



## Principles of Postmillennialism

### I. Christianization of the World through Gradual Progress of the Gospel (Matt 28:18-20)

#### A. True and effective evangelization of all nations

Vast majority of humanity to be brought to saving faith in the present age.

A Supernatural Process – results from effective evangelization (Phil 4:13)

#### 1. We have been negligent in this critical task

That there is still a remnant of paganism and papalism in the world is chiefly the fault of the Church. The Word of God is just as powerful in our generation as it was during the early history of the Church. The power of the Gospel is just as strong in this century as in the days of the Reformation. These enemies could be completely vanquished if the Christians of this day and age were as vigorous, as bold, as earnest, as prayerful, and as faithful as Christians were in the first several centuries and in the time of the Reformation.

– J. Marcellus Kik

#### 2. Pessimism emasculates the gospel (Rom 1:16)

#### 3. Eventual victory of the gospel (Rev 19:15, 21)

“On two occasions we are carefully told that the sword by which the victory is won proceeds *out of the mouth* of the conqueror (verses 15 and 21). We are not to think, as we read, of any literal war or manual fighting, therefore; the conquest is wrought by the spoken word—in short, by the preaching of the Gospel.

In fine, we have before us here a picture of the victorious career of the Gospel of Christ in the world.”

-- BB Warfield

### II. Hermeneutics

#### A. Preterist approach to certain passages (Matt 24:34; Rev 22:10)

#### 1. Antichrist (1 Jn 2:18-22)

#### 2. Persecution of Nero (Rev 13:5)

3. Jewish War (Rev 11:1-2)
  4. Destruction of the Temple (Matt 23:36-24:34)
- B. Figurative Interpretation of Thousand Years (Ps 50:10)
1. First resurrection symbolic (soul regeneration or intermediate state) (Rev 20:4-6, Col 3:1-2)
  2. Binding of Satan long and slow, rather than sudden (Rev 20:1-3; Matt 12:28-29)
    - a. Does not result in Satan's total inactivity, but restraint (John 10:28-29)
    - b. Satan has lost his dominion over Gentiles in this age (Acts 13:47)
- III. Millennial Age is Part of Church Age (Golden Age of Spiritual Prosperity)
- A. Current age gradually merges into millennial age (Luke 17:20-21; Mark 4:26-29)
    1. Overall positive course of history
  - B. Predominantly Christian moral and spiritual environment (Spiritual Conquest)
    1. The Church = New Testament Israel (Gal 3:29)
    2. No Rebuilding of the Temple expected
      - a. Reinstitution of Sacrificial System Incompatible with Millennium (Heb 7:27)
    3. Material prosperity as a result of godliness and sober living (Matt 6:33)
    4. Not Perfect / Sinless (Rom 7:19)
  - C. Salvation for many (Gen 22:17, John 3:17, Rev 7:9-10)
- IV. Second Coming of Christ (Rev 20:11-15)
- A. General Resurrection
  - B. Final Judgment
  - C. New Heavens and New Earth (Rev 21)