



WHAT IS THE 'A.D. 70 THEORY'?

# THE FIVE FOUNDATIONAL BELIEFS OF THOSE WHO HOLD TO THE 'A.D. 70 THEORY':

- The 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming of Jesus happened more than 1900 years ago.
- At that same time, Jesus inaugurated the Eternal Kingdom.
- At that same time, the resurrection of all the dead occurred.
- At that same time, the final Judgment took place.
- These events completed, the world then ended.

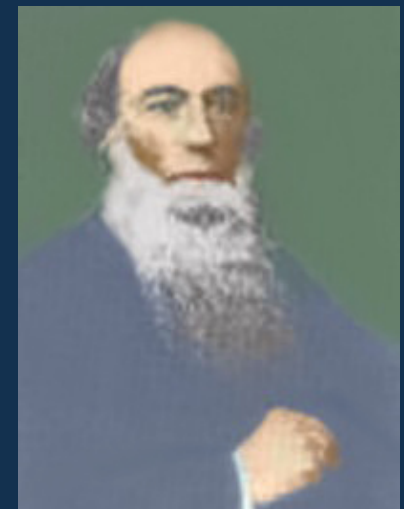
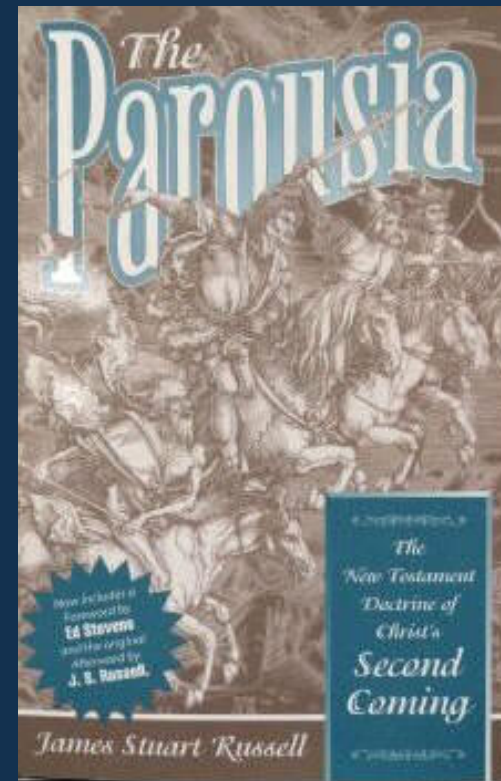
# WHAT IS THE 'A.D. 70 THEORY'?

(It really isn't anything new!)

- 1<sup>st</sup> Maccabees 1:57, 62 (a book of the apocrypha)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 2:17, 18
- Luis de Alcazar [*Vestigatio arcani sensus in Apocalypsi*, 1614]
- James Stuart Russell [*Parousia*, 1878]
- Max King [*The Spirit of Prophecy*, 1971]

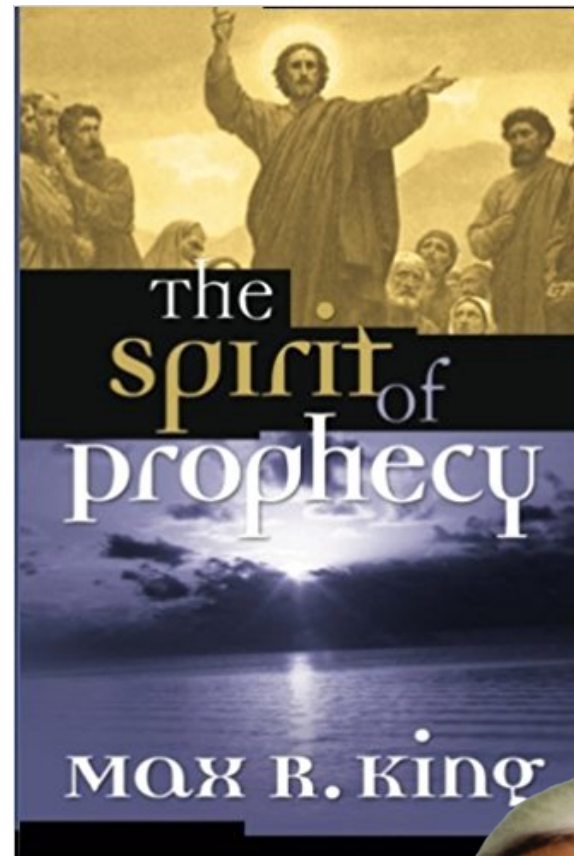
The first Christians undoubtedly believed themselves to be standing on the verge of a great catastrophe, and we know what intensity and enthusiasm the expectation of the almost immediate coming of the Lord inspired; but if it cannot be shown that Christians now are similarly placed, there would be a want of truth and reality in affecting the eager anticipation and hope of the primitive church. The same event cannot be imminent at two different periods separated by nearly two thousand years. There must, therefore, be some grave misconception on the part of those who maintain that the Christian church of to-day occupies precisely the same relation, and should maintain the same attitude, towards the 'coming of the Lord' as the church in the days of St. Paul.

