

Various *Millennial* Views

- Current Statement of Faith
- Central Passage
- Depiction of the major positions
- Descriptions and Arguments
- Recommendation

Grace Bible Church
Spring 2020

Current GBC Statement of Faith

Article 9

We believe in the personal, bodily, and premillennial return of our Lord Jesus Christ. The coming of Christ, at a time known only to God, demands constant expectancy and, as our blessed hope, motivates the believer to godly living, sacrificial service, and energetic mission

EFCA Recommendation: replace the term "premillennial" with the term "glorious"

Central Passage – Rev 20:1-10 (ESV)

Rev 20: 4(b) ...They came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years. 5(a) The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were ended...

Rev 20:2 And he seized the dragon, ...who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years,
3. and threw him into the pit, ...until the thousand years were ended. After that he must be released for a little while.

Central Passage – Rev 20:1-10

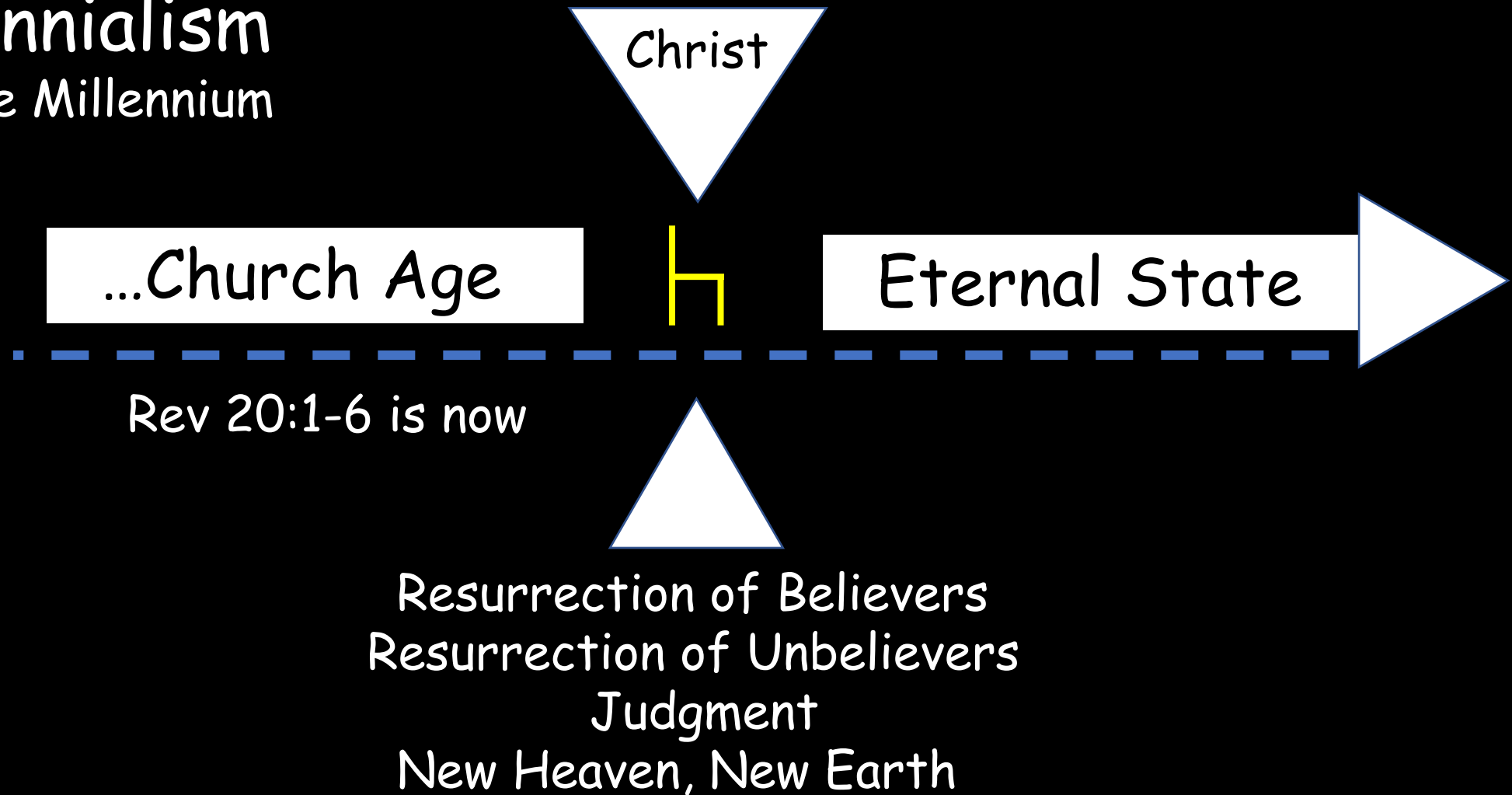
- Phrase “thousand years” appears six times in Rev 20:1-10 (vs 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7)

