



Session 12

The State of Men after Death, and of the Resurrection of the Dead, Of the Last Judgment

Session 12 Overview

➤ Westminster Confession of faith

- Chapter 32 Of the State of Men after Death, and of the Resurrection of the Dead
- Chapter 33 Of the Last Judgment

➤ Catechisms

- Q. 84. Shall all men die?
- Q. 85. Death being the wages of sin, why are not the righteous delivered from death, seeing all their sins are forgiven in Christ?
- Q. 86. What is the communion in glory with Christ, which the members of the invisible church enjoy immediately after death?
- Q. 87. What are we to believe concerning the resurrection?
- Q. 88. What shall immediately follow after the resurrection?
- Q. 89. What shall be done to the wicked at the day of judgment?
- Q. 90. What shall be done to the righteous at the day of judgment?



Q.84. Shall All Men Die? (One view of “The Last Day”)

A. Death being threatened as the wages of sin, it is appointed unto all men once to die; for that all have sinned.

- But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, And your sins have hidden His face from you, so that He does not hear. (Isa 59:2 NAS)
- For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. (Rom 5:10 NAS)
- For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Rom 6:23 NAS)
- And inasmuch as it is appointed for men to die once and after this comes judgment, (Heb 9:27 NAS)

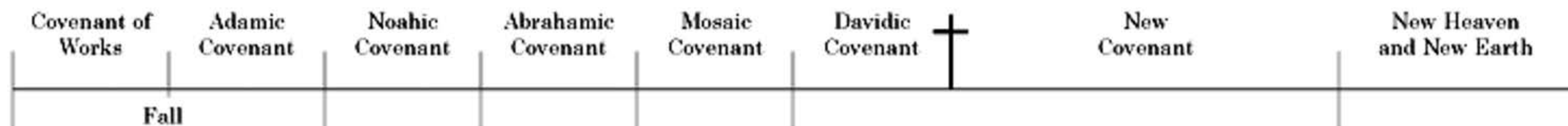
Comparison of Theological Systems

Covenant Theology

Primary objective of God: To develop an "elect People."

Important features:

1. Common "covenant of grace."
2. Singular "People of God."
3. Unity and Uniformity of God's People and Bible.

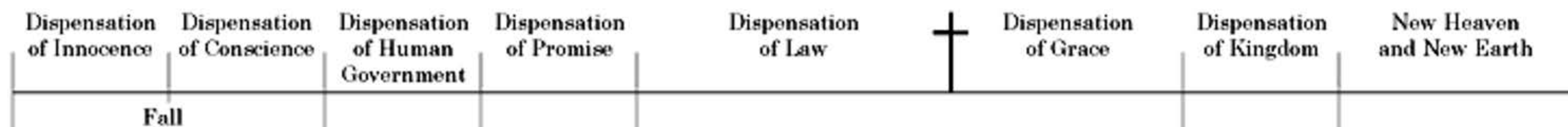


Dispensational Theology

Primary objective of God: To develop a Kingdom for

Important features:

1. Distinct dispensations of time.
2. Dichotomy of Israel and Church.
3. Unconditional covenant of God with Israel.



Christocentric Theology

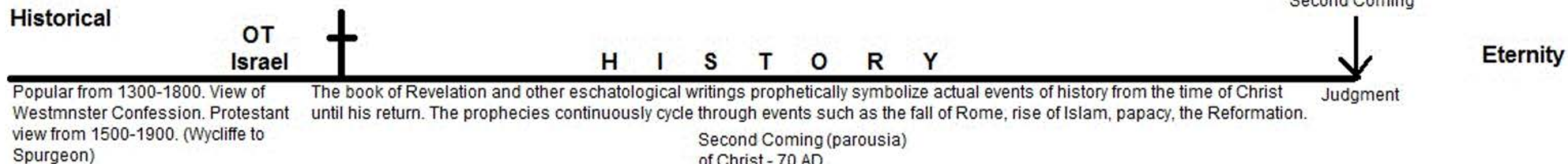
Primary objective of God: To restore His divine presence in man.

