

# 7 9/28/72 chapel Lk. 12:35-43

believe Christ comes before or after the millennium. So you have today a great attack on premillennialism by individuals who call themselves amillennialists. Actually in my opinion, premillennialism is a definite view. Postmillennialism is a definite view, but amillennialism is not a view but a denial. That's what the term means -- amillennial -- there is no millennium. And so I have people who call themselves amillennialists who except for ~~the~~ their dislike of premillennialism, in their actual view are so close to it that I wouldn't object if they wanted to call themselves pre-amillennialists millennialists (/?) . And I have known amillennialists who are very very far away from it. I've known amillennialists who hold views that are utterly different from one another. To my mind, I think of amillennialism as a denial, rather than as a view. It is the denial that there is to be a golden age upon this earth.

Oh, someone might say, What difference does it make? Our task is to preach the gospel. Our task is to make the Lord known and to win souls to him. Our task is to be ready when he comes. If he chooses to convert the world thro the gospel before he comes, that's wonderful. If he chooses to come soon before it -- that's wonderful. If he chooses after he comes to have a golden age upon this earth, that's wonderful. If he chooses not to, but simply to wind up the affairs of this world and to have the last judgment immediately, what/<sup>great</sup> difference should it make to us? Well as far as our immediate activities are concerned, it would not/<sup>necessarily</sup> make any great difference. But there is something that makes a tremendous difference to us, and that is this. Do we stand upon the Bible in such a way that we will accept whatever it teaches whether we like it ~~or~~ or not? Are we ready if we find something clearly taught in the Bible to say, Yes, I accept it. Or are we ready to take passages of the Bible and sort of explain them away, to say they are sort of symbolic, nobody knows what they mean. And thus really tear them out of the Bible. Now that to me is far more important than whether there is a millennium or not. What is our attitude toward the Bible? Do we go ~~thru~~ through it humbly saying, Let's see what it teaches and let us stand upon what we find there? To me that is the most important thing in this matter. Now it seems to me that it is impossible to read the OT without finding there very