Over the centuries there have been four major views on the time and nature of this term millennium and the return of Christ

What are the views and how are they depicted?

A-millennial view

Amillennialism
No future Millennium



Post-millennial view

Postmillennialism

Christ comes after
the Millennium

Christ

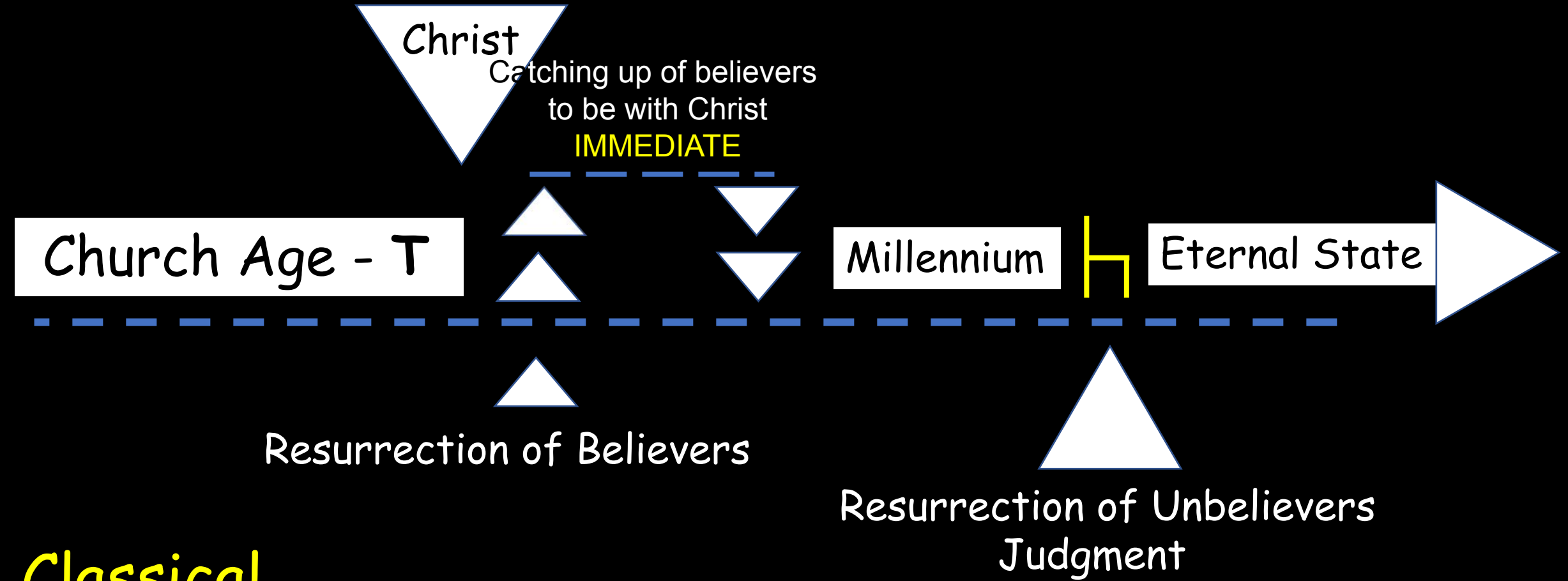
...Church Age >> Millennium



Eternal State

Resurrection of Believers
Resurrection of Unbelievers
Judgment
New Heaven, New Earth

