

2 Timothy 2:15 & Selected Scriptures
The Biblical Case for Futuristic Premillennialism
& the Practical Benefits of Studying Prophetic Scripture (pt. 1)

INTRO: What exactly is “Futuristic Premillennialism?”

KEY Bible Verse- 2 Timothy 2:15, *Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, **handling accurately the word of truth.***

Why is it critically important for us to labor long and hard in effort to “rightly divide” the Word of God, (including prophetic passages of Scripture)?

What does faithful bible interpretation have to with God’s honor and the Lordship of Jesus Christ over His Church?

The Biblical Case for Futuristic Premillennialism is supported by Seven Lines of Reason:

1) The Fruit of a Consistent “Hermeneutic.”

-“Hermeneutics” is the study of the principles and methods of interpreting the text of the Bible.

2) The Unconditional Promises in the Biblical Covenants.

3) The Hope of the Old Testament Saints and Prophets.

4) The End Times Teachings of Jesus Christ.

5) The Progressive Revelation of the New Testament.

6) The Unified Testimony of the Early Church.

7) The Invisible Hand of Divine Providence (throughout the ages).

“The meaning of Scripture IS the Scripture.” What is meant by this assertion?

Why is not enough to simply say, “We believe in the Bible!?”

1) The Fruit of a Consistent “Hermeneutic.”

The natural reading of Scriptures yields the following interpretative (Pre-mill.) “fruit”:

A)

(Matt. 6:10; Lk. 22:28-30; Rev. 5:10; Dan. 2:44; Zech. 14:4, 9, 16; Isa. 11:4f; _____).

B)

(Hos. 3:5; Zech. 12-14; Rom. 9-11; Rev. 19-20)

C)

(Zech. 12-14; Micah 4:1-8; Dan. 9:26-27; Rev. 19-20)

D)

(Isaiah 11:1-9; 65:17-25; Rev. 20)

Crucial Principles Related to Proper Biblical Interpretation; (Hermeneutics 101):

i)

(Rev. 9:7-10; John 10:7f)

ii)

(the “analogy of faith”)

iii)

iv)

(see Dr. Abner Chou’s chapter in *the Inerrant Word*, titled, “Intertextuality and Inerrancy.”)

v)

Old Testament Prophecies related to Messianic Promises and their Literal Fulfillment
(according to Authorial Intent):

- 1) Messiah’s **Virgin Birth**
- 2) Messiah’s **Royal Lineage**
- 3) Messiah’s **Kingly Birthplace**
- 4) Messiah’s **Divine Nature**
- 5) Messiah’s **Suffering and Atoning Sacrifice**
- 6) Messiah’s **Triumphant Resurrection**

2nd Coming Messianic Promises await a Future (Literal) Fulfillment:

I) God's Forever King Will One Day Rule Over the Earth From Jerusalem;
(*Zech. 14:9-11; Rev. 20:1-6*).

II) The Jewish People of God Will One Day Return to their Promised Land;
(*Amos 9:14-15*; note the Abrahamic Covenant)

III) The Jerusalem Temple Will One Day Be Rebuilt;
(*Ezk. 40-48*)

IV) All Israel Shall One Day Be Saved;
(*Romans 11:25-32; Zech. 12-14; Rev. 19-20*)

Three Practical Benefits Related to This Message Concerning Biblical Interpretation (hermeneutics) and Scriptural Prophecy (Eschatology); *Note Acts 13:13-44*

1) **Fulfilled Prophecy** _____
(Isaiah 52:13-Isaiah 53:12)

2) **Fulfilled Prophecy** _____
(2 Cor. 5:7; Heb. 11)

3) **Fulfilled Prophecy** _____
(Acts 13:13-44)

For Further Reflection/Application:

Name some of the ways the study of biblical prophecy impacts our daily lives in the here and now? (Go back and review the three practical benefits mentioned in this AM's sermon).

Read Jesus' parables from the Olivet Discourse in Matthew 24-25. What application orientated truths does Jesus drive home in these well-known parables?

Related Songs:

He Shall Reign Forevermore (Chris Tomlin)
Jesus Shall Reign (Isaac Watts, Psalm 72)
A Mighty Fortress Is Our God (Christy Nockels version)
Joy to the World (Isaac Watts)
Lo He Comes With Clouds Descending

Related Biblical Texts:

Isaiah 2:1-11; 9:1-7; 11:1-10; Hosea 3:5; Amos 9; Zechariah 12-14.

Recommended Resources:

Abner Chou's chapter in *the Inerrant Word*, titled, "Intertextuality and Inerrancy."

Ralph Alexander's, Ezekiel commentary, in *the Expositors Bible Commentary*.

David Baron's, *Zechariah commentary: A Commentary on his Visions and Prophecies*.

Key Biblical and Theological Terms:

Futuristic Premillennialism- is the theological conviction that the prophetic events that are so vividly unveiled in Rev. 6-22, won't be fulfilled, until 'the age to come'... wherein the King of kings shall return in blazing glory in order to rescue and restore Israel, silence and punish evildoers, and reign upon the earth, with his people, for 1000 years!"

Hermeneutics- "Hermeneutics is the science and art of Biblical interpretation. It is a science because it is guided by rules within a system; and it is an art because the application of the rules is by skill, and not by mechanical imitation." (Bernard Ramm, *Protestant Biblical Interpretation*, p. 1) "Hermeneutics is a *science* in that it can determine certain principles for discovering the meaning of a document. . . . It is also an *art* . . . because principles or rules can never be applied mechanically but involve the skill of the interpreter" (Bernard Ramm, *Protestant Biblical Interpretation*, p. 11).

The **Analogy of Faith-** "If the Scriptures be what they claim to be, the word of God, they are the work of one mind, and that mind divine. From this it follows that *Scripture cannot contradict Scripture*. God cannot teach in one place anything which is inconsistent with what He teaches in another. Hence *Scripture must explain Scripture*. If a passage admits of different interpretations, that only can be the true one which agrees with what the Bible teaches elsewhere on the same subject."