-- James Stuart Russell, Preface, *"The Parousia"*



The Holy Scriptures teach that the 2<sup>nd</sup> coming of Christ, including the establishment of the eternal kingdom, the day of judgment, the end of the world, and the resurrection of the dead occurred with the fall of Jerusalem in A.D. 70.

-- Max King, author of  
***"The Spirit of Prophecy"***



# WHAT IS THE 'A.D. 70 THEORY'?

First, understand that the early dating of Revelation does not necessarily mean one believes this doctrine.

## ALSO CALLED:

- Realized Eschatology [i.e., fulfilled end of time]
- Full- or Hyper-Preterism [*preter-* past]
- 'Kingism' [named for Max King]

# WHAT IS THE 'A.D. 70 THEORY'?

IT MAY BE MORE WISESPREAD THAN YOU REALIZE

- THOUSANDS of websites



- North Indianapolis CoC → Preterist
- Westside (Indianapolis) CoC → Preterist
- Northeast Ohio Bible College → Preterist



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# We Missed It! Jesus Has Already Returned!

Indianapolis Eschatology Seminar

April 20-21

Hendricks Co. Conference Center  
1900 Main St. Danville, IN

[westsidecoc.org](http://westsidecoc.org)

Everyone  
Welcome!

Come Study  
With us!

Whitehead



- **Spring & Case 'Congregation of Christ' [Weatherford, TX], formerly the Spring & Case CoC → Preterist**

Through intense and long term study, we now proclaim the “Fulfilled Prophecy” understanding of the “end times” discussed in the Bible. By changing our name, we hope to show that we have turned from teaching doctrines that were incorrect. We believe that Christ kept his word and did return during the lifetime of some of his first century disciples as he said he would.

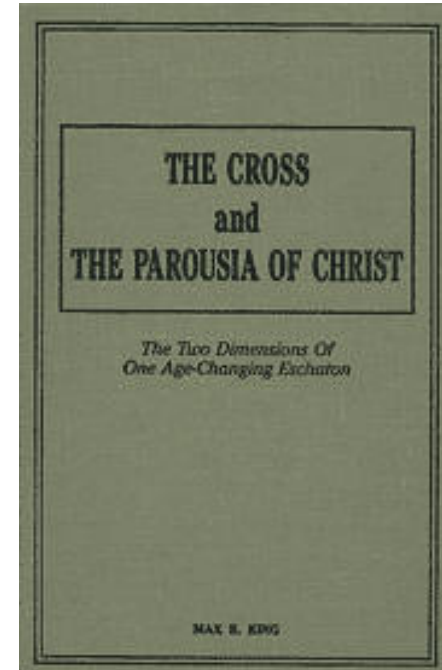
<http://congregationofchrist.org/why-the-name-change-2/>

- **AT LEAST FIVE CHURCHES IN THE INDIANAPOLIS AREA HAVE DEALT WITH, OR ARE NOW OPPOSING, PRETERIST EFFORTS**
- **As have the Monte Vista CoC (Phoenix)**
- **As have the Lake Jackson CoC**