Important features:

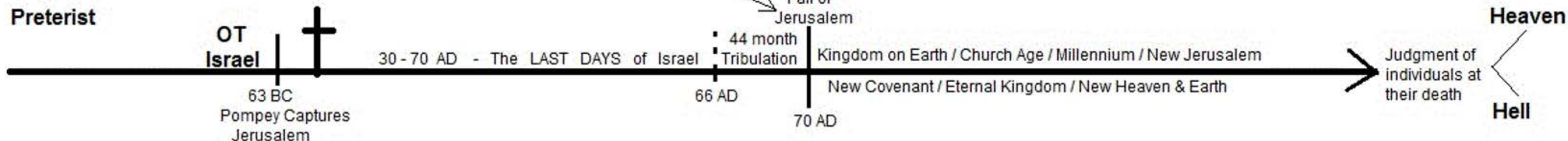
1. Messianic promises fulfilled in Christ.
2. All God's activity centers in Christ.
3. God continues to act in grace by the



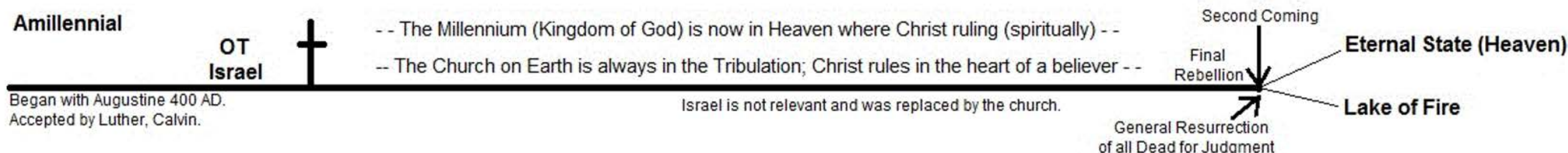
Historical



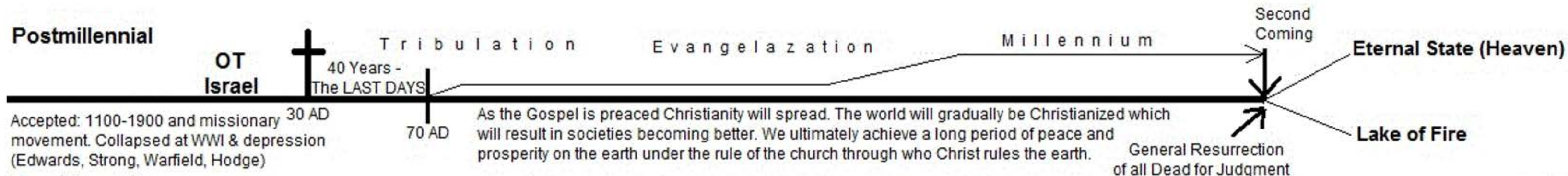
Preterist



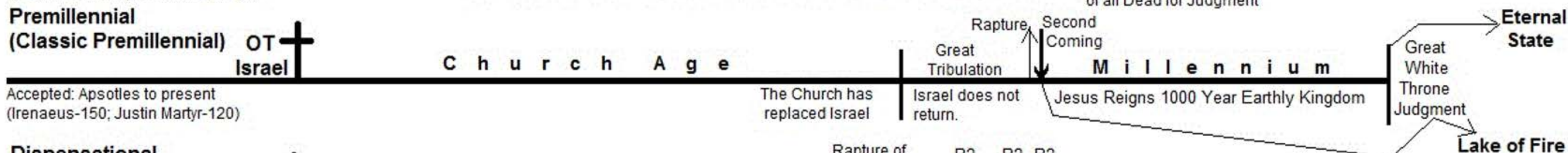
Amillennial



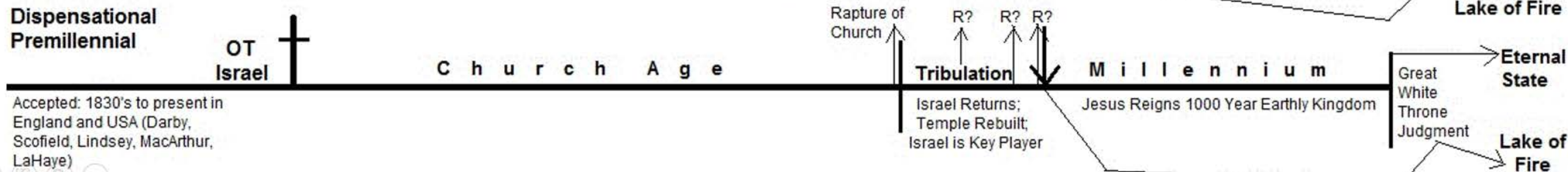
Postmillennial



Premillennial (Classic Premillennial)



Dispensational Premillennial





Q. 85. Death being the wages of sin, why are not the righteous delivered from death, seeing all their sins are forgiven in Christ?

A. **The righteous shall be delivered from death itself at the last day**, and even in death are delivered from the sting and curse of it; so that, although they die, yet it is out of God's love, **to free them perfectly from sin and misery, and to make them capable of further communion with Christ** in glory, which they then enter upon.

He has now reconciled you in His fleshly body through death, in order to present you before Him holy and blameless and beyond reproach (Col 1:22 NAS)

And not only this, but also we ourselves, having the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, **waiting eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our body.** (Rom 8:23 NAS)

"But when **this perishable will have put on the imperishable**, and this mortal will have put on immortality, then will come about the saying that is written, "Death is swallowed up in victory. "O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?" (1Co 15:54-55 NAS)

Of the State of Men after Death, and of the Resurrection of the Dead ,(WCF 32:1)

The bodies of men, after death

- **Return to dust, and see corruption:** (Gen. 3:19; Acts 13:36)
- **Their souls, which neither die nor sleep, having an immortal subsistence, immediately return to God who gave them:** (Luke 23:43; Eccl. 12:7)
 - The souls of the righteous, being then made perfect in holiness, are received into the highest heavens, where they behold the face of God, in light and glory, waiting for the full redemption. (Heb. 12:23; 2 Cor. 5:1, 6, 8; Rom. 8:23.)
