

SPEARS INTO PRUNINGHOOKS, not in an earthly temporal millennial peace in which men are dreaming from time to time, but in the spiritual peace, in Him who is our peace, ~~and~~ Eph. 2:14, in whom there is true peace on earth. You see, that is an a-millennial interpretation of that point. It is the peace within our hearts. That's not what this says. Well, let's see how he continues. ~~Nation shall not lift up~~ NATION SHALL NOT LIFT UP A SWORD AGAINST NATION, NEITHER SHALL THEY LEARN WAR ANYMORE. This being said of the inner peace and harmony of the church, compare John 17:21. Well now, that might fit with a post-millennial view, that the time is going to come when the word of God will be so deeply established in people's hearts everywhere, that the whole church of ~~God~~ Christ will have inner peace and harmony. But it has never yet been true of any great length of time and if you can show me any five churches anywhere in the world, that have gone on, you pick five churches, and you pick five at random, and in the course of sixty years, ~~there~~ if there hasn't been a time come when at least one of these five, and perhaps in three of them, the people were fighting one another considerably about something or other, I know of one church that was nearly split over whether Christ was raised on Wednesday, or on Friday. They were just ready to kill each other, over that very vital point. Satan has made dissension within the church of Christ from the very beginning. And God wants us to fight for the great truths of the Gospel, but He wants us to have peace and love over minor differences. He doesn't want us to fight over pre-millennialism or a-millennialism but he wants us to study the scripture and to see what the truth is upon it. And - But this is not something that has yet come, but you see the difference. This being said of the inner peace and harmony of the church of Christ. Verse 4, BUT THEY SHALL SIT EVERY MAN UNDER HIS VINE AND UNDER HIS FIG TREE; the enjoyment of the rich blessings of the New Testament. Well now, the next phrase, AND NONE SHALL MAKE THEM AFRAID. What does he do with that? He says, all the ~~enemies~~ enemies of mankind having been overcome by the power of the Messiah. None shall make them afraid. All the enemies of mankind having been overcome by the power of the Messiah. So you see what he does is, he tries to make this passage describe the peace and the harmony and the condition of the church, in this age, and then he goes on, and he twists and twists and twists, like when you say nation shall not lift up sword against nation, to say this