**THIS IS NOT SOMETHING WE MAY IGNORE AND HOPE IT  
WILL GO AWAY**

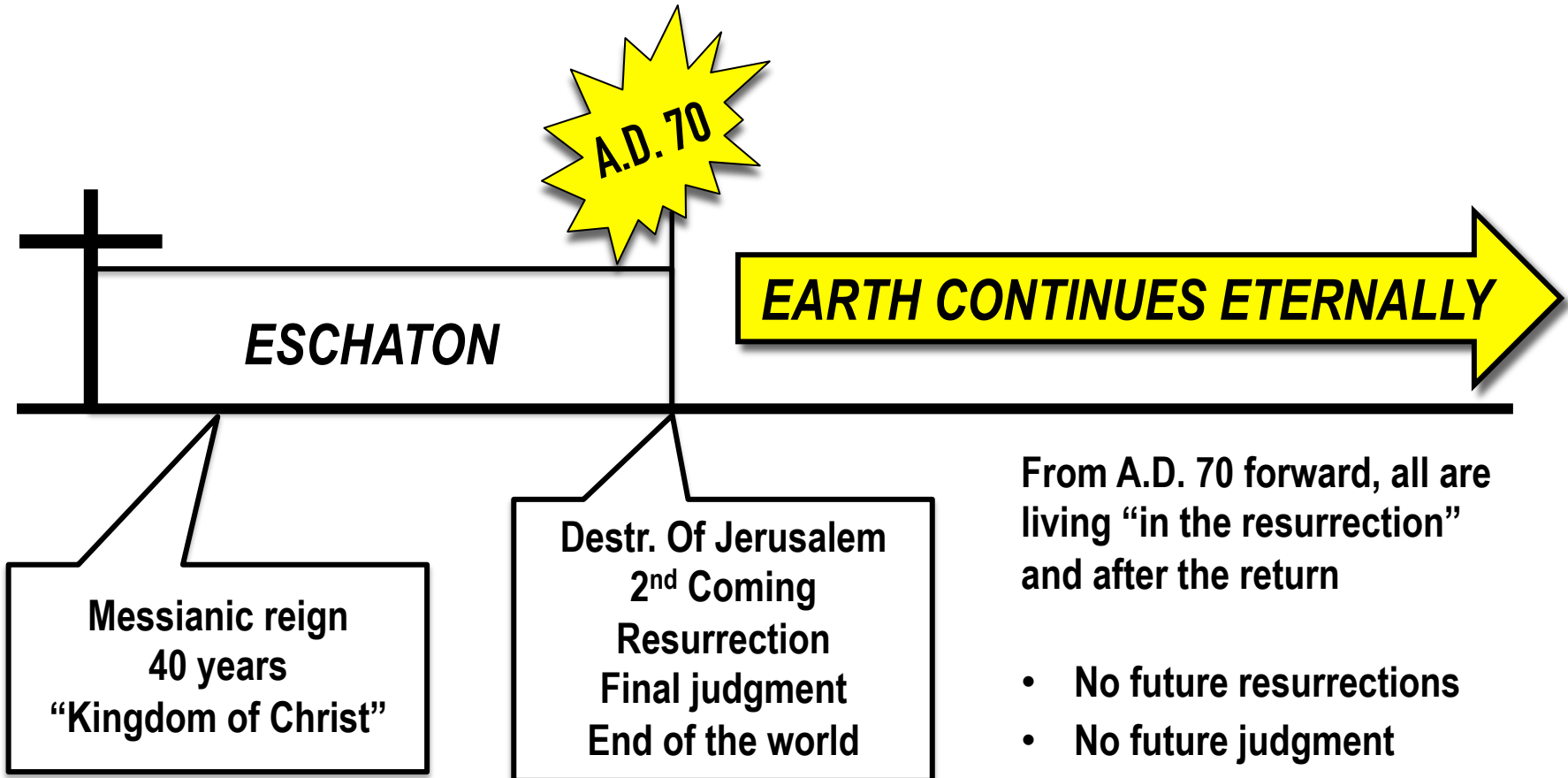
This means that during the eschaton (end of time), the believers lived in a tension of experienced and anticipated eschatology, between “the already” and “the not yet.” They were already in the kingdom of Christ (Col. 1:13), but still waiting for the kingdom of God (1 Cor. 15:24-28).

