

Introducing the Millennium, Part 3: Why the Millennium is Necessary

March 12, 2023

Various

God's kingdom is coming in two phases: 1) 1,000-year earthly reign of Christ. 2) Eternal state with a new heaven and earth. **7 Purposes of the Millennium:**

- 1) **Christ will redeem Adam's Failure:** Gen. 1:26-28, God's plan for Adam, to have dominion and subdue the earth over God's "very good" creation (Gen. 1:31). The consequences of Adam's sin, Gen. 3:17-19, Rom. 5:12. Christ is the last Adam. 1 Cor. 15:45. 1) Jesus succeeded without sin, Matt. 4, Luke 4. 2) Removed condemnation, Rom. 5:12, 18. 3) Adam brought death and destruction to earth, Jesus multiplied food, healed the sick, controlled nature, and had power over death. 4) Adam was created to rule on earth as God's representative and failed, Jesus will rule in the "regeneration" of all things, Matt. 19:28. The earth is the Lord's and is given to men, Psalm 115:16, Jesus will rule from earth over men.
- 2) **Christ will resolve all prophecy:** Some of the prophecies yet to be fulfilled: 1) Judgement of all nations, Joel. 3:1-2, after Jesus brings back the people to Israel. 2) Judgement is coming to Antichrist, 2 Thess. 2:8, 1 Jn. 2:18 "antichrist is coming." 3) World peace with nations in unity, Is. 2:2-4, Jesus' rule will bring it to pass. 4) Changed earthly environment, Is. 35: 1-2, 4, the deserts flourish (V1-2), animals no longer attack and devour humans and other animals, Is. 11:6-9. Rain is given by the will of the Lord, Zech. 14:18. 5) Israel is the land promised in the Abrahamic Covenant, Gen. 12, 15, 22. Each prophecy is linked to the kingdom on earth, through Christ, Gal. 3:16.
- 3) **Christ will realize Israel's New Covenant promises:** Jer. 31:31-34 gives the covenant made with Israel. It is unconditional and everlasting. The spiritual blessings in Jer. 31 also include material blessings in Jer. 32:43 and Ez. 34:25-27. They purchase land, have no fear of wild beasts, and receive rain -these are physical blessings to go with spiritual blessings.
- 4) **Christ will rule where He was refused:** Christ was humiliated but never vindicated. Adam rejected Christ in the Garden, Gen. 3:15, Christ will crush the head of Satan. The promises of Christ's rule are not only spiritual, because the nations of the world do not serve Christ at this time. Paul calls this time "the present evil age," (Gal. 1:4). 1 Jn. 3:1 confirms the world at this time doesn't honor the Lord until He returns and reigns for 1,000 years. At this time, only Christians know where Christ is (Heb. 10:12-13). The world doesn't know Christ as king, but the whole world will know Him as King, Ps. 2:9, Rev. 19:15, Heb. 10:12-13 "waiting for His enemies to be made His footstool," Ps. 110:2-3 "from Zion" His dominion comes. He returns as a warrior, Rev. 19:11. Jesus describes His coming in Matt. 24:27, as lightning that everyone will see. Jesus wouldn't need to judge disagreements in the eternal state, so this is an earthly issue while ruling on earth from Isaiah 2:4.
- 5) **Christ will raise saints where rejected:** The Gospel will be preached to all the world and then the end will come. Persecution is part of the Christian life now and during the Tribulation, Rev. 12:13. Without the Millennium, there is no vindication. Daniel provides ample evidence: Coming with the clouds of heaven, all the nations will serve Him, Dan. 7: 13-14. The Antichrist will be overcome, and the saints inherit the kingdom, Dan. 7:18. Judgement is given to the saints and taken from the Antichrist, Dan. 7:21-22. The kingdom shall be given to the saints of God, Dan. 7:27. Those who overcome sit on the throne with Christ, Rev. 3:21. Ruling ("lived") and reigning with Christ 1000 years, Rev. 20:4, 6. Rulers over cities in the kingdom, Luke 19: 11-27.

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- 6) **Christ will renew the Davidic kingdom:** 2 Sam. 7:12-17, Israel has failed, but Christ is the BRANCH (Is. 11), David's throne is occupied by Jesus Himself, Luke 1:31-33. Jesus will possess the nations called by God and gather Israel back to its land, Amos 9:11-15. What is David doing? Ez. 34:24, says David will be a prince among them.
- 7) **Christ will reestablish God's earthly rule:** Jesus offered rule of the kingdoms of earth by Satan, Jesus never corrected Satan's statement, Luke 4, Matt. 4. Satan is called the ruler of this world: Jn. 12:31, 14:30, & 16:11. Satan called "god of this age," 2 Cor. 4:4. Satan called the "prince of the power of the air," Eph. 2:2. In 1 Peter 5:8, as one who seeks to devour. The world is under Satan's sway, 1 Jn. 5:19. Satan is not bound like in Rev. 20, in chains unable to deceive the nations, the deception is still present today.
 - a) Christ defeats sin on the cross, disarming the powers of sin over the world, Col. 2:14-15. This isn't the same as binding Satan from deceiving the nations in Rev. 20. Satan isn't now bound and then to be bound again, that would make little sense. He is bound for 1000 years and then released and then cast into the Lake of Fire.
 - b) Satan is blinding the hearts and minds of this world now, 2 Cor. 4:3-4, but the Holy Spirit is bringing to life those who are being saved and regenerated by His power, John 3:8, Titus 3:5, 1 John 4:4. The Holy Spirit controls all that Satan wills to do.

Further Discussion and Application

Read Revelation 20 and list as many observations about Satan and the time period referred to during the Millennium?

As you examine Romans 1:18-32, what is the progression of evil and wickedness present in the world? What is the cause of this wickedness? Why does it start with suppressing truth (V18), then becoming futile in their thoughts (V21), then dishonoring their bodies (24), and finally being given over to a debased mind (V28)? How does 2 Cor. 4:4 show what is happening in the lives of those who reject the Lord and His righteousness?

God is the uncreated one. Satan is a created being. Think of the greatest kingdoms that have been described in Scripture (Solomon, Nebuchadnezzar, Darius, Egypt). What does the kingdom and reign of Christ have that none of the others ever did? Read Psalm 145, describe the global nature of God's coming kingdom? How long will God be praised?