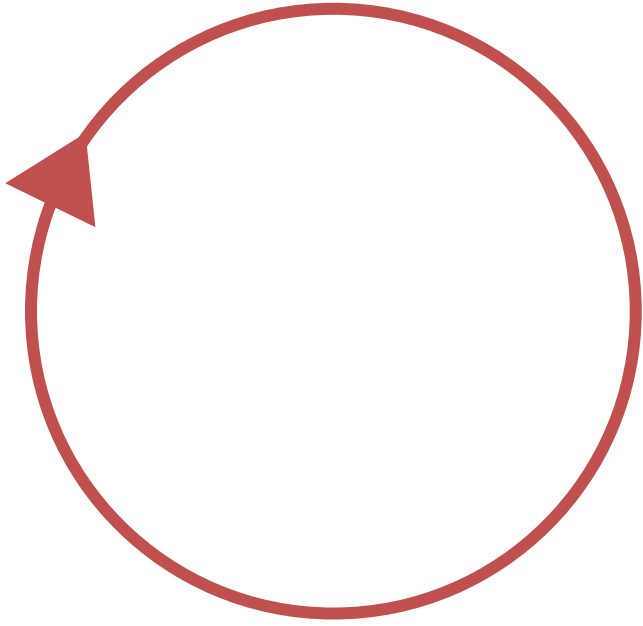


# Talkback

Jesus is coming back #1



Christ Church  
HAYWARDS HEATH





# adding to our vocabulary



# eschatology

- the study of the end things
  - the return of Jesus
  - the end of the world
  - the resurrection of the dead
  - the last judgement
  - hell and eternal punishment
  - the new heaven and the new earth
  - and so on...

The Old Testament is  
undeniably eschatological in  
outlook

# Genesis 3:15

- And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.

# Genesis 49:10

- The sceptre will not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until he comes to whom it belongs and the obedience of the nations is his.



# Deuteronomy 4:30

- When you are in distress and all these things have happened to you, then in the latter days you will return to the LORD your God and obey him.

# Psalm 110:1-2, 5

- The LORD says to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet." <sup>2</sup> The LORD will extend your mighty sceptre from Zion; you will rule in the midst of your enemies... <sup>5</sup>  
The Lord is at your right hand; he will crush kings on the day of his wrath.

# Joel 2:1-2a

- Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the alarm on my holy hill. Let all who live in the land tremble, for the day of the LORD is coming. It is close at hand—<sup>2</sup> a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and blackness.

# Jeremiah 23:5

- "The days are coming," declares the LORD, "when I will raise up to David a righteous Branch, a King who will reign wisely and do what is just and right in the land.

# Isaiah 2:2

- In the last days the mountain of the LORD's temple will be established as chief among the mountains; it will be raised above the hills, and all nations will stream to it.

# Isaiah 65:17

- "Behold, I will create new heavens and a new earth. The former things will not be remembered, nor will they come to mind.

# Zechariah 14:9

- The LORD will be king over the whole earth. On that day there will be one LORD, and his name the only name.

# Daniel 12:1-2

- ... at that time your people—everyone whose name is found written in the book—will be delivered.<sup>2</sup> Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake: some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt.



# Habakkuk 2:14

- For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.

# old testament phrases

- the days are coming
- in the last days
- the day of the Lord
- the day of his wrath

# in the last days...

- the expectation of the coming redeemer
- the anticipation of the kingdom of God
- the making of a new covenant with Israel
- the restoration of the kingdom
- the outpouring of the Spirit
- the creation of a new heaven and a new earth
- the resurrection of the righteous and the unrighteous
- a climactic judgment

The Old Testament is  
undeniably eschatological in  
its outlook

The New Testament is  
dominated by its  
eschatological perspective

# Matthew 3:10-12

- The axe is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire... <sup>12</sup> His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing-floor, gathering his wheat into the barn and burning up the chaff with unquenchable fire."