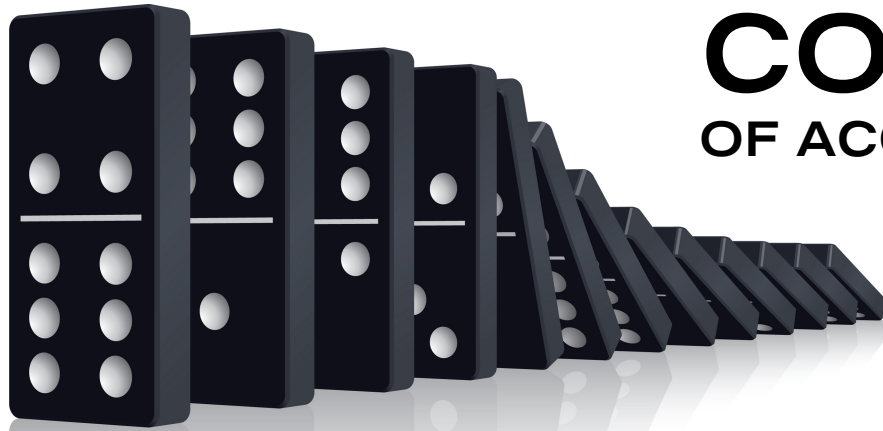
-- Max King, *“The Cross and the Parousia of Christ,”* p. 32



# WHAT IS THE 'A.D. 70 THEORY'?

## THEIR TIMELINE





# **CONSEQUENCES**

## **OF ACCEPTING THE A.D. 70 DOCTRINE**

- 1. It cannot be simply a matter of opinion. (Gal. 1:6–9)**
- 2. It denies the singular resurrection in the end. (John 5:28, 29)**
- 3. It renders Pentecost irrelevant. (Acts 2; 11:15)**
- 4. It denies all will face Judgment. (Jn. 12:48; 2<sup>nd</sup> Cor. 5:10)**
- 5. It denies Christ now ruling the kingdom. (Acts 2:29–33)**

# WHAT IS THE 'A.D. 70 THEORY'?

**1** Says: The 2<sup>nd</sup> coming of Christ is past, having happened in A.D. 70, and will not occur in the future.

There is no time period between the fall of Jerusalem and the second coming of Christ. They were synchronous events time-wise...There is no scriptural basis for extending the second coming of Christ beyond the fall of Jerusalem.

-- Max King, *"The Spirit of Prophecy"* pp. 81, 105

**All 2<sup>nd</sup> coming passages point to the destruction of Jerusalem in A.D. 70**

**There will not be a return of Christ beyond His 'coming' at the destruction of Jerusalem in A.D. 70**

**It is absolutely true that Jesus 'came in judgment' upon Jerusalem; this is what the Bible teaches.**

**Matt. 24:30, 31**

**Matt. 10:23**

**Luke 21:24, 27**

**BUT THAT DOES NOT PROVE:**

- **That this 'coming' was the 2<sup>nd</sup> coming of Christ.**
- **That all 2<sup>nd</sup> coming passages refer to the destruction of Jerusalem.**

# **THE 'COMING' OF JESUS IN SCRIPTURE**

- **THE BIRTH OF JESUS (Mal. 3:1)**

## **Representative 'Comings' Of Jesus in Scripture (Not literal)**

- **When one keeps His word (John 14:23)**
- **A fellowship through one's obedience (Rev. 3:20)**
- **In judgment on a local church (Rev. 2:16)**

## **A Conditional 'Coming' Of Jesus in Scripture**

- **Repentance could prevent His coming (Rev. 2:5, 16)**

There definitely was the 'coming' of Jesus in judgment on Jerusalem.

**Matt. 24:30**

**Matt. 22:7**

→ He sent His armies

God also promised Israel He would bring them to captivity in another land, and to Egypt in ships.

