

August, '65(?)

The Millennium (AAM)

. . . at my right and over here on the left. Actually the two charts come right next to each other and they give a picture of the prophetic plan of the ages. I think it will be helpful to you as you listen to me to note those two charts. If he had not made them I would not be able to have them because I can't draw well like that. But I think he does a very excellent job. I think they are very clear and I think they will make it a little simpler to follow what we have to say.

Now this evening the subject I have taken is the Millennium. Do we know that there is going to be a millennium or not. Now there are three views on this. There is the premil view which says Jesus Christ is going to come back as shown in these charts. There will be the rapture of the saints as shown over here . . . That event which is to come the NT tells us over and over, come at a time when we do not expect it. We do not know when it will be but suddenly our Lord will come back and all who believe in Christ will be raised from the dead if they have already died, and then they and we together will be caught up together to meet the Lord in the air.

Then after that rapture there is a period of tribulation on this earth and then the Lord comes back with His saints to establish His kingdom on earth. . . . Look over here where it says Millennium. Then for 1000 years Jesus Christ reigns upon earth. It is a period of universal peace and happiness and righteousness upon this earth.

There are many passages in the OT which describe such a millennium. In the NT there are less such passages. The emphasis in the NT is on the return of the Lord Jesus Christ. The emphasis in the OT is on the wonderful time of happiness which will be introduced we believe in the future at His coming.

But there are three views about this. There is the view which says as I just outlined it. That this millennium is to be a period of happiness, of peace, of righteousness upon this earth when Jesus Christ will reign here personally. But the curse will be removed from earth, the curse that has been here as a result of sin and there will be joy and happiness here throughout this world for that period of 1000 yrs.

Then there is the post mil view which many held a few years ago. Not so many today. The postmil holds that this 1000 yr. period is going to come, of great happiness and joy on this earth, universal peace, no more war, righteousness everywhere, but this will come through the preaching of the Gospel, and when this comes to an end then will come the rapture and then will come the return of Jesus Christ to this earth just to bring it to an end. He will reign here in the hearts of the people but he will not be here physically during the millennium according to the postmil.

Now in recent years there has been a new view or rather a whole series of views that have been put forward which call themselves a-mil. The a means no millennium. This a mil view says that these passages which we think describe a period of great happiness and joy and peace and prosperity on this earth, most of them say describe this present period, describe the church in this period. They say the descriptions