 - And the souls of the wicked are cast into hell, where they remain in torments and utter darkness, reserved to the judgment of the great day. (Luke 16:23–24; Mat 22:13)
- **Beside these two places,** for souls separated from their bodies, **the Scripture acknowledgeth none.**



Q. 86. What is the communion in glory with Christ, which the members of the invisible church enjoy immediately after death?

A. The communion in glory with Christ, which the members of the invisible church enjoy immediately after death, is,

- In that **their souls are then made perfect in holiness, and received into the highest heavens**, where they behold the face of God in light and glory, **waiting for the full redemption of their bodies, which even in death continue united to Christ, and rest in their graves as in their beds, till at the last day they be again united to their souls.**
(2Co 5:1,6; Rom 8:23)
- **Whereas the souls of the wicked are at their death cast into hell,** where they remain in torments and utter darkness, and **their bodies kept in their graves, as in their prisons, till the resurrection and judgment of the great day.** (Mat 25:46 NAS)

The Resurrection of the Dead (Another view of “The Last Day”) (WCF 32:2,3)

At the last day,

- **Such as are found alive shall not die, but be changed:** (1 Thess. 4:17; 1 Cor. 15:51–52)
- **All the dead shall be raised up, with the selfsame bodies,** and none other (although with different qualities), **which shall be united again to their souls forever.** (Job 19:26–27; John 5:25–29)
- **The bodies of the unjust shall,** by the power of Christ, **be raised to dishonor:** (Dan. 12:2; 1 Cor. 15:42–44)
- The bodies of the just, by his Spirit, unto honor; of their bodies. and be made conformable to his own glorious body. (Acts 24:15; Phil. 3:21)



Jesus and the Resurrection of the Dead

Mat 22:28-32 NAS

"In the resurrection therefore whose wife of the seven shall she be? For they all had her."