**Deut. 28:36, 68**

BUT There is also a future 'coming' of Jesus

**Heb. 9:28**

**John 14:1-3**

**Acts 1:9-11**

**1<sup>st</sup> Cor. 15:23-28**

**1<sup>st</sup> Thess. 4:16, 17**



**IF JESUS HAS ALREADY COME:**

*“...For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death till He comes.”*

**— 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 11:26**

**WHY DO WE STILL EAT THE LORD’S SUPPER?**

# WHAT IS THE 'A.D. 70 THEORY'?

2

Says: The kingdom of God came with power and glory in A.D. 70, not on the Day of Pentecost (Acts 2)

Dan. 2:44



Luke 2:1, 2



Gal. 4:4

2 Sam. 7:12-16



Acts 2:29-36



Luke 1:31-33

But the Scriptures teach that the kingdom came with power and glory on the Day of Pentecost! (Acts 2)

# WHAT IS THE 'A.D. 70 THEORY'?

3

**Says: The resurrection of the dead came in A.D. 70, and no believer will have a bodily resurrection.**

The author sincerely believes that the general resurrection belongs to the same time and event as given the coming of Christ (the destruction of Jerusalem in A.D. 70).

-- Max King, *"The Spirit of Prophecy"* p. 212

I deny John 5:28 is a literal grave in the cemetery somewhere.

-- Max King, *Debate with Gus Nichols*

## THREE STAGES OF 'RESURRECTION'

- Res. Of Christ & beg. of His Messianic reign
- Dying to the 'old age' and 'rising' of the new
- 'Res.' of each believer at the moment of death

# WHAT IS THE 'A.D. 70 THEORY'?

2

**Says: The resurrection of the dead came in A.D. 70, and no believer will have a bodily resurrection.**

Resurrection has to be a continuous, ongoing process...What the futurist overlooks is *resurrection is not a one-time event*. Resurrection, like judgment, continues as long as the earth remains and men are born unto women. There was a harvest resurrection in A.D. 70, but we have not yet entered into the process. We will, but not yet.

-- Arthur Melanson, [www.preteristarchive.com](http://www.preteristarchive.com)

# FIRST-CENTURY DENIERS OF THE RESURRECTION

- SADDUCEES (Acts 23:6-8)
- HYMANÆUS & PHILETUS (2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 2:17)
- SOME IN CORINTH (1<sup>st</sup> Cor. 15:12ff)

**BUT WHAT ABOUT THE 'LAST DAY'?**

**John 6:39-54**

**John 11:21-24**

**John 12:48**

**IF WE ARE IN THE RESURRECTION:**

*“...For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels of God in heaven.”*

— Matthew 22:30

**WHY DO WE STILL MARRY?**

# WHAT IS THE 'A.D. 70 THEORY'?

4/5

**Says: The end of the world & day of judgment came in A.D. 70 and there is no future judgment day.**

This was the end of the world, the destruction of the temple, the coming of Christ. This was when heaven and earth passed away.

**-- Max King on Matt. 24:1-3, *"The Spirit of Prophecy"* p. 68**

We know the earth abides forever. (Ec. 1:4) So as men are born—men die, and judgment is an ongoing continuing process. Judgment by Jesus Christ began in A.D. 70, but it is obviously not a one-time event.

The futurist fails to realize the world that ended was not a literal planet but an age—a Jewish age. The works burned up were the weak and beggarly elements of the Old Covenant—the Law.

**-- Arthur Melanson, [www.preteristarchive.com](http://www.preteristarchive.com)**

# A PLAIN DENIAL OF SCRIPTURE

- BETHSAID, CHORAZIN, TYRE, AND SIDON (Luke 10:14)
  - ALL MEN (Hebrews 9:27)
  - ANGELS (Jude 1:6)

NOTE IN ALL PASSAGES: THE JUDGMENT





# THE END OF THE WORLD AND FUTURE JUDGMENT

— 2<sup>nd</sup> Peter 3:1-13

*“...by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of water and in the water, by which the world that then existed perished, being flooded with water. But **the heavens and the earth which are now preserved by the same word, are reserved for fire until the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.**” (vv. 5-7)*



# THE END OF THE WORLD AND FUTURE JUDGMENT

— 2<sup>nd</sup> Peter 3:1-13

*“But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which **the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up.***

*Therefore, since all these things will be **dissolved**, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which **the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat?**” (vv. 10-12)*

→ Why this admonition?

