

## Preacher's Pen points

### Questions about Premillennialism



**"What do you mean by premillennialism?"** Premillennialism is the belief that when Jesus comes again He will reign on earth for 1000 years.

**"What do the Jews have to do with all this?"**

Premillennial teachers believe that the land promise God made to Abraham and his seed (Gen. 17:8) has not been fulfilled. Furthermore, they teach that since the Jews rejected Jesus' first attempt to establish the kingdom, God's plan has been postponed until the end of time when the Jews will turn to the Lord and possess the promised land upon His return to reign on earth throughout the millennium.

**"Did God give the land He promised to the Jews?"**

Indeed he did: *"So the Lord gave Israel all the land which He had sworn to give to their fathers...Not one of the good promises which the Lord had made to the house of Israel failed; all came to pass" (Josh. 21:45).* Reception of the land was unconditional, but the keeping of the land was conditioned upon the faithfulness of the Israelites to God's covenant (Deut. 30:17-20).

**"But, did God not promise that Christ would establish His kingdom, reigning on David's throne, and give salvation to the Jews from their enemies?"**

A host of OT prophecies predict the coming of the Christ and His world kingdom; but the Jews and many professing Christians miss the nature of that kingdom. Jesus Christ proclaimed that His kingdom was *"not of this world" (Jn. 18:36)*. It is a spiritual kingdom consisting of those of all nations who make him King of their lives! Peter taught that Jesus was raised from the dead to sit on David's throne and that He is Lord now! (Ac. 2:29-36). The

salvation and peace that Jesus brings to all mankind, including the Jews, is primarily spiritual (Col. 1:13). All Jews can participate in the blessings of the kingdom, if they accept God's Redeemer and His covenant of forgiveness (Rom. 11:25-27).

**"What about the beast of Dan. 7 and Rev. 13?"**

**Isn't this the future antichrist?** The beast is clearly the ancient Roman empire, not the modern European Common Market! The predicted conflict between the Rome's rulers and the saints was fulfilled in the persecutions of the early centuries of the church (Rev. 1:3).

**"What about Armageddon?"** It is not a battle of the future, but one of the past. Armageddon was fought when the Lord Jesus Christ brought about the defeat of the enemies of the first century church.

**"What about the King of the North of Dan. 11 and the abomination of desolation?"**

This king is not the Soviet Union or Iraq but rather Antiochus Epiphanes whose forces invaded Jerusalem and desecrated the temple in 167 BC. In Mt. 24, Jesus spoke of a similar abomination during the Roman invasion of Jerusalem in A.D. 70. At that time, the Romans desecrated the temple and destroyed it just as Jesus had predicted in Mt. 24 adding that such would happen in that "generation" (Mt. 24:34), not at the end of the world!

**"How then will we know when the world will come to an end?"**

There is no evidence at all that the Lord's coming will be preceded by any recognizable sign or set of events. Peter wrote, "The day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night..." (2 Pet.