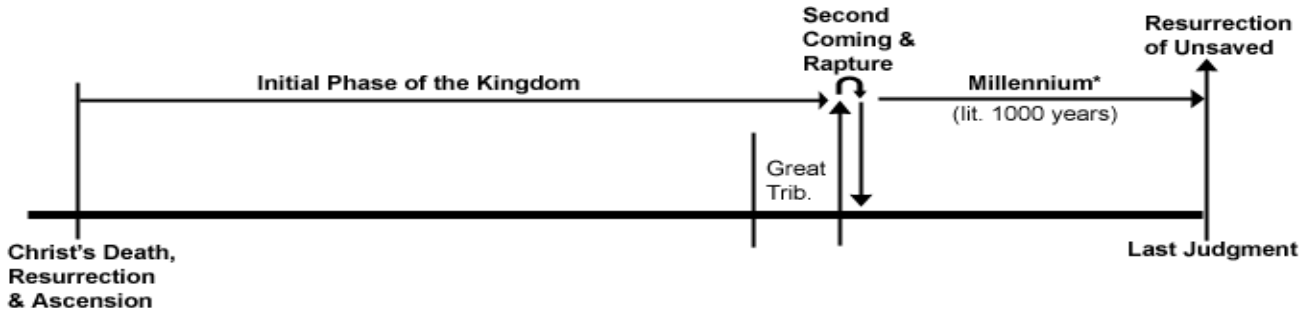


# Men's Ministry 2/15/23 Eschatology – Great Tribulation

## Dispensational Premillennialism

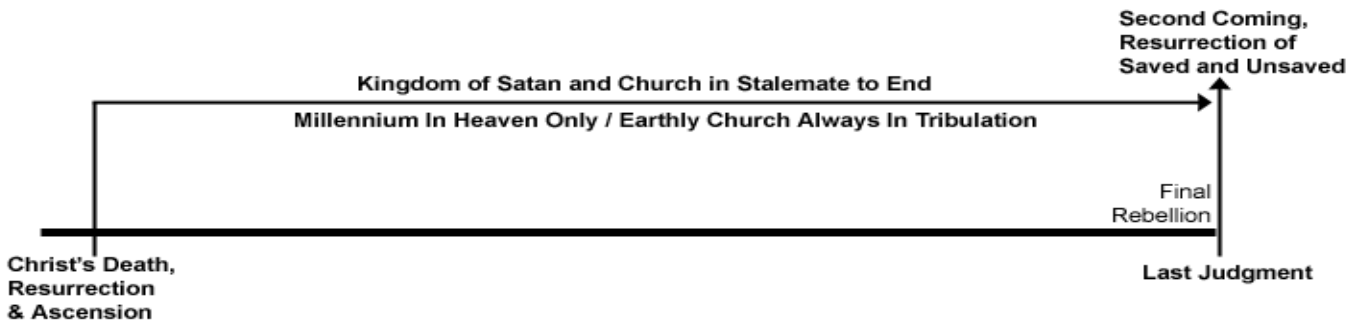


## Historic Premillennialism

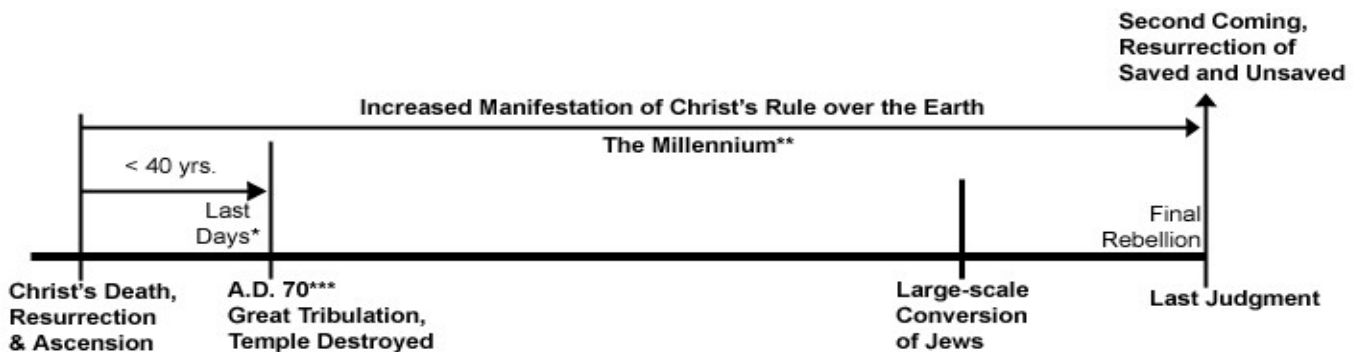


\* Unlike Dispensationalism, Historic Premillennialism does not teach a Jewish/Israel-centered millennium.

## Amillennialism



## Postmillennialism



## Men's Ministry 2/15/23 Eschatology – Great Tribulation

I. The term "The Great Tribulation" comes from Matt. 24:21 (also called "days of vengeance" in Luke 21:22 and "days of affliction" in Mark 13:19). (See also Rev. 2:22 & 7:14.)

II. Look back at postmillennialism above. Why would it place the "Great Tribulation" in A.D. 70? (Also, some who hold to amillennialism) Here are several reasons:

- 1) The context of Matthew 24:21 is Jesus' predictions of God's coming wrath against first-century Israel. (See 23:35, 36, & 38.)
- 2) The disciples asked a question about the Temple that was then standing (24:1-3).
- 3) Jesus' answer pertains to the then-standing Temple, not a future Temple (24:2).
- 4) The circumstances described in verses 15-22 are geographically, historically, and culturally limited to the conditions of the first century.
- 5) The entire section is couched in terms of what the original hearers would see, hear, and experience. This language is hard to simply dismiss:

("you" = 24:6, 24:9, 24:15, 24:23, 24:25, 24:33)

6) Jesus plainly says that these predictions apply to "this generation" (v. 34). The word here is not the one for race (genos), but this word (genea) occurs 27 times in the gospels and it never once means "race." Added is the use of the near-term demonstrative "this" = "this generation." If Jesus had in mind a future generation, He would have used "that." Every other time "this generation" is used in the gospels it refers to Jesus' contemporaries.

III. Other questions about Matthew 24:

- 1) What about the "abomination of desolation" in v. 15? Look at Luke 21:20-22. IT would seem the most likely candidates to be the invading Romans armies with their idolatrous images on their standards who would come in and defile and destroy the Temple and the city.
- 2) What about sun, moon, and stars in v. 29? Surely that has not happened yet? This is judgment language seen in the Old Testament. (See Is. 13:9-10 – Judgment on Babylon, 34:4-5 – Judgment on Edom, Ezekiel 32:7-8, 15 – Judgment on Egypt, Joel 2:31 - Cross). So, the coming predicted in Matt. 24 was a coming in judgment according to the OT pattern when a nation was under judgment and being destroyed.

- Comments, questions ...

- pray