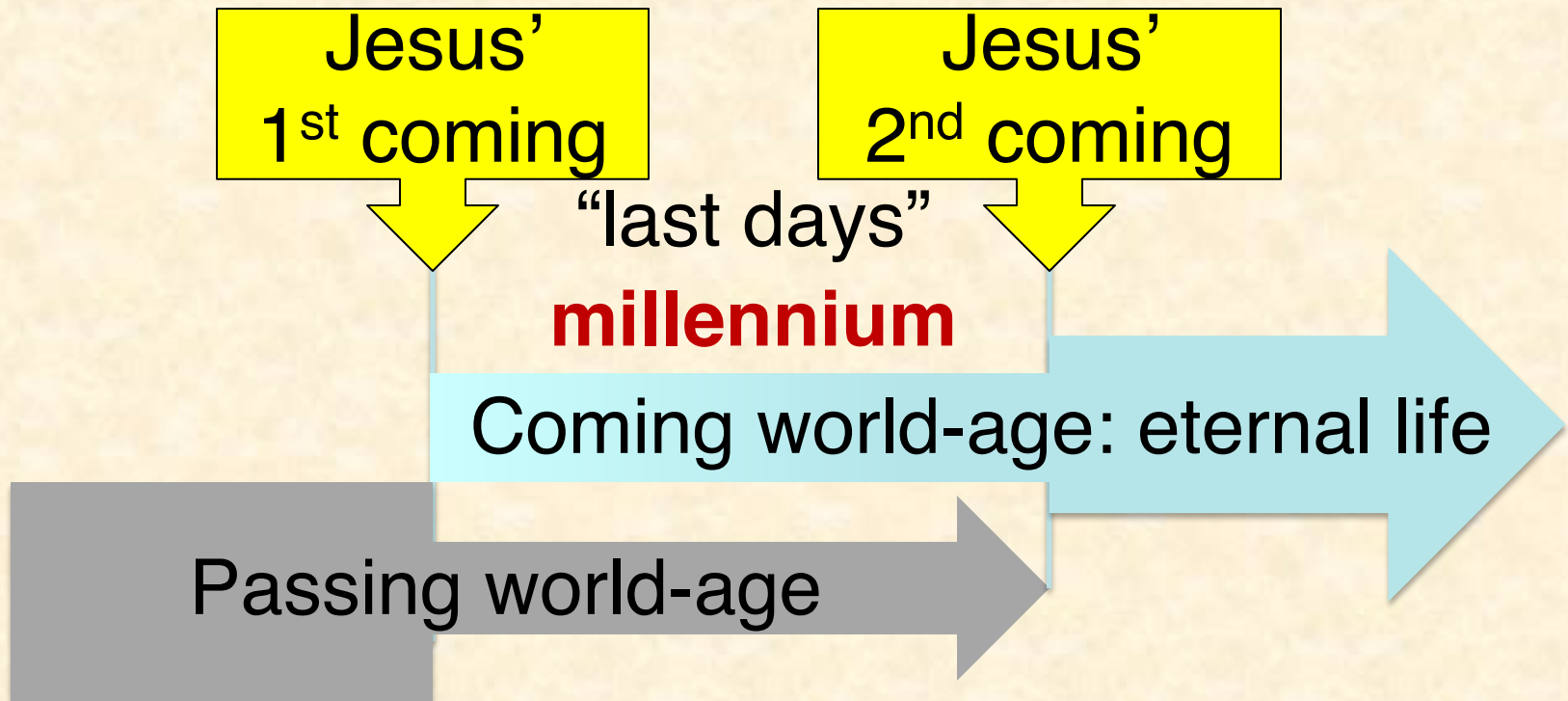


# Interpreting

- Scripture interprets Scripture
- Clear before difficult
- Literal before figurative
- Big picture before details

# Big picture

- Jesus wins
- Satan loses



NT speaks of two world-ages (*aions*). These overlap between Jesus' first and second coming. God's kingdom is "already/not yet."

Messiah  
comes as  
planter

Messiah  
comes as  
harvester

**parables**

Matthew 13

Mixed Kingdom



Perfectured Kingdom

Christ  
resurrected

Believers  
resurrected

**prose**

1 Cor. 15

Reign of conquest



God all in all

Satan  
bound

Satan  
burned

**pictures**

Revelation 20

Millennial Reign



Heaven on Earth

\*see Samuel Waldron, *The End Times Made Simple*

# Interpreting

- Different forms, same truths
- Pictures symbolize realities
- First coming launched last days
- Visions overlap, same story
- Partial fulfillments, then final

<b>Revelation 12</b>	<b>Revelation 20</b>
heavenly scene (v. 7)	heavenly scene (v. 1)
Michael & angels defeat Satan & demons (v. 7-8)	an angel captures and binds Satan (v. 2)
Satan cast to earth (v. 9)	Satan cast into pit (v. 3)
Satan “filled with fury because he knows his time is short” (v. 12)	Satan to be “set free for a short time” after being imprisoned” (v. 3)
Satan’s fall & reign of Christ and saints (v. 10)	Satan’s fall & reign of Christ and saints (v. 4)
Saints triumph as martyrs by “the word of their testimony (v. 11)	Reigning saints died “for the testimony of Jesus” (v. 4)

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# Souls reign now

<sup>4</sup> I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for the testimony of Jesus and for the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or its image and had not received its mark on their foreheads or their hands. They came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.



# Souls reign now

<sup>5</sup> The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were ended. This is the first resurrection. <sup>6</sup> Blessed and holy is the one who shares in the first resurrection! Over such the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ, and they will reign with him for a thousand years.

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