

Prologue Summary & Definitions

[Acts 1.1-11]

✚ Issues concerning *eschatology*—the study of [*ology*] the *end times, the last days* [ἔσχατος = last]

Key Phrases from the prologue:

...speaking of the things concerning *the kingdom of God* [3]

"...is it at this time you *restore the kingdom to Israel?*" [6]

"...He *will come* in the way you saw him going into the heaven" [9]

VARIOUS VIEWS:

PREMILLENNIALISM:

"kingdom of God" is literal, physical 1,000 year reign of Jesus in Jerusalem in the still yet future. Dominant focus on 7 year tribulation, rapture [of saints at some point relative to the tribulation], the antichrist, Armageddon [final battle between light & darkness, provoked by the antichrist]. Favorite passages include: Rev; Mt 24 [& parallels], Dan 9, etc.

DISPENSATIONALISM is a modern form of Premillennialism

POSTMILLENNIALISM:

"the kingdom of God" has been present since Pentecost; it is the 1,000 year spiritual reign of Jesus; the 1,000 years are not literal but continue until the world is totally Christianized; then Christ will return on the last day. This view is promoted by *the Christian Reconstruction* movement [Dominion Theology].

AMILLENNIALISM:

1,000 year reign of Jesus is neither *literal* in years nor *physical* in nature. The kingdom came in the 1st century, Christ is now King, present through his Holy Spirit, Scripture, & all believers. Christ will come on the last day; believers will rise to meet him in the sky, but likely return to Earth for the Day of Judgment.

✚ Issues concerning *the Holy Spirit*

Key Phrases from the prologue:

"...you will be *baptized with the Holy Spirit*" [5]

"...you will receive *power, the Holy Spirit having come upon you*" [8]

VARIOUS VIEWS

PENTECOSTALISM:

Denomination(s) with the defining feature of a belief in *Glossolalia*—speaking in *tongues*—as well as other miracles. Generally, *baptism in the HS* is an experience of the Holy Spirit coming upon a person, evidenced by tongues.

CHARISMATIC MOVEMENT [χάρισμα = gifts] is *interdenominational*.

There is often a connection between these phenomena & *premillennial* beliefs about being in the end-times with Christ about to come, marked by the sudden miraculous activity of the HS signaling that event.