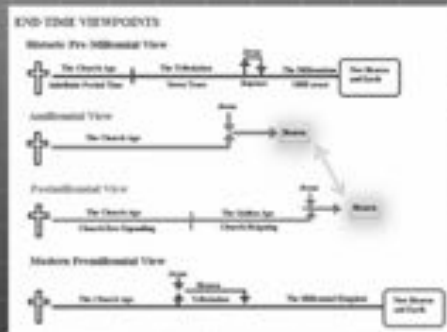


Gnostic Millennialism

Eschatology: Study of God
Developing People in His Image
Dr. Leon L. Sanders

Which is Your Viewpoint?



Gnostic Beliefs

Gnosticism

Creed

- Ultimate transcendent God
- Salvation by grace, knowledge
- Cosmic dualism, light/darkness, matter/spirit
- Dualistic or adaptationist philosophies
- Complicated cosmologies of Aeons, Archons, etc.
- Esoteric myth in which divine messenger comes to awaken individual humans to their divine identity (Illumination)
- Ambivalent about women/femininity

None since it has been said that you are my twin and that companion, because yourself that you may understand who you are, in what way you exist, and how you came to be. Book of Thomas the Contender

Shedding having engaged in an impossible and impossible struggle, brought forth an enormous substance, such as the female nature enabled her to produce. When she looked upon it, her first feeling was one of grief, on account of the imperfection of the generation, and that of her own this should and her own existence. Gnosticism, according to Irenaeus 1.2.2

Valentinian Gnosticism



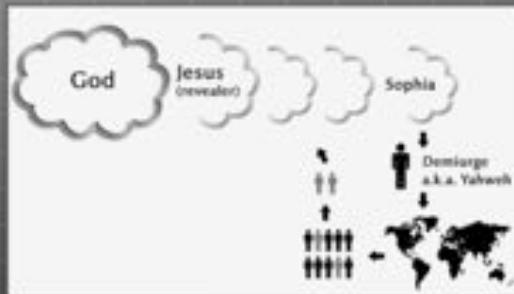
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aeon_\(Gnosticism\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aeon_(Gnosticism))

Valentinian Gnosticism



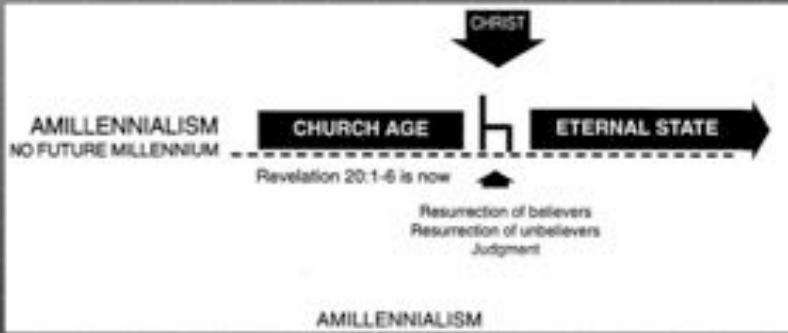
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Gnostic Schematic

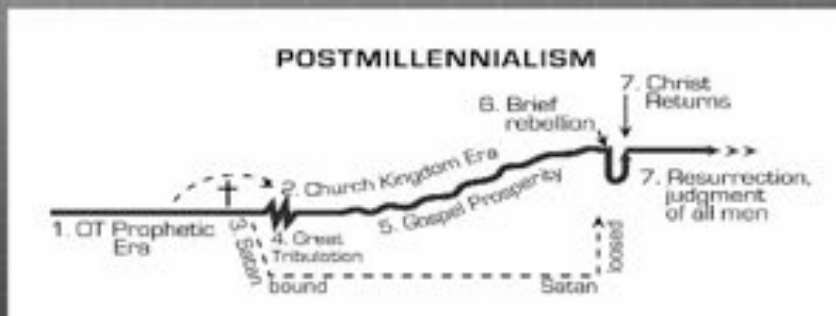


GNOSTICISM

Amillennialism Briefly



Postmillennialism Briefly



From the Beginning

- Gospel rejected quickly after the Cataclysm
- Nimrod formed a central government based on worship of himself as god
- His wife continued this after his death by birthing a son



