

LESSON 1

INTRODUCTION.

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# 1) Why should we study Premillennialism (PM) according to these verses?

- 1 Thess. 5:21-22 (NIV), Acts 17:11, 1 John 4:1.

→ Test everything.

- Col. 4:6, 1 Pet. 3:15.

→ You may know how you should respond to each person.

- Rom. 10:17.

→ Build our faith.

- Eph. 4:3-4.

→ Endeavoring to keep the unity of Holy Spirit.

2). How is the word “Premillennialism” defined in the dictionaries?

→ 1. noun: the doctrine or belief that the Second Coming of Christ will precede the millennium. Dictionary.com unabridged (v 1.1).

3). How is the word “Premillennialism” defined in the encyclopedia and other sources?

→ Premillennialism in Christian end-times theology is the belief that Christ will literally reign on the earth for 1,000 years, (the millennium), at his second coming. Premillennialism is largely based upon a literal interpretation of Revelation 20:1-6 in the New Testament which describes Christ's coming to the earth and subsequent reign at the end of an apocalyptic period of tribulation. [Wikipedia.](#)

4). Divide the word “Premillennialism” into 3 parts and define each part.

Pre | millennial | ism

1. Pre = “before”.
2. Millennium = 1000 years.
3. ism = a distinctive doctrine, theory, system, practice, devotion or adherence.

Doctrine that Christ’s second coming will come **before** 1000 year reign of kingdom on earth.

# Pronunciation

Pre·mil·len·ni·al·ism

Prē-mə-'le-nē-ə-li-zəm

5). Define the following words:

A. Eschatology =

→ from the Greek term “eschatos”, meaning last. This is the study of the doctrine of the last things.

B. Dispensationalism =

→ a specific form of Premillennialism. The dispensationalist holds to three unique beliefs: (1) the distinction between God’s plan for the nation of Israel and God plan for the church (2) literal interpretation (3) the real purpose of God is not man’s salvation but God’s glorification.

5). Define the following words:

C. Chiliasm =

→ a term often used for the premillennial view when emphasis is especially placed on the materialistic aspect of the millennium.

D. Amillennialism =

→ the view which regards the Old Testament prophecies concerning Israel fulfilled in the church. This position holds that the church and the kingdom are now in existence and that Christ is ruling now on the throne of David. This position holds that there will be no literal millennium on earth following the second coming of Christ.



5). Define the following words:

E. Postmillennialism =

→ looks to a period of future success for the Gospel just before the coming of Christ. The name is derived from the fact that in this theory Christ returns after the Millennium.

F. Apocalyptic literature =

→ from Greek “apoklypsis” meaning a revelation, disclosure or unveiling. In a broad sense, the term is applied to passages in Daniel, Ezekiel and Zechariah. It is characterized by numerology, symbolism, drama and persecution. The New Testament example of this is the revelation of Christ to John, called the book of Revelation.

## 5). Define the following words:

### G. Apocrypha =

→ the term is technically applied to the books which are not included in the canon of the scriptures. In short, they are uninspired writings. An example of this type of literature is Enoch, Baruch, Maccabees, Esdras, etc.

### H. Parenthesis =

→ As a result of the rejection of Jews of Christ's earthly kingdom, the church was substituted as an entirely new concept given to man, not found in the Old Testament. Thus, the PM refers to the church age as a parenthesis, (\_\_\_\_): a mystery gap that must run from the coming of Christ to the second coming when the kingdom will be established.

5). Define the following words:

I. Theocracy =

→ literally the “rule of God”. This is in contrast to monarchy, democracy and aristocracy. A theocracy is where the religious and civil law is one without distinction. God was the ruler of Israel in religious matters and in civil matters.

6). Do a Google search on “Premillennialism Influence on Churches” and determine what churches are influenced by this doctrine?

1. Seventh-day Adventists (15.8M members).
2. Church of God (15.8M members).
3. Jehovah's Witnesses (7M members).
4. Others: Irvingities, Plymouth Brethren, Christadelphians (less 0.5M members).
5. Popular among Evangelical, Fundamentalist Christians and Living Church of God. Expanded into Asia, Africa and South America.
6. History Channel on TV.
7. “Churches of Christ”.

# Objectives

A. OBTAIN A THOROUGH UNDERSTANDING OF THIS DOCTRINE AND ITS SUPPOSED BASES FROM SCRIPTURE.

B. BE ABLE TO REFUTE THIS FALSE DOCTRINE BY PROVIDING KEY SCRIPTURES AND ITS APPLICATION THAT UNDER-MINE ITS FOUNDATION.

C. INCREASE OUR UNDERSTANDING OF THE TRUTH CONCERNING JUDGMENT DAY, THE RESURRECTION AND THE END OF THIS PHYSICAL WORLD.

D. BE ABLE TO CORRECTLY ANSWER 25 REVIEW QUESTIONS.

# Study Approach

A. STUDY MATERIAL IS SPLIT INTO THE FOLLOWING 3 DIVISIONS:  
1) EXAMINE THE DOCTRINE AND ITS HISTORY, 2) REFUTE THE DOCTRINE WITH SCRIPTURE BY BEGINNING WITH ITS MAJOR POSITIONS AND 3) EXAMINE THE SCRIPTURE ON JUDGMENT DAY/ RESURRECTION.

B. SCRIPTURE WILL BE THE SOURCE OF OUR STUDY. PRESENT THE DOCTRINE AS PROPOSED BY ITS ADVOCATES WITHOUT TESTING ITS VALIDITY.

C. STUDENTS' RESPONSIBILITY IS TO ANSWER THE QUESTIONS BEFORE CLASS.

D. A 5-MINUTE REVIEW WILL BE CONDUCTED AT THE BEGINNING OF EACH CLASS.

## Schedule

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<b>Date</b>	<b>Subject</b>
1. Mar. 6 (Sunday)	Introduction.
2. Mar. 9	Premillennial Doctrine.
3. Mar. 13	Premillennial Doctrine.
4. Mar. 16	History.
5. Mar. 20	Land Promise Fulfilled.
6. Mar. 23	Other Promises to Abraham.
7. Mar. 27	Earthly or Spiritual Kingdom?
8. Mar. 30 (Wednesday)	Earthly or Spiritual Kingdom?
9. Apr. 3	Rev. 20:1-15.
10. Apr. 6	Rev. 20:1-15.
11. Apr. 10	Rev. 20:1-15.
12. Apr. 13	Last Days.
13. Apr. 17	Last Days.
14. Apr. 20	Anti-Christ
15. Apr. 24	Matt. 24.
16. Apr. 27	Matt. 24.
17. May 1(Sunday)	Daniel.
18. May 4	Rapture..
19. May 8	Resurrection.
20. May 11	Millennium & Battle of Armageddon.
21. May 15	Contrast Between PM & Scripture.

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22. May 18	1 & 2 Thess.- Judgment Day.
23. May 22	2 Peter, Matt. 25 & John 5.
24. May 25	What Happens After Death.
25. May 29	Implications.
26. June 1 (Wednesday)	Review.



