



## Optimism Regarding the Conversion of the World

- Suffering as characteristic mark of the present age (1 Pet 4:12-19); 2 Tim 3:12-13)
- Current church age analogous to the wilderness generation (Heb 3:7-19; 13:14)
- Conditions of gross wickedness signal the last days (1 Tim 4:1-3; 2 Tim 3:1-7; Jude 17-18)
- Historical results less evident than claimed

## Preterist Understanding of Antichrist and Tribulation

- Nero can't be Antichrist destroyed by Christ by the splendor of *his coming* (2 Thess 2:8)
- Neglects Day of the Lord = Parousia (Isa 2:12-22; 13:6-16)
- Imminent Coming of Christ Circumvented (1 Pet 1:13, Luke 12:35-48; Matt 24:36-44)
- Two cities
  - Babylon the Harlot and her fate (Rev 17:1-18:24)
  - New Jerusalem (Rev 21:9-27)
  - Intervening is Parousia (19:11-21), Millennium (20:1-21:10), and Judgment (21:11-14)

## Lack of Scriptural Reference to a Golden Age Preceding Christ's Return

## Figurative Interpretation of the Thousand Years

- Surrounding images are not considered figurative

- Binding of Satan has not yet occurred (2 Cor 4:4; Rev 12:7-12)
- Passages implying a millennial kingdom (Zech 9; Isa 2)

## **First Resurrection as Spiritual Resurrection (Rev 20:4)**

- But implied second resurrection is clearly physical (20:5)
- Other resurrections in Revelation (Rev 2:8, Rev 13:14)
- Resurrection and rule of martyrs promised (Rev 2:10, 5:10, 6:9-10) vindicated in Rev 20:4