

Talk on Premillennium, by Dr. Allan A. MacRae

1. Our vital attitude toward the Scripture. Take the Bible as the source, not a few verses on which we build a whole system. What does the Bible teach? Stop where it stops.

2. The Christian position--is it the Bible? The whole book is the word of God, His revelation to us. When we find something taught in this Book we do not get our information from the didactic portions only. Paul tells us that all Scripture is given by inspiration of God. The entire Bible is God's inspired Word. Do not take one verse out of context. Start with the clear verses and then go on to difficult ones. Christ said, "Oh, fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets said." Those were the Old Testament prophets. We must not neglect the words of the prophets.

3. Do we take the Bible literally? No. Every book contains figures of speech. Imagery is clear and precise, but it is figurative. The body of a book is literal. Some figures are good; all, would be fantastic.

4. If a clear teaching has an aspect that is not clear, I must not cast away the entire teaching. Micah tells of sin and God's wrath against sin, and goes on into the future to tell of time of blessing, three-fold structure. The second time we come to this structure is at the end of chapter 3. Chapter 3, verse 12 literally fulfilled. Chapter 4, verse 1, but after time is a better translation, could mean the millennium, or could mean the Gospel spreading its influence over the world, but to go on, verse 3 says, "no more war--universal peace." says this is fulfilled at the time of Christ's birth. History gives this the light. Verse 4 goes on to say that men sit out in the open unafraid. It is hard to believe such a position because of human nature being what it is, but the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it. Premillennialism says such a period occurs after the return of Christ. Postmillennialism says such a period occurs before the return of Christ. Amillennialism says no such period at all; therefore, cast this portion out of the Bible. Ignore it. What about verse 7, which says the Lord will reign forever?