

THE SON OF MAN COMES TO RECEIVE A KINGDOM

These three arguments would seem to settle the matter. However, still more cogent evidence is available. This is found in the actual Scripture statements. One such statement is that of Daniel 7: 13, 14: "I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him. And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him." Here we see clearly pictured the coming of a Son of man on the clouds of heaven, to receive a kingdom. It is agreed by scholars that this is the passage to which Christ referred in such statements as that of Matthew 26: 64: "Hereafter shall ye see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven." Jesus definitely identified his return with the vision of Daniel of one who came to receive a kingdom. Thus, with the stringency of a syllogism, postmillennialism, and amillennialism are excluded.

Equally clear proof is given by the statements of Revelation 20. In earlier books of the Bible we have glimpses of phases of the millennial kingdom or of the return of Christ. These are generally presented in connection with some particular truth, and are not always directly related to one another. At the end of the Bible, in Revelation 19 and 20, a picture is given to gather them together and show their arrangement in the pattern of God's plan. The teaching of the section is very definite and very clear. In fact it is so clear that one marvels that any should misunderstand it. Whatever may be one's interpretation of earlier portions of the Book of the Revelation, the meaning of these chapters is plain. Standing near the end, they picture the wind-up of this age, and the outline of that which is to follow. The one who comes on a white horse is, clearly, Jesus Christ. "His name is called The Word of God." "He hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS." He meets his enemies and utterly destroys them, so that the birds eat their flesh. Here is the victorious return of Christ to put an end to all that opposes him.

Revelation 20 follows immediately. Satan is bound for a thousand years "that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season." John sees the souls of those who have died in the faith. They