But Jesus answered and said to them, "You are mistaken, not understanding the Scriptures, or the power of God. **"For in the resurrection they neither marry, nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven.**" But regarding the resurrection of the dead, have you not read that which was spoken to you by God, saying, 'I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob '? **He is not the God of the dead but of the living."**



Q. 87. What are we to believe concerning the resurrection?

A. We are to believe, that at the last day there shall be **a general resurrection of the dead,**

- **both of the just and unjust:** (Act 24:15)
- When **they that are then found alive shall in a moment be changed;** and **the selfsame bodies of the dead which were laid in the grave,** being then again united to their souls forever, shall be raised up by the power of Christ. (1Th 4:17)
- **The bodies of the just,** by the Spirit of Christ, and by virtue of his resurrection as their head, **shall be raised in power, spiritual, incorruptible, and made like to his glorious body;** and (1Co 15:52)
- **The bodies of the wicked shall be raised up in dishonor** by him, as an offended judge. (Dan 12:2)

Of the Last Judgment – “The Last Day” (WCF 33:1)

God hath appointed a day, wherein he will judge the world, in righteousness, (Acts 17:31)

- **By Jesus Christ**, to whom all power and judgment is given of the Father. (John 5:22, 27)
- In which day, not only **the apostate angels shall be judged**, (Jude 6; 2 Pet. 2:4)
- But likewise **all persons that have lived upon earth shall appear before the tribunal of Christ**, (2 Cor. 5:10;)
- **To give an account of their thoughts, words, and deeds**; and (Eccl. 12:14; Rom. 2:16;)
- **To receive according to what they have done** in the body, whether good or evil. (Rom. 14:10, 12; Matt. 12:36–37; 2Ti 4:14)



Facebook Meme on Angels and Hell

If a man expects a
woman to be an
angel in his life, he
must first create
heaven for her.
Angels don't live in
hell.

Q. 88. What shall immediately follow after the resurrection?

A. Immediately after the resurrection shall follow

➤ **The general and final judgment of angels and men;**

- For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad. (2Co 5:10 NAS)
- "Then He will also say to those on His left, 'Depart from Me, accursed ones, into **the eternal fire which has been prepared for the devil and his angels;** (Mat 25:41 NAS)

➤ **The day and hour whereof no man knoweth,**

- "But of that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but the Father *alone*. (Mar 13:32 NAS)

➤ **That all may watch and pray, and be ever ready for the coming of the Lord.**

- "For this reason you be ready too; for the Son of Man is coming at an hour when you do not think *He will*. (Mat 24:44 NAS also Luk 12:40)

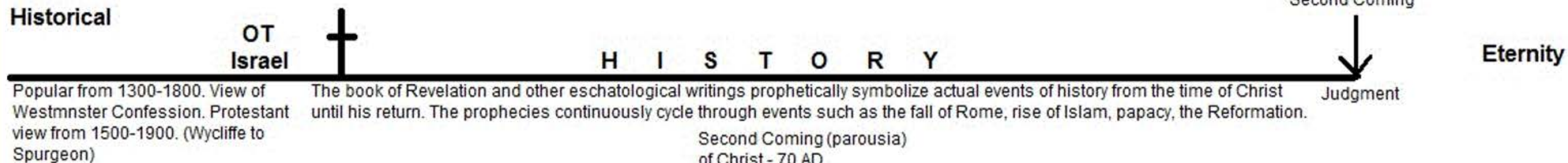


Always be ready the coming of Christ (WCF 33:3)

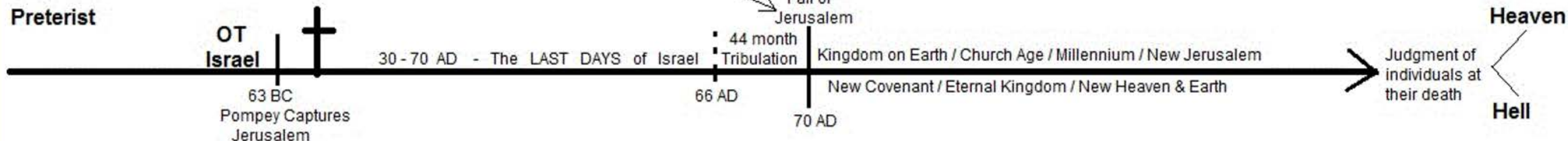
- As Christ would have us to be certainly persuaded **that there shall be a day of judgment,**
- both **to deter all men from sin;** and for the greater consolation of the godly in their adversity:
- **so will he have that day unknown to men,** that **they may shake off all carnal security, and be always watchful,** because they know not at what hour the Lord will come; and may be ever prepared to say, Come Lord Jesus, come quickly, Amen.

