

REVELATION

How To Read Revelation Responsibly?

THE BLESSING

Revelation 1:3

Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear the words of this prophecy and keep what is written in it, because the time is near.

THE 4 VIEWS

- **PRETERIST - MOST PROPHECIES IN THE BOOK OF REVELATION WERE FULFILLED DURING THE TIME OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE.**
- **HISTORICIST. THE PROPHECIES HAVE BEEN FULFILLED THROUGHOUT HISTORY AND ARE STILL BEING FULFILLED TODAY.**
- **FUTURIST. MOST PROPHECIES BEYOND REVELATION 3 ARE YET TO BE FULFILLED.**
- **SPIRITUAL (OR SYMBOLIC OR IDEALIST). MOST PROPHECIES PORTRAY THE ONGOING COSMIC CONFLICT OF SPIRITUAL REALITIES AND MAY HAVE MANY FULFILLMENTS THROUGHOUT HISTORY.**

REVELATION 19:1-8

1 After this I heard something like the loud voice of a vast multitude in heaven, saying, Hallelujah! Salvation, glory, and power belong to our God, **2** because his judgments are true and righteous, because he has judged the notorious prostitute who corrupted the earth with her sexual immorality; and he has avenged the blood of his servants that was on her hands.

3 A second time they said, Hallelujah! Her smoke ascends forever and ever!

4 Then the twenty-four elders and the four living creatures fell down and worshiped God, who is seated on the throne, saying, Amen! Hallelujah!

5 A voice came from the throne, saying, Praise our God, all his servants, and the ones who fear him, both small and great!

6 Then I heard something like the voice of a vast multitude, like the sound of cascading waters, and like the rumbling of loud thunder, saying, Hallelujah, because our Lord God, the Almighty, reigns!

7 Let us be glad, rejoice, and give him glory, because the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his bride has prepared herself. **8** She was given fine linen to wear, bright and pure. For the fine linen represents the righteous acts of the saints.

11:15-19 PARALELL TO 19:1-6

Loud voices... in heaven - (11:15; 19:1)

Declaration of reign of God - (11:15, 17; 19:1, 6)

Twenty four elders - (11:16; 19:4)

Avenging blood of His servants - (11:18; 19:5)

God's servants who fear him - (11:18; 19:5)

Noise and thunder - (11:19; 19:6)

KEY VERSES // MARRIAGE

Key Verse About Jesus:

Hallelujah!

Salvation, glory, and power belong to our God, 2 because his judgments are true and righteous, because he has judged the notorious prostitute who corrupted the earth with her sexual immorality; and he has avenged the blood of his servants that was on her hands.

Key Verse For Us:

19:7 Let us be glad, rejoice, and give him glory, because the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his bride has prepared herself.

THE FALL & FINAL BATTLE

Main Point

Jesus will return as a King to deal with evil & vindicate his followers.

17-19a THE FALL OF BABYLON

BABYLON → **ROME'S MILITARY & ECONOMIC POWER** → ARCHETYPE OF HUMANITY'S REBELLION AGAINST GOD

BLOOD OF THE INNOCENT (18:24)

WOE!

BLEND OF OLD TESTAMENT IMAGES DESCRIBING BABYLON, TYRE & EDMON (ISAIAH 13, 23, 34, 47; JEREMIAH 50-51; EZEKIEL 26-27)

19b-20 THE FINAL BATTLE

19:11-21 THE FINAL BATTLE I (ISAIAH 11:4, 49:2)
ARMAGEDDON IS NOT A BLOODBATH
 JESUS DIED FOR HIS ENEMIES & NOW HOLDS THEM ACCOUNTABLE.

20:1-7 THE MARTYRS VINDICATED
 THE MARTYRS REIGN... FOR 1,000 YEARS!

20:8-15 THE FINAL BATTLE II (SEE DANIEL 7)

LITERAL SEQUENCE
 A: JESUS' RETURN → 1,000 YEAR KINGDOM → FINAL JUDGEMENT
 B: THOUSAND YEARS = SYMBOL OF JESUS' PRESENT VICTORY
 TWO BATTLES = JESUS' RETURN FROM TWO ANGLES

