

figure of speech, but a reasonable figure of speech. The amillennialist takes it as an utterly unreasonable figure of speech, something that it can't possibly mean. But the postmillennialist takes it as a reasonable figure of speech, and if we had no other passage in the Bible on the matter I would say we cannot decide for sure from this passage between postmillennialism and premillennialism, but I ~~cannot~~ say that amillennialism is absolutely excluded by the passage.

^{now} But/what is the difference then on this between pre and postmillennialism? Well, one difference is that verse 4 says that it's going to be introduced because He smites the earth with the rod of His mouth, and with the breath of His lips He slays the wicked. It's introduced in that way. Now the amillennialist says, "Oh, that's a picture for ~~pre~~ preaching the Gospel." But smiting the earth with the breath of your mouth doesn't sound to me like preaching the Gospel. It sounds to me more like the picture of Revelation where it tells of His coming on the white horse, and says that the sword that ^{proceeded} ~~proceeded~~ out of His mouth slew the host of the wicked. It sounds more like that to me. But that's one objection to postmillennialism in this. The other objection is that if you take this literally, it's talking about animals rather than about people. We have the people in verse 9. But if verses 6 to 8 are about animals, then that would suggest a removal of the curse to where the animals would not be dangerous to each other or to people/. Well, now, will such a thing ever happen? That the animal creation will be changed so there's no danger anymore. Well, I wouldn't say this passage proves it will. But I would say this: I don't ~~see~~ see how that could happen before the return of Christ. There's no indication anywhere that the curse will be removed prior to the coming of ~~Christ~~ Christ. But is there an indication that the curse is going to be removed ~~someday~~ some day? Yes, there is: very clearly indications in the Book of Romans. In the Book of Romans, in the eighth chapter, we read, from verses 18 on/. There is a word sometimes translated ~~Creation~~ "creation" and sometimes "creature." Now, it's the same Greek word. And it seems to me it's more reasonable to translate it the same way both times. So I'm going to translate it ~~creation~~ "creation."