

Comparative Timeline of Revelation:

Amillennialism	Postmillennialism	Premillennialism		
		Pre-tribulationism	Mid-tribulationism	Post-tribulationism
Church Age: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Satan Bound • Christ's invisible reign in the hearts of believers 	Church Age: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World improves (such as through worldwide evangelism) • World transitions into millennium 	Church Age <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christ reigns in Spiritual kingdom (progressive dispensationalists) • World continues pattern of decline 		
[No rapture/Tribulation]	[No rapture/Tribulation]	Rapture of the Church		
		Start of Tribulation (3.5 years of peace)		
			Rapture of the Church	
		End of Tribulation (3.5 years of suffering)		
				Rapture of the Church
		Second Coming		
[No millennium]	Millennium <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Satan bound • God exercises the Law 	Millennium <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Satan bound • Physical reign with Christ 		
Second Coming <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Satan released • Resurrection and final judgment 	Second Coming <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Satan released • Resurrection and final judgment 	Resurrection and final judgment		
New Heaven and new earth	New heaven and new earth	New heaven and new earth		

Arguments for each:

Position:	Amillennialism	Postmillennialism	Premillennialism
Strengths:	The New Testament convincingly suggests that	The Great Commission	The most natural reading of Rev. 20

	<p>the kingdom of God was introduced with the coming of Christ (Matt 12:28; Mk 1:14–15; Mk 9:1; Mk 12:34; Lk 17:20–21)</p>	<p>demands fulfillment during the present age, since Christ is the one who is the power behind it (also see 1 Cor. 15:25).</p>	<p>demands that there be a one-thousand-year reign of Christ on the earth. No other scenario can do justice to this passage.</p>
	<p>Christ said that all authority had been given to Him; therefore, He is now reigning from heaven and in the hearts of believers (Matt 28:18-20)</p>	<p>Certain parables clearly state that the kingdom of heaven will continue to grow and eventually transform the entire world. Matt.. 13:31–33</p>	<p>It was the view of virtually all the early Church Fathers (pre-250). Irenaeus believed in a future millennium, and he received his views from the writings of Papias, who was an acquaintance of John the apostle. History tells us that the Church's subsequent rejection of Premillennialism was both reactionary and motivated by unchristian worldviews</p>
	<p>The kingdom of God is ultimately found, not in a thousand-year millennium, but in the new heaven and new earth. Therefore, there is no need for a millennium, even if you believe that there are promises to ethnic Israel yet to be fulfilled. They can all be fulfilled on the new earth.</p>	<p>The Church does in fact continue to grow and has more than 2 billion adherents.</p>	<p>The millennium is necessary for God to fulfill His promises to Israel (Dispensational Premillennialism).</p>
	<p>Other Scriptures make it clear that there is no interval between the coming of the Lord and Judgment (2 Pet.. 3:9–10; 2 Thess.. 1:5–10)</p>	<p>All other eschatological views are too pessimistic. Only Postmillennialism provides for the true</p>	<p>Although while Christ was on the earth, the kingdom of God was present through the advent of the King, Christ</p>

		triumph of Christ through the Church. Matt.. 16:18	makes it clear that He did not set up His Kingdom during this time, but that it was still yet future. (Acts 1:6–7; Matt.. 6:9–10)
	There is no mention of a millennium outside the book of the highly symbolic book of Revelation. The Greek word for “thousand” is symbolic of an extremely long period of time.		
	Binding of Satan in Rev. 20 refers to Christ’s binding of the “strong man” in Matt. 12:29. Otherwise, what warrant is there for separating the two bindings other than a preunderstanding of Premillennialism? (Also see Matt 12:28; Luke 10:18). The surgence of the Gospel to all the nations during the Church age evidences a definite hindrance (binding) in the activity of Satan. He is no longer “deceiving the nations” in that the light of the Gospel is going out to all people.		
	Scripture does not teach two resurrections. The resurrection spoken of in Rev 20:5 refers to the martyrs’ coming into the presence of the Lord in Heaven and reigning with Him there. John 5:28–29 speak of only one resurrection (see		

	also Act 24:15).		
	Amillennialism has been the view of the Church for the majority of Church history.		
Weaknesses:	Although it may be feasible to spiritualize the one-thousand-year reign of Christ in Rev. 20, this is much more difficult to do with the two resurrections of the same passage, one occurring before the millennium and one occurring after (Rev. 20: 4–6).	The New Testament does not suggest that things will get better before Christ comes, but much worse (Matt. 24; 1 Tim. 4:1–3; 2 Tim. 3:1–5; 2 Pet 3:3–4).	It is problematic to base such an important doctrine on one passage. The one thousand-year reign of Christ is only mentioned in Rev. 20. If this passage were not in Scripture, we would not know about it
	It is problematic to say that Satan has been bound and locked and sealed in the abyss for the last two thousand years, not deceiving the nations. Peter says that Satan “prowls about like a roaring loin, seeking someone to devour” (1 Pet. 5:8). This does not fit with any system except that which sees the millennium as yet future.	Postmillennialism arose during a time of great hope and enlightenment, but that hope has turned to despair in the twentieth century. Man is not improving as we thought, and the Church is not triumphing over the world.	Other Scriptures suggest that there is no interval between the second coming of Christ and the judgment.
	The argument about the two resurrections of Rev. 20 is weak at best.	There is limited amount of scriptural support for this position.	
	Usually does not have a future for ethnic Israel, but replaces Israel with the Church. This is problematic since Rom. 11 seems to say that ethnic Israel does have future.		

*Chart provided by Docent Research Group