

You can be right out in the field there and you can sit under your vine and fig tree and no one will make you afraid. This isn't a picture of a person having peace in his heart so he does not worry no matter what is around him of danger. This is a picture of one who does not have any fear because there is no danger! It is a time of external peace and safety, described here. Micah declares, "The mouth of the Lord has spoken it" that this period of external peace and safety is going to come, and "time when nation will not lift up sword against nation neither will they learn war any more."

I don't see how anyone can say that such a time has yet come or that we have any proof it will come during the gospel dispensation. To me amillennialism has to so twist this passage that if you can do that you can do so with any passage in Scripture. You have nothing on which to stand. Now postmils do not have to twist this passage, because a postmill can say, All the world is going to be converted to Christ; everybody is going to become Christians and naturally there will be no more war; there will be perfect safety everywhere. The only thing I don't know of any promise anywhere in Scripture that all the world will be converted to Christ. I don't know of any evidence that that is God's will that that should happen. But if it should happen and then we would have 1000 yrs. when everyone in this world would be a Christian then that would be a fulfillment of this particular passage.

I want to call your attention to another passage - this one in Isaiah. Isa. 11 is most interesting. Is. 10 ends with the story of the destruction of the Assyrian power that was trying to destroy Israel and it pictures it under the figure of a forest. It says in 10:34 "He shall cut down the thicket of the forest with iron and Lebanon shall fall by a mighty one. Then ch. 11 begins with a contrast. This grt. forest outside of Israel which pictures the grt. Assyrian Empire is going to be cut down and fall and be destroyed. But we read here there will come a rod out of the stem of Jesse and a branch out of Judah. Now Jesse you know was the father of David. So the stem of Jesse, and out of his roots describes Israel cut down, practically destroyed, the people going into exile, but out of the roots there goes a new stem. There comes forth a little shoot, a little rod out of the stem of Jesse. A branch comes up there and the spirit of the Lord will rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and fear of the Lord. All Christians agree this is a picture of the Lord Jesus Christ, the greatest Son of David. Upon Him the Spirit of the Lord rests in this marvelous way! Vs. 3 says "it will make him of quick understanding in the fear of the Lord."

What will Jesus do? He will not judge after the sight of His eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears. This certainly fits with Jesus Christ. When he was here upon earth He knew what people thought and the inner ideas people had. He understood human nature thoroughly. He did not speak like the scribes and pharisees. He spoke with authority because he knew all things. Certainly this describes Him. But is this a description of what he did after his first coming? Or is it a description of what he is going to do at his second coming? We go on the v. 4 - "But with righteousness shall he judge the poor." Well, he certainly judged the poor with righteousness at his first coming to some extent but surely this can fit with what we hope He will do at his second coming. Then we go on. "And reprove with equity for the meek of the earth." Did He reprove with equity at his first coming, or did He not mostly go about as a simple teacher? Yes, he did reprove. He went into the temple. He drove out the money changers. He reprovved with equity to some extent.