

- i. Jerusalem and Palestine are not mentioned
- ii. The Jews are not mentioned nor their restoration to the land nor their conversions
- iii. An earthly throne is not found
- iv. No universal peace
- v. No reference to abounding prosperity
- vi. Productivity of the earth
- vii. There is nothing about longevity of life

If the prophets foretold of this glorious time when does it occur if not in the 20th chapter of Revelation? It must occur in the new heaven and the new earth.

One writer states, "We are looking for a coming Savior, not a coming millennium." (author unknown)

See *Maranatha* in 1 Cor 16:22 and Rev 22:20

- d. Amills state that the context of Revelation (1:1) is based upon the works and purpose of Jesus Christ and is symbolic in nature but truthful

7. Breaking Down John's Revelation

- a. Same facts but from different points of view
- b. First 11 chapters are three visions of the exalted Christ
 - i. Chapters 1-3 are Christ as a prophet among His churches
 - ii. King on His heavenly throne (4:1-8:1)
 - iii. High Priest interceding on behalf of His people (8:2-11:19)
- c. Each of these three visions they say represents the same period of time (1st coming to 2nd coming) but looks at these time periods from different views
 - i. The view of Christ as a Prophet
 - ii. The view of Christ as King
 - iii. The view of Christ as Priest
- d. The last 11 chapters are believed to be visions of the church militant
 - i. Each vision is related to the gospel age except for the last two chapters which are a description of Christ's eternal kingdom (new heaven and new earth (chapters 21-22)
 - ii. The first vision of the church militant describes the enemies of God's people during the church age (12-13)
 - iii. The second is the strategy of Christ and His church during the gospel age (14-19)
 - iv. The third vision of the church militant pictures the victory over Satan from the cross to the final day of judgment (20)

- v. Then the fourth vision is the eternal state (21-22)

Note: If one follows Revelation as being chronological you will come to multiple returns of Christ. However, if John is starting over and retelling from a different perspective you have one view throughout with one final coming of Christ.

- 8. The Amill system sees all of this as signs or symbolic language and an intimate understanding of the OT is necessary
- 9. The Amill systems states that Revelation 20 covers the entire church age – Satan is bound in Rev 20:2 (1st advent) and then Satan is destroyed Rev 20:10 (2nd advent)
- 10. Because of this understanding all of the other NT verses that speak of the new heaven and new earth can now be reconciled (2 Pt 3:8-13)
- 11. The Anti-Christ in Amillennialism
 - a. Either a person or possibly a system
- 12. Characteristics of the Second Coming
 - a. Bodily and physically – it will be witnessed and seen
 - b. All scripture will be fulfilled at the coming of Christ
 - c. All the graves will be opened
 - d. All the saints will be caught up
 - e. The judgment begins for both angels and men (1 Cor 6:3)
 - f. The earth will be cleansed from all sin and the eternal state will begin
 - g. This all begins at the last trumpet and the day of salvation is closed – no one else can come in
- 13. Problems Concerning Omissions
 - a. Revelation 20 is the only place that the other systems will argue that everything promised in the OT has to take place

Amillennialism

1. Review –
 - a. Dispensational Premillennialism – God has put His plans for Israel on hold until after the rapture of the church and will again work specifically with Israel as a nation again in the future
 - b. Historic Premillennialism – God works with both Jews and Gentiles alike in the church.
2. Amillennialism
 - a. Literally “no” millennium
 - b. However, this is not to say that there is NO millennium at all rather they disagree with the description of the millennium compared to other views
 - c. They agree that Revelation 20 does in fact teach of a millennium period
 - d. They reject that Jesus will return and reign on this earth in a physical kingdom for 1000 literal years
 - e. They reject that Christ will return after the nations have been converted to Christ (the golden age)
 - f. Believes that the 1000 years in Revelation 20 is a symbolic period of time between the two advents of Christ (1st and 2nd coming)
 - g. The promises to Abraham and David in the OT are fulfilled in Jesus Christ and through His church in this present age
 - h. Amillennialists believe that Satan was bound by Christ’s victory on the cross and His resurrection
 - i. The Messianic kingdom prophesied in the OT was started at the resurrection of Christ
 - i. They will state three simultaneous understandings of the kingdom:
 - ii. The kingdom has come (at Christ’s 1st advent)
 - iii. The kingdom is coming (continuing to grow through Christ’s church and the preaching of the gospel)
 - iv. The kingdom is yet to come (the eternal state)
3. The view of Satan in Amillennialism
 - a. Satan has been restricted
 - b. Through the spread of the gospel Satan can no longer deceive the nations as he did prior to Christ’s coming (Rev 20:3)
 - c. Satan’s fall (or binding) is associated with the preaching ministry of the disciples (Lk 10:17-18) – Also seen in John 12:31-32
 - d. Christ has bound the strong man (Mt 12:29; Mk 3:27) – bind is the same verb found in Rev 20:2
4. The Church Age or Gospel Millennium
 - a. Christ is reigning on His throne in heaven between His 1st and 2nd coming
5. The End of the Millennium Age
 - a. Satan will be released and a great apostasy will take place
 - b. Christ will return and general resurrection of the dead occurs and the living saints are raptured (caught up)
 - i. The resurrection of the wicked will send them straight to their judgment
6. Amills look to the Bible as a book of no contradictions
 - a. The book of Revelation says in symbolic form what the rest of the Bible says in clear language
 - b. The 20th chapter of Revelation is the foundation upon which all millennial view build their eschatology
 - c. This is the only place in the Bible that states that Christ’s people will reign with Him for 1000 years (Rev 20:6)