From Unity to Diversity

- ⦿ Each cultural group modified Nimrod's error according to its unique understanding
- ⦿ Over the centuries these changes became very diversified but maintained the basic elements codified in gnosticism
- ⦿ These beliefs infiltrated Christianity by the 4th century (Constantine>Rome>Roman Catholicism)

Ritualistic Forms Inferior

- ⦿ Stripped of its ritualistic forms gnosticism is revealed as nothing more complex than secular humanism
 - ⦿ Knowledge is the key to conquering (material) self
 - ⦿ Unity of belief (with the spiritual) brings all to Oneness
 - ⦿ All who believe become pure spirit (leave the material)
- ⦿ Ritualistic forms inferior to knowledge of pure truth

Ritualistic Forms

- ⦿ Ritualistic Forms
 - ⦿ All Pantheisms
 - ⦿ Amillennial & Postmillennial forms of Christendom
 - ⦿ Roman Catholic & Greek Orthodox
 - ⦿ Protestant "churches" (most)
 - ⦿ Most forms of Judaism & Islam which copied Judaism
 - ⦿ Premillennials are being pulled into gnosticism

Non-Ritualistic Forms

- Secular humanism
 - Psychology/Psychiatry-How to think correctly
 - Education-What to think about past, present & future
 - Sociology-Accepting each other's diversity in unity
- Highest form of evolution – Spiritual entities
 - Each pathway to “heaven” is right as they are the same fundamental beliefs – Basis of Universalism

Covenant Theology

The “sugar” that makes the “medicine” go down
 Every amillennialist/postmillennialist adheres to this
 simplistic view

Covenant Theology

- Inherent to Amillennialism is Covenant Theology
 - Old Covenant-Law
 - New Covenant-Grace
- For now we see in an enigma, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known. (1 Co 13:12 ESVST)



Covenant Theology Issues

- ⦿ Does not adequately address the period before the Law, the Abrahamic Covenant
- ⦿ Equates infant baptism (NT) with circumcision (OT) without any Biblical foundation for this replacement
 - ⦿ This violates *analogy* (Scripture interprets Scripture)
 - ⦿ This makes their Grace Covenant as *cultish* (legalistic) as the Law Covenant

Covenant Theology Issues

- ⦿ Pushes “progressive revelation” to the extreme
 - ⦿ NT illuminates, explains, the OT through use of allegory and varying degrees of eisegesis
- ⦿ Actually, what the OT shows by example the NT teaches by precept (1 Co 10:1-13)
 - ⦿ Each compliments the other bringing full knowledge

Israel ⇔ Church-Gnosticism



- ⦿ Gnostic millennials must replace the OT Israel (Matter) with the NT Church (Spiritual)
- ⦿ This made the promises of God to Israel worthless; thus, how can the Christian trust God's promises?

Follow the Light?!

- 1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. 4 In him was life, and the life was the light of men. 5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. (John 1:1-5 ESVST)



Gnostic/Amillennial Light

- 1 "The eye is the lamp of the soma. So, if your eye is single, your whole body will be full of light, but if your eye is evil, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is that darkness! (Matthew 6:22-23 ESVST)



Do not be deceived

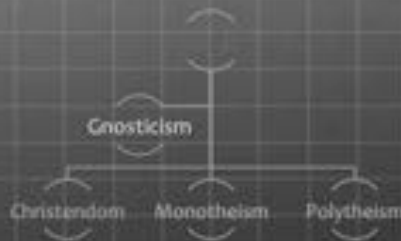
- 1 STOP looking for signs of the Antichrist & Prophet before their time
- 2 Understand the Gnostic error which makes them possible when they arrive
- 3 Gnosticism (Amillennialism)



Gnosticism Today



Grasping the Insidious



Warnings of OT & NT

- Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. (Galatians 6:7-8 ESVST)

