

Prophets

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upon this earth of complete freedom from external injury and trouble, a period which is to come before the return of Christ for the church. Hengstenberg, conservative one of the greatest German/theologians and commentators of the last generation, held this postmillennial view. He said the millennium began with the conversion of the German nation in the 8th century A. D. He said that was the beginning of the millennium. It was the period in which Satan was bound so that he should deceive the nations no more and Christianity was widely taught. He said, "Already in my day," he said, writing about a century ago, he said, "Already in our day we see signs of war on the horizon and trouble coming, signs of that period to come at the end of the millennium when Satan is loosed from his prison and about to deceive the nations again, so we have a view of a millennium which had gone on for nearly a thousand years and had just about reached its end in his day. I don't think there were many people who agreed with Hengstenberg in this because there were so many terrific wars and destruction and disasters during that period that it seemed to fall far short of the pictures in the Bible in Revelation 20 here and in the Old Testament, but that was one form of a specific postmillennial view. The more usual postmillennial view is the view which Professor Warfield held, that every man, woman and child upon this earth will be converted before the return of the Lord Jesus Christ and that there will be a sizable period upon this earth, a long period upon this earth of universal freedom from war and external danger caused by the fact that every individual would be a Christian at that time. Well now that view is a view which, as we have noticed, fits the passages in Micah and in Isaiah quite thoroughly and reasonably. It's a sound doctrine upon those passages. Professor Warfield also lays great stress upon this statement in Revelation 19, and 21 that the remnant was slain with the sword of Him that sat upon the horse, which sword proceeded out of His mouth, and all the fowls were filled with their flesh. The remnant was from every one that was slain. He says it shows the completeness of the victory. It shows that the gospel which is represented by the sword from out of His mouth completely overcomes all the nations