# Matthew 4:17

- From that time on Jesus began to preach, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near."

# Matthew 13:39-43

- ...The harvest is the end of the age, and the harvesters are angels.<sup>40</sup> "As the weeds are pulled up and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of the age.<sup>41</sup> The Son of Man will send out his angels, and they will weed out of his kingdom everything that causes sin and all who do evil.<sup>42</sup> They will throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.<sup>43</sup> Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father.



# Matthew 16:27

- For the Son of Man is going to come in his Father's glory with his angels, and then he will reward each person according to what he has done.

# John 5:28-29

- Do not be amazed at this, for a time is coming when all who are in their graves will hear his voice <sup>29</sup> and come out—those who have done good will rise to live, and those who have done evil will rise to be condemned.

# John 6:40

- For my Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day."

# Acts 1:11

- "Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."

# Acts 2:17

- In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people...

# Acts 3:21

- The Christ must remain in heaven until the time comes for God to restore everything, as he promised long ago through his holy prophets.

# Acts 17:31

- For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to all men by raising him from the dead.

# Romans 2:5

- But because of your stubbornness and your unrepentant heart, you are storing up wrath against yourself for the day of God's wrath, when his righteous judgment will be revealed.



# Romans 2:16

- This will take place on the day when God will judge men's secrets through Jesus Christ, as my gospel declares.

# Romans 8:18

- I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.

# 1 Corinthians 15:12,19

- But if it is preached that Christ has been raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? ... If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are to be pitied more than all men.

# Philippians 3:20-21

- But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Saviour from there, the Lord Jesus Christ,<sup>21</sup> who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.

# 1 Thessalonians 1:9-10

- ...They tell how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God,<sup>10</sup> and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.

# 2 Timothy 4:1-2

- In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge:<sup>2</sup> Preach the Word...

# Hebrews 9:28

- Christ will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him.

# James 5:7-8

- Be patient, then, brothers, until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop and how patient he is for the autumn and spring rains. <sup>8</sup> You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near.



# 2 Peter 3:10

- But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything in it will be laid bare.

# 1 John 3:2-3

- Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when he appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.<sup>3</sup> Everyone who has this hope in him purifies himself, just as he is pure.

# Jude 1:6

- And the angels who did not keep their positions of authority but abandoned their own home—these he has kept in darkness, bound with everlasting chains for judgment on the great Day.

# Revelation 22:20

- He who testifies to these things says, "Yes, I am coming soon." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus

# Martin Luther

–“There are two days in my calendar: This day and that Day.”



# Questions

- How much do you think about ‘that day’?
- When you do, does it fill you with fear or comfort?
- What difference would it make if you thought about it more?

# big questions answered

- How is God finally and perfectly glorified in the work of his hands?
- How is the counsel of God fully realized?
- How is the destructive influence of sin in man and the creation completely overcome?
- How is the work of Christ crowned with perfect victory?
- How does the work of the Spirit at last issue in the complete redemption and glorification of the people of God?
- How does the church attain to the perfection for which Christ gave himself?

# personal impact

- perspective on present troubles
- hope in the face of sin, suffering and death
- urgency in mission
- impetus to holiness
- and more...





# Paul Lamb

- I just feel sad about the pointlessness of my life*
- I feel that I cannot and do not want to keep living. I feel trapped by the situation and I have no way out.*





