

PROBLEMS WITH PREMILLENIALISM (Jeremiah 22:28-30)

I. Unfulfilled prophecy.

- A. Those that are pre-millennial in thinking do not believe the land promise of Genesis 12 to Abraham was fulfilled by God and will be fulfilled in the coming kingdom.
 - 1. Notice the promise (Genesis 12:1-2, 7; 13:15; 15:18).
 - 2. This promise was most definitely fulfilled.
 - a. God promised three additional cities of refuge if the land was all taken (Deuteronomy 19:7-9).
 - b. These three cities were given for a total of six (Joshua 20:7-8).
 - c. David recovered the border of Israel at the Euphrates river (2 Samuel 8:3 - you can't recover something you never had).
 - d. 1 Kings 4:21 shows Solomon as having even more land than promised.
 - e. God fulfilled every promise He made to them (Joshua 21:43-45; 23:14; Nehemiah 9:7-8).
 - 3. The problem the pre-mill's have is that they don't understand God's promises were conditional.
 - a. Deuteronomy 8:18-20.
 - b. Jeremiah 18:1-11 - they were being punished and losing their land because of disobedience.
- B. They also believe David's throne must be occupied on earth.
 - 1. Notice the promise made to David (2 Samuel 7:12-13; Luke 1:32-33).
 - 2. This was never intended to be a promise regarding a literal throne (Jeremiah 22:28-30).
 - 3. Jesus is now reigning on that throne in heaven (Acts 2:30-33), which throne is forever (Hebrews 1:8).
- C. These two alone, even one of them alone, show that the idea of pre-millennialism is false.

II. Rejection of Jesus as Messiah by the Jews.

- A. Those that hold to pre-mill thinking believe that the rejection of Jesus as Messiah by the Jews was unplanned for by God (read from sheet quoting Wycliffe Dictionary of Theology).
- B. Was it really God's plan for Jesus to be accepted as such by the Jews?
 - 1. Isaiah 51:1-3 + John 12:37-38.
 - 2. Psalm 118:22 + Acts 4:11.
- C. Was it really the plan of Jesus to set up an earthly kingdom (John 18:36; Luke 17:20-21)?
- D. Did Jesus fail to set up the kingdom?
 - 1. John, Jesus and apostles preached it was at hand (Mark 1:15; Matthew 4:17; Matthew 10:7).
 - 2. Jesus said it would come during the lifetime of some that heard it

- Him and with power (Mark 9:1).
- 3. Jesus said it would come with power when the Holy Spirit came (Acts 1:8).
- 4. The Holy Spirit came with power (Acts 2:1-4) during the lifetime of some of those that had heard Jesus.
- E. The kingdom exists today (Colossians 1:13; Revelation 1:9), thus, again showing pre-mill to be false.

III. The church was established as a back-up plan.

- A. Pre-mill's believe that since God did not plan for the Jews to reject Jesus as Messiah, the church was established as an emergency plan until Jesus could return to establish His earthly kingdom.
- B. This is false on at least a couple of counts, the first of which is that the church was always in God's mind.
 - 1. Ephesians 3:10-11.
 - 2. The blood of Jesus was always in God's plan (1 Peter 1:19-20; Psalm 22; Isaiah 53).
 - 3. The church then was always in God's plan (Acts 20:28).
 - 4. If such is not the case, then God is not omniscient because He could not foresee the Jew's attitude.
- C. The second reason it is false is because of the pre-mill's making a distinction between the kingdom and the church.
 - 1. Jesus did not make this distinction (Matthew 16:18-19).
 - 2. Peter was given the keys to the kingdom and then preached the terms of entrance into the church (Acts 2).

IV. Only saints will be raised at the rapture.

- A. When Jesus returns, pre-mill's believe that there will be a rapture where only the saints, both alive and dead, will be gathered up to meet Jesus.
- B. This is a false idea, and the Bible shows the idea of a rapture itself to be false.
 - 1. John 5:28-29.
 - 2. Acts 24:15
- C. The Bible shows there to be only one resurrection at which time both the righteous and sinners will be raised.
- D. 1 Thessalonians 4:15-17 is misapplied by them in attempting to establish their belief in a rapture.
 - 1. This passage does not address sinners.
 - 2. It only tells us what will happen to saints, which is the entire purpose of the passage.

V. Reign of Christ for a 1,000 years on earth.

- A. Pre-mill's teach that after the seven years of tribulation that Jesus will come and reign on earth.
 - 1. The Jews will now voluntarily submit to Jesus as will all nations.
 - 2. Those taken up in the rapture will be brought back to special positions of power in the new earthly kingdom.
- B. This idea is said to be taken from the first few verses of Revelation 20.
- C. Nowhere in scripture are we told that Jesus will ever set foot again on the

earth.

1. 1 Thessalonians 4:17.
2. 2 Peter 3:1-14.
 - a. This plainly teaches the earth will be destroyed at His return.
 - b. The new heavens and earth are a place of righteousness with no wickedness yet pre-mill's teach wickedness will come back.
 - c. This day will come as a thief, no signs given such as a removal of all righteous people.
3. 1 Corinthians 15:23-24.
 - a. The next resurrection will be at His 2nd coming.
 - b. The end comes next with Jesus delivering up the kingdom to the Father and death being conquered.

Some of this material and outline came from a sermon by Kevin Cauley.