“For you yourselves know full well that the day of the Lord will come just like a thief in the night.” (1Th 5:2 NAS)

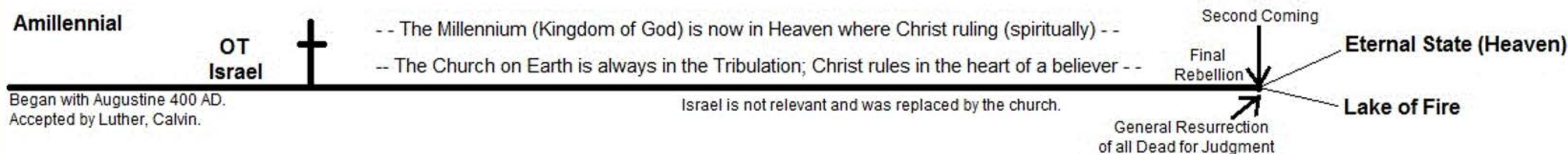
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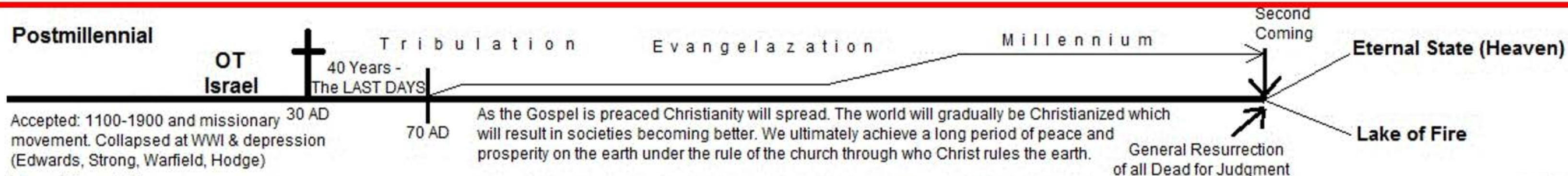
Preterist



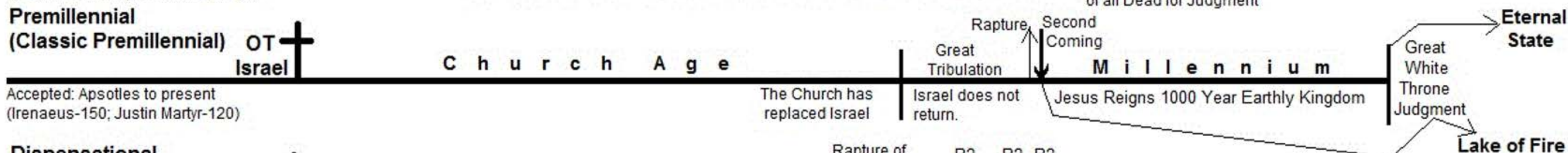
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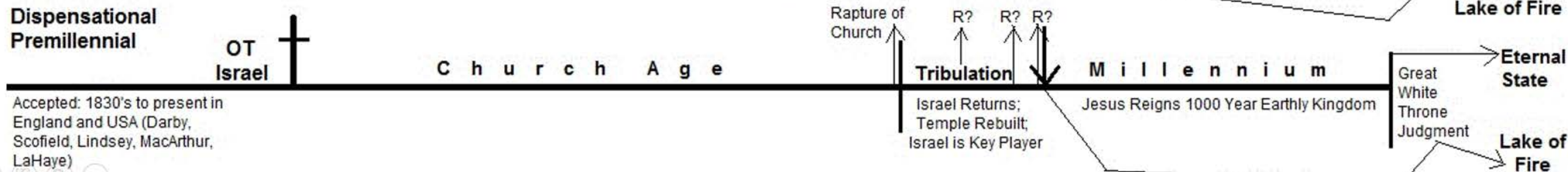
Postmillennial