# Joni Eareckson Tada

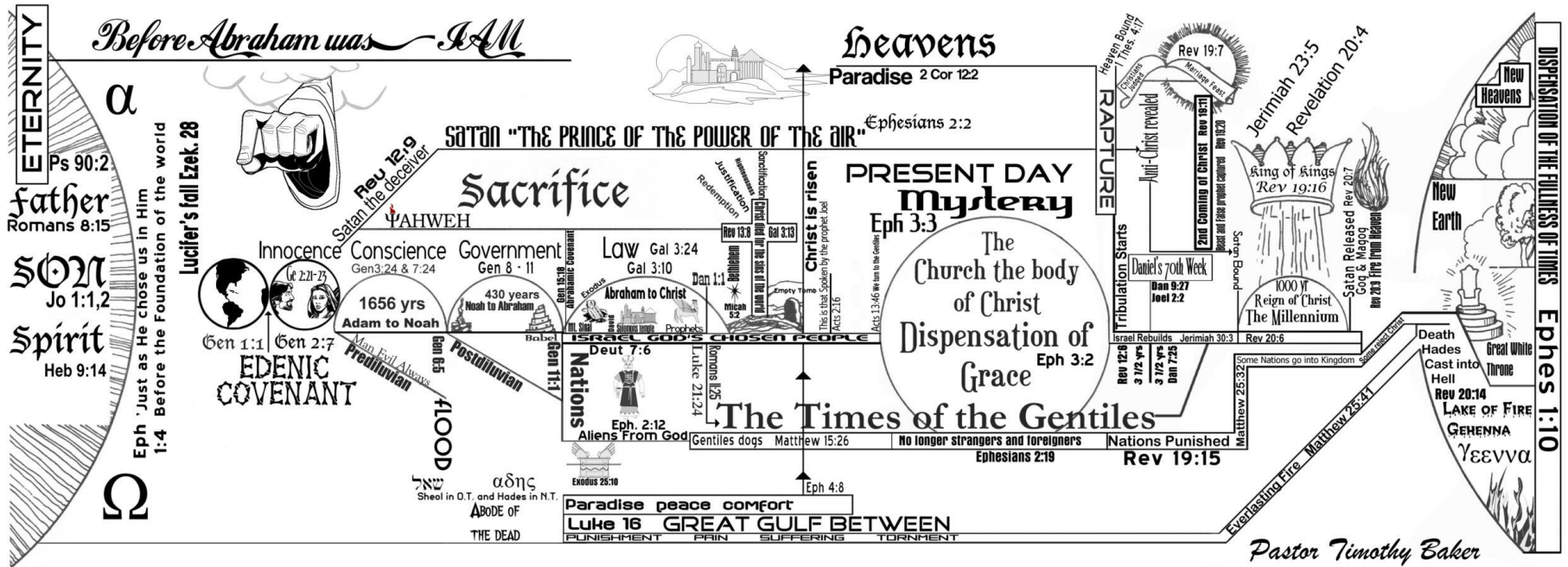
*When God sent a broken neck my way... He blew out the lamps in my life that lit up the here and now and made it so captivating. The dark despair of total and permanent paralysis that followed wasn't much fun, but it sure made heaven come alive. Suffering makes us want to go to heaven. Broken homes and broken hearts crush our illusions that earth can keep its promises that it can really satisfy. Only the hope of heaven can truly move our passions off the world – which God knows could never fulfill us anyway – and place them where they will find their glorious fulfillment.*