THE POINT: JESUS WILL RETURN AS A KING TO DEAL WITH EVIL & VINDICATE HIS FOLLOWERS

THE DRAGON, BABYLON & ALL WHO CHOOSE THEM ARE ETERNALLY QUARANTINED

MARRIAGE OF HEAVEN & EARTH

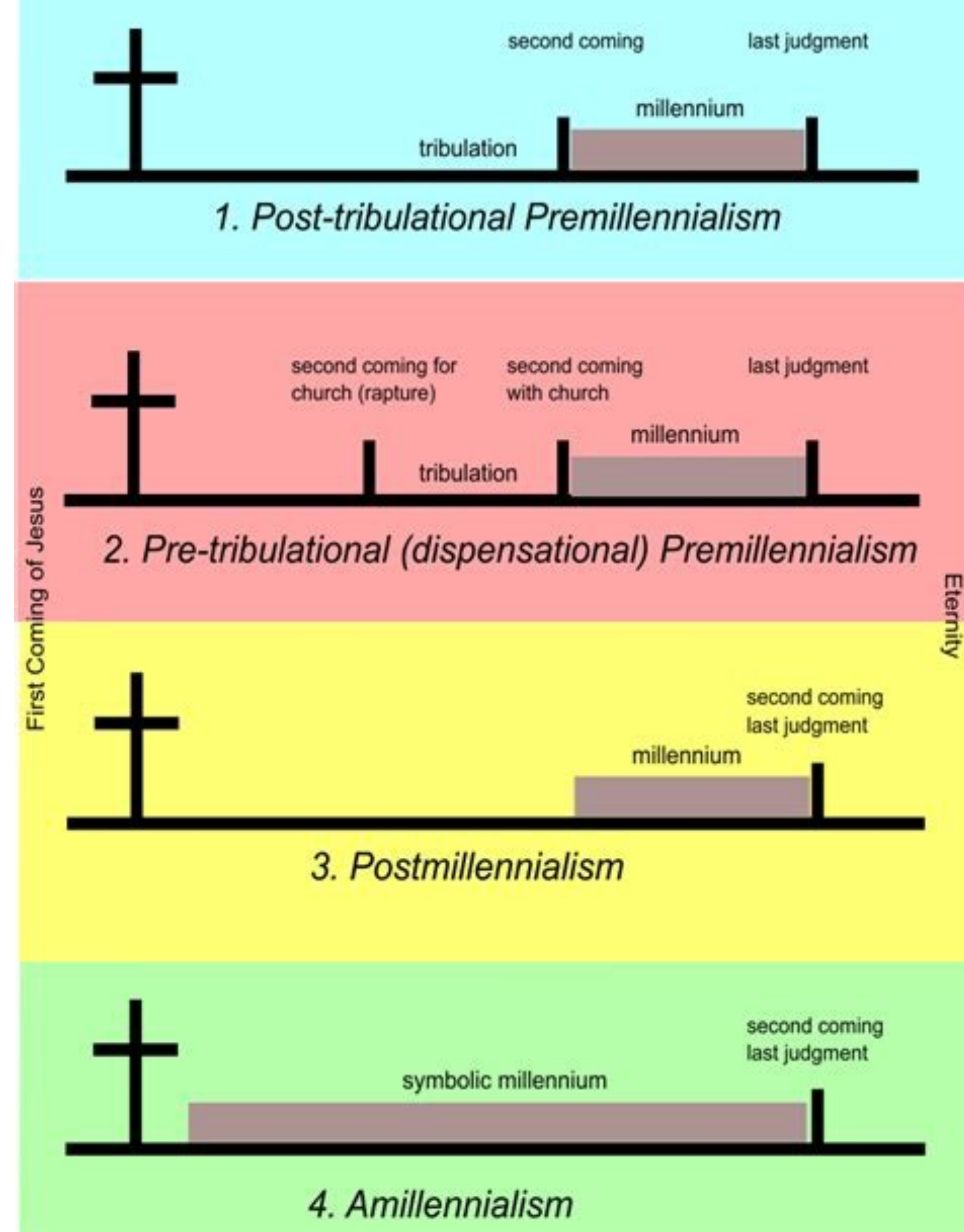
THE MILLENNIUM

Historic Premillennialism: The church is the fulfillment of Israel.

Dispensational Premillennialism: Views church and Israel as two distinct peoples of God with two individual redemptive plans.

Postmillennialism: The church is the fulfillment of Israel.

Amillennialism: The church is the eschatological fulfillment of Israel.



THE MILLENNIUM

When 1,000 isn't 1,000.

Deut 7:9 - The number of generations to which God keeps his covenants.

Psa 50:10 - The number of hills on which God owns the cattle.

Josh 23:10 - The number of enemies that one Israelite will chase.

THE MILLENNIUM

1,000 years = Figurative time

Psa 90:4 - For a thousand years in your sight are but as yesterday when it is past, or as a watch in the night.

Eccl 6:6 - Even though he should live a thousand years twice over, yet enjoy no good—do not all go to the one place?

2 Pet 3:8 - But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.

REVELATION

How To Read Revelation Responsibly?