Premillennial (Classic Premillennial)



Dispensational Premillennial



Of the Last Judgment – Heaven and Hell (WCF 33:2)

The end of God's appointing this day is for the manifestation of the glory of his mercy, in **the eternal salvation of the elect**; and of his justice, in **the damnation of the reprobate**, who are wicked and disobedient. (Matt. 25:31–46; Rom. 2:5–6)

- For then **shall the righteous go into everlasting life**, and receive that fullness of joy and refreshing, which shall come from the presence of the Lord: (Matt. 25:21; Rom. 9:22–23)
- But **the wicked**, who know not God, and obey not the gospel of Jesus Christ, **shall be cast into eternal torments**, and be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power. (2 Thess. 1:7–10; Mark 9:48; Luke 16:23)



Q. 89. What shall be done to the wicked at the day of judgment?

A. At the day of judgment,

- **The wicked** shall be set on Christ's left hand, and, upon clear evidence, and full conviction of their own consciences, **shall have the fearful but just sentence of condemnation pronounced against them**; and (Matt. 25:33; Rom. 2:15–16; Matt. 25:41–43.)
- Thereupon **shall be cast out from the favorable presence of God**, and the glorious fellowship with Christ, his saints, and all his holy angels, **into hell, to be punished with unspeakable torments, both of body and soul, with the devil and his angels forever.** (Luke 16:26; 2 Thess. 1:8–9)

"If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives a mark on his forehead or upon his hand, he also will drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is mixed in full strength in the cup of His anger; and he will be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb.

"And the smoke of their torment goes up forever and ever; and they have no rest day and night, those who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name." (Rev 14:9-11 NAS)

Q. 90. What shall be done to the righteous at the day of judgment?

- A. At the day of judgment, **The righteous,**
 - **Being caught up to Christ in the clouds,** shall be **set on his right hand,** and there openly **acknowledged and acquitted,** shall join with him in the judging of reprobate angels and men, and (Matt. 25:33; 1 Thess. 4:17; 1 Cor. 15:42–43; 1 Cor. 6:2–3; Heb. 12:22–23.)
 - Shall be received into heaven, where they **shall be fully and forever freed from all sin and misery;** filled with inconceivable joys, made perfectly holy and happy both in body and soul, **in the company of innumerable saints and holy angels,** (Eph. 5:27; Rev. 14:13;)
 - But especially in the immediate vision and fruition of God the Father, of our Lord Jesus Christ, and of the Holy Spirit, to all eternity. And **this is the perfect and full communion, which the members of the invisible church shall enjoy with Christ in glory, at the resurrection and day of judgment.** (1 John 3:2; Rom. 8:29)

"For this is the will of My Father, that everyone who beholds the Son and believes in Him, may have eternal life; and I Myself will raise him up on the last day.
(Joh 6:40 NAS)

Next Lesson – Session 13

- Westminster Confession of Faith
 - Chapter 19 Of the Law of God
- Catechisms
 - **Q. 91. What is the duty which God requireth of man? (WSC Q.39)**
 - **Q. 92. What did God at first reveal unto man as the rule of his obedience? (WSC Q.40)**
 - Q. 93. What is the moral law?
 - Q. 94. Is there any use of the moral law to man since the fall?
 - Q. 95. Of what use is the moral law to all men?
 - Q. 96. What particular use is there of the moral law to unregenerate men?
 - Q. 97. What special use is there of the moral law to the regenerate?
 - **Q. 98. Where is the moral law summarily comprehended? (WSC Q.41)**
 - Q. 99. What rules are to be observed for the right understanding of the Ten Commandments?
 - Q. 100. What special things are we to consider in the Ten Commandments?
 - **Q. 101. What is the preface to the Ten Commandments? (WSC Q.43)**
 - Q. 102. What is the sum of the four commandments which contain our duty to God?