# cranks, complexity and controversy



# cranks, complexity and confusion



# Timing

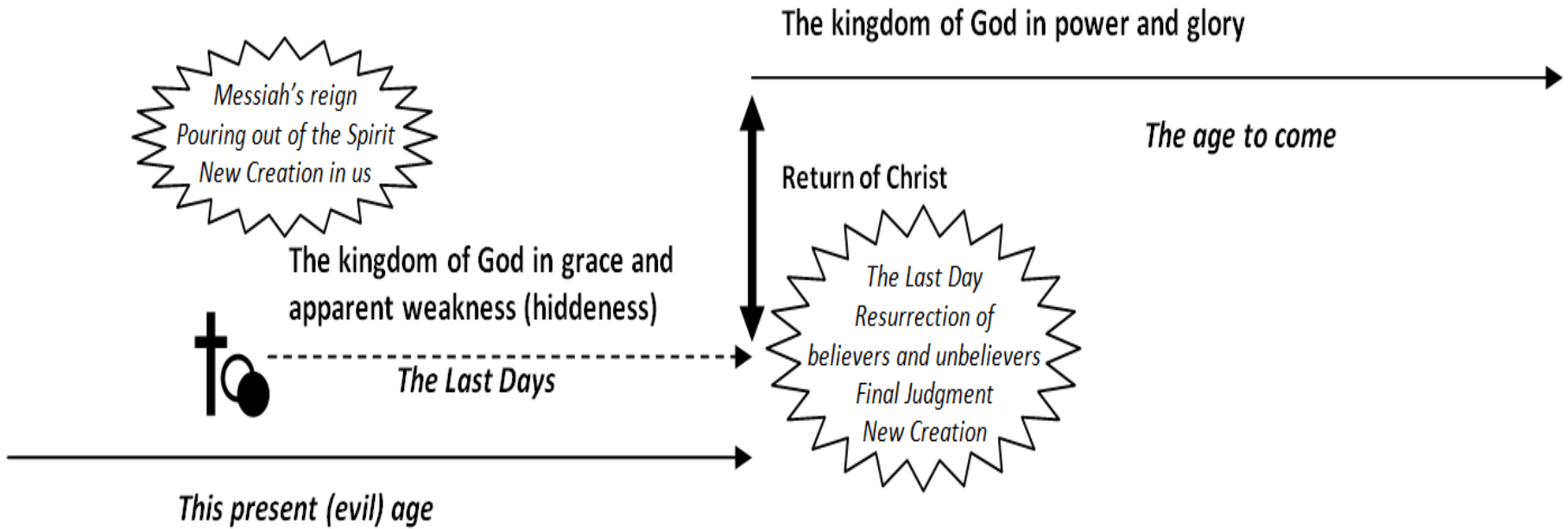
When does the kingdom  
come?

# reading the OT before Christ...





# the now and the not yet of the kingdom



PRE?

NON?

POST?

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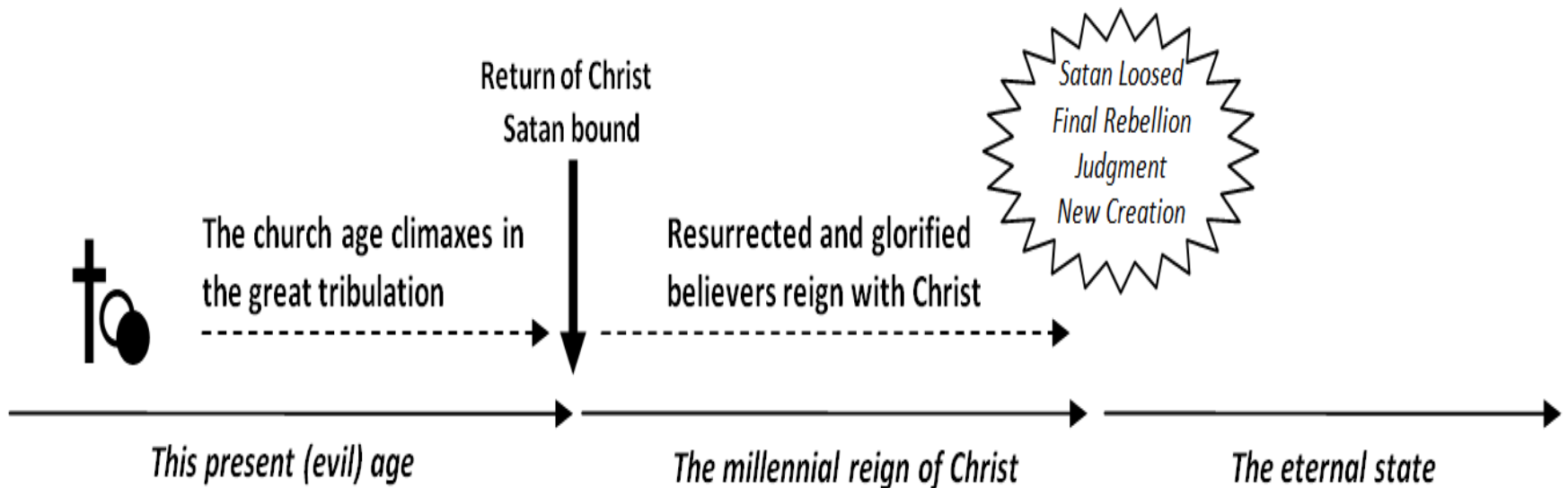
MILLENNIALISM

