

by people who definitely believe in the Biblical teaching that Jesus will come back in bodily form to this earth. Their views are often put under three terms. They are not very good terms, because they sort of turn the thing around. Those who preach much about this; those who seem to seem to stress it to a great extent are generally called premillennialists. The premillennial view should be described ~~as~~ not by the ideas of perhaps an occasional person who holds it, who perhaps holds some other views entirely unconnected with it, but by what is characteristic of this view. What does the view really mean? Premillennial means before the millennium. In other words Christ is coming back before the millennium. He's not going to wait until after the millennium. One may have different views about the rapture. One may have different views about what will happen after the millennium. One may have different views about the way of salvation at particular periods, but if one believes that Jesus is coming back before the millennium he is a premillennialist. And we can say that most of the great evangelists of last century and a half; most of the great missionaries; most of those whom God has used in a great way in the recent century and a ~~half~~ half, have described themselves as very definitely being premillennialists though they may differ in certain other points.

Now there is another view which has been widely held which is called naturally by the exact opposite term of this -- postmillennialist. Premillennialists means that Christ comes back before the millennium. Postmillennialist means that Christ comes back after the millennium. Well the postmillennial view/^{then}would believe that there is a millennium before the return of Christ. This word millennium incidentally is derived from the Latin of the book of Rev. It refers to the 20th chapter of the Rev., ~~particularly~~ particularly the first part of it. Let us look at Rev. 20 for just a few minutes. I'm going to pick just a few verses because our time is limited and i'd like to cover a fair amount of the ground this morning. Rev. 20 -"and I saw an angel come down from heaven having ~~a~~key . . . (continue reading Rev. 20:1-3) . . .until the thousand years must be fulfilled" and the Latin for 1000 years is millennium. Vs. 4, "And after that he must be loosed for a little season." At the end of the next verse(vs. 4) he says, "and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years". Vs. 5 "But the rest of the dead lived not until