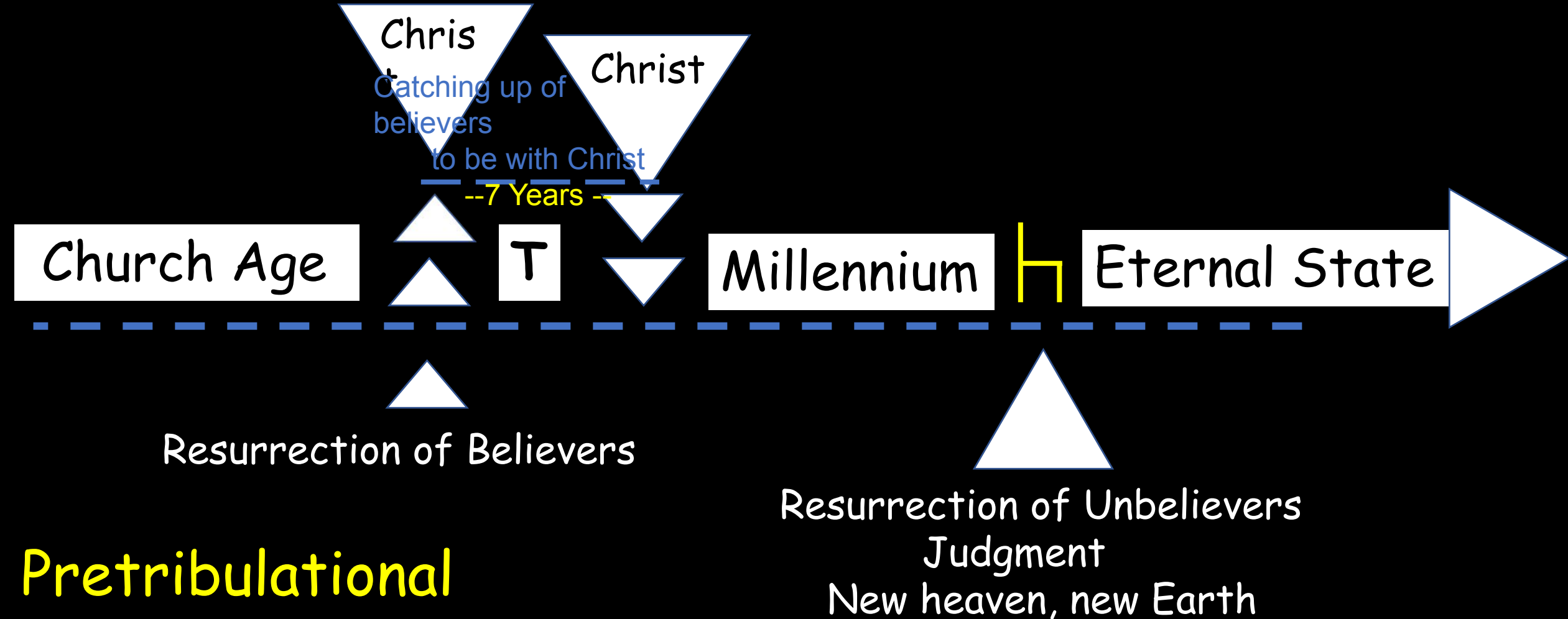
Classical or Historical Pre-millennial view



Classical Premillennialism

Christ comes after the Trib
but before the Millennium

Pre-tribulational Pre-millennial view



Pretribulational Premillennialism

Christ returns (partial) before
the Trib and before the Mill

Conclusions relative to the SoF:

- ✓ The main focus of evangelicalism is the gospel
- ✓ All these positions, which are held by evangelicals, affirm that Christ's return is literal
- ✓ No where in Scripture are the terms Amillennial, Postmillennial, or Premillennial used

Conclusions (cont'd):

- ✓ One thing *ALL* evangelicals believe and teach is that Christ's return will be glorious

Matt 24:30 (Mrk 13:26; Lk 21:27)

Then will appear in heaven the sign of the Son of Man, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.

Recommendation:

Approve the EFCA proposal to change the current GBC statement of faith...

from premillennial to the glorious
return of Christ (Article 9)

Modified GBC Statement of Faith...

Article 9 We believe in the personal, bodily, and glorious return of our Lord Jesus Christ. The coming of Christ, at a time known only to God, demands constant expectancy and, as our blessed hope, motivates the believer to godly living, sacrificial service, and energetic mission.