

An Overview of the  
Four Views of the End Time Events:

Some End-Times Words that is helpful to Know.

**Millennium**

- The thousand-year reign of Jesus on earth, described in Revelation 20:4–6.
- From Latin, *mille*, meaning “thousand.”

**Premillennial**

- The belief that the millennium is a future event and Jesus will return before (pre-) the millennium.

**Amillennial**

- The millennium is a symbol of Christ’s present reign among his people.

**Postmillennial**

- Jesus will return after (post-) the millennium.
- The millennium is the time in which most of the world submits to Jesus, and peace and justice reign.

**Rapture**

- Event described in 1 Thessalonians 4:16–17, when Jesus Christ returns for his people.
- From Latin, *raptus*, meaning “carry away.”

**There are four views of end-times events:**

- **Dispensational Premillennialism**
- **Historic Premillennialism**
- **Amillennialism**
- **Postmillennialism**

**1. Dispensational Premillennialism:** Believes the following:

Christ’s return and rapture are separate events.

- It’s the belief that Jesus will come back to earth after a seven-year tribulation and will rule during a thousand-year millennium of peace on earth.
- The rapture comes before the great tribulation, and the second coming after the great tribulation.
- Most dispensational premillennialists are “pre-tribulationists.” They understand Revelation 4:1–2 to refer to “the rapture.”
- The rapture is understood as the event when Christ removes Christians from the earth before the great tribulation begins.
- This view emphasizes literal interpretations of Revelation.
- During the great tribulation, many Jews will turn to Jesus Christ.
- God will remove Christians before the outpouring of his wrath during the tribulation (Revelation 3:10).
- The church is not specifically mentioned between Revelation 4 and 19.

**2. Historic Premillennialism:** Believes the following:

There is no rapture of the church rather they believe that Christians will remain on the earth during the great tribulation.

- The tribulation will purify the churches by rooting out false believers.
- The second coming of Christ will precede the millennium.
- The church has replaced the nation of Israel as God’s covenant people.

- The thousand-year millennium is a literal future event.
- Most references to “Israel” in Revelation refer symbolically to the church.
- The tribulation will root out false members from the churches (Revelation 2:22–23).

**3. Amillennialism:** Believes the following:

No *literal* thousand-year rule

- The belief that Jesus will come again some day, but there is no *literal* thousand-year rule by Jesus on earth.
- Rather, the millennium symbolizes Christ’s reign in the lives of his people from the beginning of the church until his second coming.
- The great tribulation represents disasters, wars, and persecutions that have occurred throughout church history.
- When Christ returns, he will immediately defeat the powers of evil, resurrect the saved and the unsaved, judge them, and deliver them to their eternal destinies.

**4. Postmillennialism:** Believes the following:

Christ returns *after* the millennium.

- The millennial reign described in Revelation 20:1–6 *represents a long time period when, through the preaching of the gospel, most of the world will submit to Christ. One thousand years are only figurative of a long period of time prior to Christ’s return.*
- During the millennium, Christ will rule the earth through his Spirit and through his Church.
- He will not, however, be physically present on the earth.
- Believers are reigning with Christ now on the earth so there is no need for a specific 1,000 year millennium.