

I think God can do it with any one of us. He can permit the devil to put us through a lot of tribulation that God wants to use to develop our character the way he wants to.

(Comment)

There's a parallel. (indistinct) It certainly is true Satan is the prince of this world. The whole world lies in the evil one. But Satan can't lift a finger without God's permission. There's a mystery there of the fact of God's sovereignty and the fact we have a right to make choices. God has declared who is going to be saved. He has planned it all, yet we have to personally receive Christ as Saviour. We can't understand it, but have to (indistinct)

Here is something that's to last 1000 years and then an uprising. It seems that the revelation here is not what we base it on at all. But it kind of puts things in a pattern.

We covered quite a bit. One thing I can't understand is when I hear people say I don't know whether I'm a premillennialist or a postmillennialist--an amil or a post mil, I know I'm not a pre! Because I think postmil is over here. It believes in a wonderful kingdom a time of freedom from external danger but puts the return of Christ so far away it's hardly a hope. I think amillennialism stresses the great hope of the return of Christ and ignores the kingdom. And I think premillennialism has both of these and so is in between. One is this way and the other that way. It seems to me they are opposite extremes rather than something that can be put together as being related to each other. Except to this extent. Some premils get so excited about the return of Christ that they talk about it all the time and so people say let's forget about it.

(Question about the two phases of Christ's coming)

I would not wish to be dogmatic on that. The thing that impresses me is that we're so often told we are not to know when he is coming. Paul tells Peter to be ready. Of course He revealed Peter was going to be killed but how many people in the Roman world knew unless they were in the town where Peter was whether he'd yet been killed? He does say there's going to be war after war. It's pretty clear there's going to be a period of time, but that could all have been fulfilled in 50 years. The instructions are to be ready and watching for his coming.

To me I find that a bit difficult to bit with the idea that here are certain things in the tribulation that have to happen. On the other hand for anyone to talk as tho the Christian escapes tribulation he is certainly wrong because the Lord says in the world you'll have tribulation. I don't know what ~~xxx~~ worse trib. you could have than what the Chinese are having, Chinese Christians. So we may have many tribulations to go through before the Lord comes. But I can't personally see how we can have a tribulation that we can know is the last tribulation. To me that is a secondary thing. The primary thing is the difference between premillennialism and (indistinct)

(Question about a two phase coming)

How many phases were there in His first coming