

**October 03, 2018**

**Project Proposal:**

**Research Question:**

What Is the Millennium and what eschatological events precede it?

**Thesis Statement:**

The thesis statement is to give clarity and Biblical truth about the significance of the Millennium and the eschatological events that precede it.

The purpose of this research is to accomplish Biblical truth of eschatological event and what actually precedes it. For centuries, there have been numerous theologians giving erroneous teachings concerning this event; and some Christians have become confused about this teachings on this subject. In fact, the nation's largest African American Pentecostal Organization holds to the teaching that the church of Christ will not be taken (Rapture) from the world until the "Second Coming of Christ."

There are other religious denominations that hold to the teachings of either one of the other three (3) schools of thoughts in dealing with this all important event. For the clarity of the readers, the three schools of thoughts are: (1) Amillennialism, (2) Premillennialism, and (3) Postmillennialism.

This research paper, also will show that, the "Second Coming" is not the "Rapture of the Church" which is term "the Coming." The "Second Coming Or "The Second Advent" is the same as the "Millennium." It will be proven from a

Biblical perspective that, there is a distinct difference between these two eschatological events, as well as the time lines between them. The expectation is to clear up the confusion by bringing Biblical truth with clarification on the subject of the Millennium.

One of the first opponents of the Millennium was Origen (ca. 185-ca. 254), "Who made the first attempt to discredit a millennial interpretation of Revelation 20: 4-6, and replaced it with a spiritual interpretation by applying it instead to the spiritual growth of the soul which begins in this life and continues into the next life."<sup>1</sup> Tyconius, the Donatist theologian (ca. 400) taught that the thousand years of Revelation 20: 4-6 refers to the present age and to those who are reborn through baptism; and the physical resurrection is in the future (834). It was this theologian who influenced Augustine to move from his millennial position to a spiritualization of the thousand years. The millennial reign or rule of Christ is said to extend from Christ passion to His second coming which is erroneous teachings according to Biblical Scriptures. "In his later teachings on eschatology, Augustine spiritualized the millennium which he taught began with the incarnation of Christ and was fully realized in the early church (834)."

Because of this kind of erroneous teaching which leads to confusion of the readers, clarification on the subject matter is definitely needed.

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<sup>1</sup> David N. Freedman, *The Anchor Bible Dictionary*, Vol. 4 (New York, NY: Doubleday Publishers, 1992), 834.

## BIBIOGRAPHY

Freedman Noel David, *The Anchor Bible Dictionary Volume 5*: (New York, NY: Doubleday Publishing Group, 1992).

***\*\*These below references will be used in the final research writing. Plus other references as I begin writing this final project.***

Brand Chad, Draper Charles, England Archie, *Holman Illustrated Bible Dictionary*: (Nashville, TN: Holman Bible Publisher, 2003).

Geisler, Norman L., *Systematic Theology In One Volume*: (Minneapolis, MN: BethanyHouse, 2003).

Myers, Allen C., *The Eerdmans Bible Dictionary*: (Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1987).