

Amillennialism — Overview

“Amillennialism was not recognized as a distinct position until around the turn of the twentieth century. Until then, amillenarians called themselves postmillennial because they believed Christ would come back after the millennial age, but they were different from traditional postmillenarians in that they did not believe in an earthly millennial age yet to dawn. Dutch statesman and theologian Abraham Kuyper (1837–1920) may have been the first to use the term amillennial.”

—— Kim Riddlebarger, *A Case for Amillennialism*, (Baker Books, Grand Rapids, MI, 2013), 39-40.

“Amillenarians hold that the promises made to Israel, David, and Abraham in the Old Testament are fulfilled by Jesus Christ and his church during this present age.”

—— Kim Riddlebarger, *A Case for Amillennialism*, (Baker Books, Grand Rapids, MI, 2013), 40.

“The prophets predicted a glorious and redeemed Israel, which the New Testament writers contended was fulfilled in the church, the mystical body of Jesus Christ. To have a prophetic foretelling of the church in more literal terms would have been unintelligible to Old Testament believers.”

—— Kim Riddlebarger, *A Case for Amillennialism*, (Baker Books, Grand Rapids, MI, 2013), 70.

“If these prophecies have already been fulfilled in Jesus Christ, much of the dispensational case for a future earthly millennium simply evaporates. Dispensationalists tell us that these prophecies remain unfulfilled until Jesus Christ returns to earth to establish his millennial kingdom. Paul, on the other hand, told us, “What Israel sought so earnestly it did not obtain, but the elect did. The others were hardened” (Rom. 11:7). Thus, true Israel, those Jews who have embraced Jesus Christ through faith, has already received the inheritance promised God’s people, since they are the children of promise (Rom. 9:6–8).”

—— Kim Riddlebarger, *A Case for Amillennialism*, (Baker Books, Grand Rapids, MI, 2013), 83.