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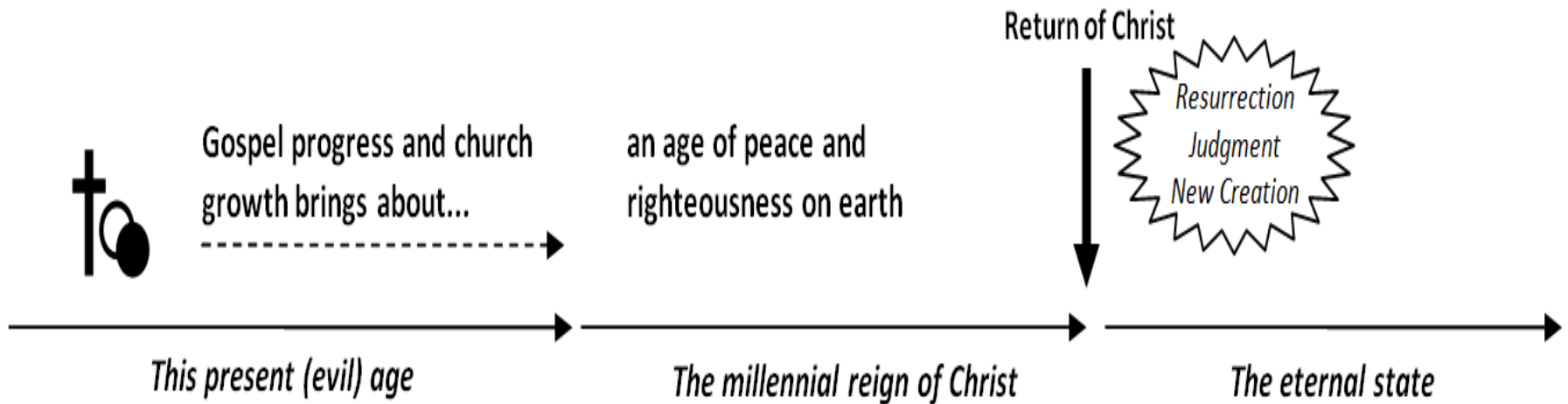
1000 YEARS

