

the postmillennial view, the view that the gospel was going to conquer the whole earth and that there would be a lengthy period of universal peace and righteousness as a fulfillment of the prophecies of the Old Testament upon this earth as a result of the preaching of the gospel prior to the return of Christ, so those are two distinct views. Now there are a good many people who do not accept premillennialism and who do not espouse postmillennialism but who call themselves amillennialists. They are not for either of these, they're simply against one and you would think that the--an amillennialist, you would naturally expect, would be rather close to a premillennialist. That's what I originally thought when I first heard about such an idea of amillennialism because the postmillennialist expects the world to get better and better and better and better until the whole world is converted. The premillennialist says, "It may get somewhat better; it may get somewhat worse. We don't know just how far it is going in either direction, but," he says, "it will continue with the individuals all over the world being taken into the body of Christ until the time comes when Christ returns to rule the world and sets up His kingdom afterwards." Well, now the amillennialist, who does not believe in a millennium prior to the return of Christ but believes in a personal return of Christ, you would think would also be looking forward, not to the world getting better and better and necessarily a success of the gospel in conquering the whole world but to a return of Christ as the next state so you would say it is very close to premillennialism but as an actual fact I have found most of those individuals who hold an amil--who call themselves amillennialists to be very bitter against premillennialism and rarely to take any time in attacking postmillennialism and I know one man wrote a book called "Five thousand years" and he devoted, out of several hundred pages, he devoted, I think, four lines on one page to saying that of course the idea of a millennium before the return of Christ is simply without any proof. He just cast it aside like that and then spent the rest of the book denying a