

I. The Man

Anglican scholar trained at Oxford. Engaged in several controversies. Ag RC's. Attempted to get concessions for nonconformists so they would join Ch of Eng. Refuted Calvinism.

Principal work was Paraphrase and Commentary on NT 2 vols. Begun 1688 and pub 1703. Title pg of Vol 2 1700. Work used thruout 18 and 19th cent and popularized postmil. Held: world converted, Jews restored to Holy Land, pope and Turks defeated, world would then enjoy peace for 1000 yrs.

II. Joachim of Fiore (c.1135-1202)

Mystic philosopher, lived in Italy, monk. Founded in 1192 order of San Giovanni in Fiore. 3 major works. OT culminated with 1st advent, NT with 2nd. History is trinitarian. 1st age of Father was under OT law. 2nd of Son was grace and covered NT disp and would last for 42 generations of 30 yrs each or till 1260. Then 3rd of HS which would be characterized by rise of rel orders that would convert world.

III. Whitby's writing on subj.

"A Treatise of the True Millennium: Shewing that it is not a Reign of Persons Raised from the Dead, but of the Church Flourishing Gloriously for a Thousand Years After the Conversion of the Jews, and the Flowing in of all Nations to them thus Converted to the Christian Faith."

Preface says (remember all other NT books have commentary on them) ..."Calvin was wise because he did not write upon the Revelations. I confess I do it not for want of wisdom; that is, because I neither have sufficient Reading, nor Judgment, to discern the true Intendment of the Prophecies contained in that Book. But yet conceiving that I have either found out the true Sense of Those Words Chap. 20.4. which usually are alleged as the Foundation of the Supposed Millennium, or Resurrection of the Martyrs to reign with Christ on Earth a thousand years, or at the least have said what is sufficient to shew that it is not necessary to understand them in a proper sense; I have comprised my Sentiments of that Controversie in the ensuing Treatise: which I submit to the Judgment of the Reader."

A. Whitby's post compared to amil and ch fathers.

Thesis: M of ancients differed from what was being taught in his day (amil)

1. Ancients held that temple, Jerus should be new built.
2. Just were then to rise, not martyrs only.
3. JC would reign on earth.
4. Bel would fare deliciously and enjoy corporal delights.
5. They should get children.

B. Rel to Jews

Thesis: M is reign of converted Jews and of Gentiles "flowing in to them."

1. All spiritual blessings are conveyed from Jews to other nations.
2. There will be a glorious conversion of Jews to Xn faith.
3. This conversion effected by full influence of HS on them.
4. Passages speak of m, res, new heavens and earth belonging to Jewish nation.

C. Rel to Rev. 20:4

Res is of souls and = res of church, so ch will live in spiritually revitalized state for 1000 yrs before bodily res (2nd res). Matt 19:28 palngenesia is not M but new birth. No physical res of saints and martyrs to reign with X 1000 yrs.

IV. Observations

1. He seems to be fighting both amil and prem.
2. Jewish oriented.

V. A.H.Strong, 1014. X comes at beg of M to reign in spiritual way, saints reign "even tho this muddy vesture of decay compasses them about, and the time of their complete glorification has not yet come." Then 2nd coming. This reconciles premill and postmill "without sacrificing any of the truth in either of them."

*Marshall Kirk is unil
Jim Adams*

V. Snowden's Concept of the M. (James H. The Coming of the Lord, 1919).

1. M is entire inter-advent age. M is kgdom of God now.
2. Only diff from amil is that world is getting better.
3. Events of Rev 20 either (1) already past or (2) heavenly bliss.

VI. Critique

1. Easily lends itself to evolutionary improvement or humanism.
2. Lack of uniformity in interpreting key passages.
3. Failure to correspond to all of current events. Only take progress side.