Revelation 20:1-10

# Pre-Millennialism (classic or historic)



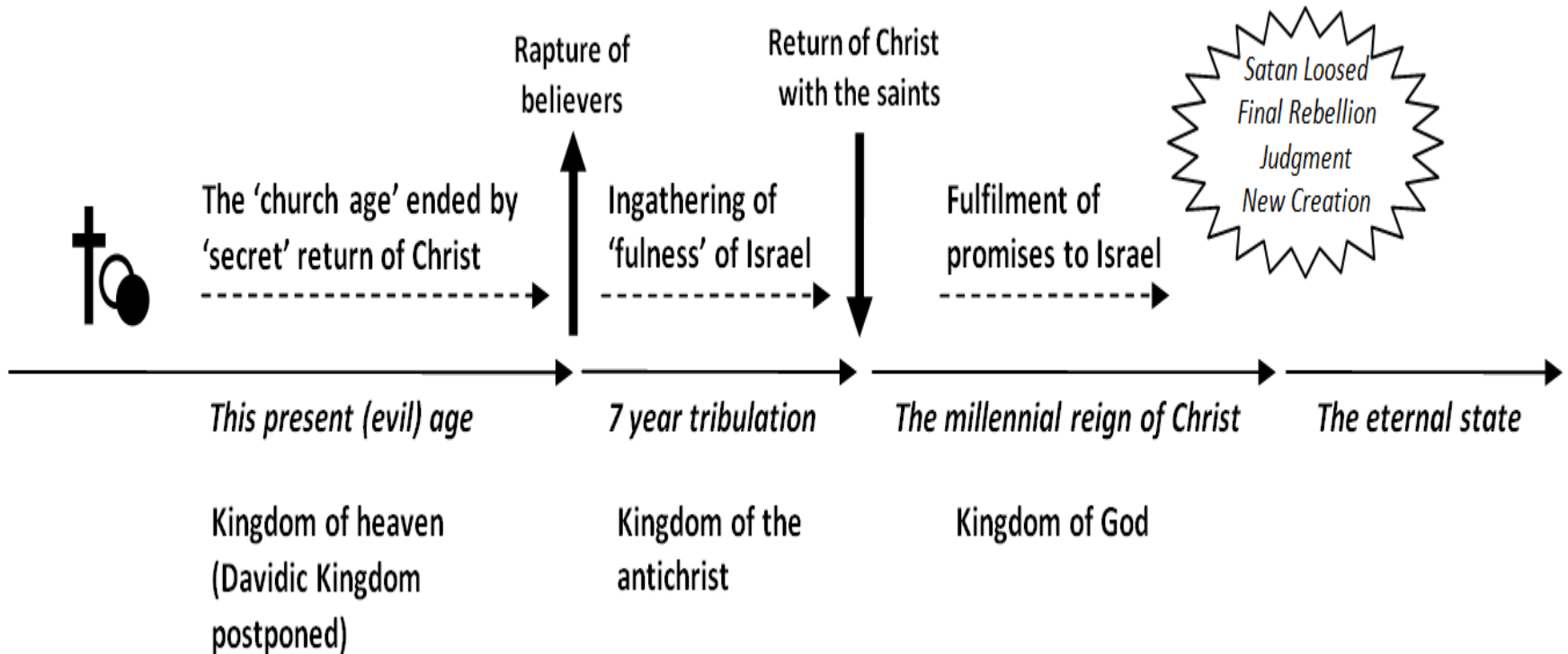
# Post-Millennialism



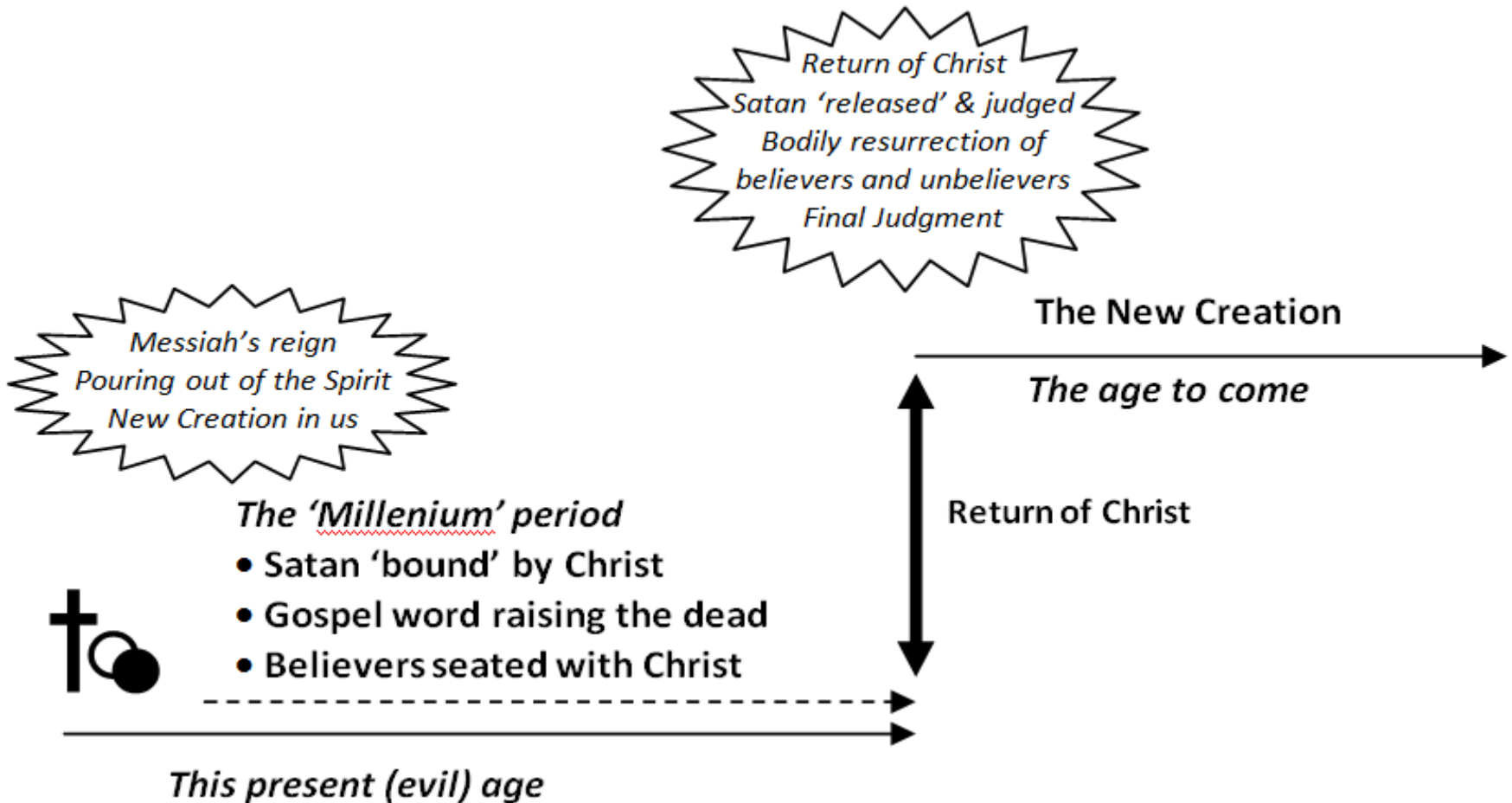




# Pre-Millennialism (dispensationalist)



# A-Millennialism



Views of the millennium  
should not be a cause for  
division between Christians  
whose hope is the return of  
Christ



# Arguments for A-millennialism

- The rest of the New Testament is *a-millennial* (e.g. Matt 25:31-46; note 'eternal' in v46)
- The principle of interpreting scripture by scripture must be applied
  - Satan has already been bound (Matt 12:29)
  - By his cross, Jesus has already defeated Satan (John 12:31)
  - Jesus has begun his promised reign (Eph 1:20-23)
  - Spiritually, people are being raised and seated with Christ (Eph 2:5-6)
  - Clear teaching that the return of Jesus will usher in the New Creation (e.g. 2 Pet 3:10-13)

# promises to Israel

- *no* NT fulfilment of God's promises to Israel separate from the Jew-Gentile church
  - there is but one people of God
    - the one new man (Jew and Gentile) (Eph 2:15)
    - the one bride that Christ loved and for which he gave himself (Eph 5:25); one body, one spirit, one faith, one Lord, one baptism, one hope (Eph 4:4-6)
  - the NT consistently directs the Christian hope away from this world (incl. the land of Israel)
  - God's promises to Israel will not have failed if the final fulfilment is greater than a 'literal' fulfilment

# The return of Christ is the focal point of Christian hope in the NT and must be our focal point

– *For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Saviour Jesus Christ. (Tit 2:11-13 ESV)*