

04/21/24 Message

Part of The End... then what
April 20, 2024

Message: His Kingdom

Series: The End

This series is focused on prophecy, the last days, end times, and beyond. Many people are confused by prophecy and are fearful of the unknown. Truth is, God gives us knowledge of the future. He foretells it throughout His living word known as the Bible. Be part of this series and learn more about what lies ahead!

- We know about the end times and beyond through PROPHECY

Preparing for the Millennial Reign

The great tribulation will be a godless chaos.

Then we have the second coming of Jesus where He returns to claim what's His, both His reign over the earth and to deal with His enemies. Satan is bound for 1,000 years and thrown into a bottomless pit.

- Satan's power is dependent on US and GOD
 - Satan only has the power we give him in our lives.
 - Satan only has the power God allows him to have on this earth.

Psalm 10:16 tells us the Lord is King forever and ever!

2 Thessalonians 2:7 says God steps out of the way!

- God is always SOVEREIGN.
 - Sovereign means a supreme rule, it means possessing supreme or ultimate power. That's God, always has been, always will be!

At Jesus' second coming, he deals with Satan. He temporarily, restrains Him and takes Him out of the picture. Next, He establishes His millennial Kingdom on earth.

Claiming What's His

- Jesus is claiming His INHERITANCE

Psalm 2:6-7 (NLT)

6 For the Lord declares, "I have placed my chosen king on the throne in Jerusalem, on my holy mountain."

7 The king proclaims the LORD's decree: "The LORD said to me, 'You are my son. Today I have become your Father.

Hebrews 1:1-2 (NLT)

1 Long ago God spoke many times and in many ways to our ancestors through the prophets.

2 And now in these final days, he has spoken to us through his Son. God promised everything to the Son as an inheritance, and through the Son he created the universe.

What will it be like? Honestly, I have no idea. The Bible doesn't say a lot about this period other than we know it will be completely controlled by King Jesus. He will be in charge of the government.

We know it will be without Satan... he's bound and out of the picture until the end of the millennium.

Revelation 20:4-6 (NLT)

4 Then I saw thrones, and the people sitting on them had been given the authority to judge. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their testimony about Jesus and for proclaiming the word of God. They had not worshiped the beast or his statue, nor accepted his mark on their forehead or their hands. They all came to life again, and they reigned with Christ for a thousand years.

5 This is the first resurrection. (The rest of the dead did not come back to life until the thousand years had ended.)

6 Blessed and holy are those who share in the first resurrection. For them the second death holds no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with him a thousand years.

Revelation 20 speaks of two resurrections.

The rapture of the church has happened. This is after the rapture and after the tribulation. Those who were saved during the tribulation and

died as martyrs for their faith – are resurrected.

- First the church is raptured, that takes care of those saved up to that point. No other saved folks are left on earth. Then the tribulation, and those who are saved during the tribulation, and die, will be resurrected just before the millennial kingdom is established. This takes care of those saved during the tribulation up to that point.
- Then the millennial reign, and 1,000 years later, another resurrection – the second resurrection. But all saved and died have been resurrected, so who in the world is he talking about here? The second resurrection mentioned in v5 says, the rest of the dead did not come back to life until the thousand years had ended. If saved have been resurrected, that only leaves resurrection of the un-saved, unbelievers from the beginning of time.

After the Millenium

It's described as the most chilling of all scenes described in the Bible – it's called the Great White Throne judgment.

Revelation 20:11-15 (NLT)

11 And I saw a great white throne and the one sitting on it. The earth and sky fled from his presence, but they found no place to hide.

12 I saw the dead, both great and small, standing before God's throne. And the books were opened, including the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to what they had done, as recorded in the books.

13 The sea gave up its dead, and death and the grave gave up their dead. And all were judged according to their deeds.

14 Then death and the grave were thrown into the lake of fire. This lake of fire is the second death.

15 And anyone whose name was not found recorded in the Book of Life was thrown into the lake of fire.

The Great White Throne judgment shouldn't be confused with the Judgment Seat of Christ talked about in **2 Corinthians 5:10**.

The final judgment of sin is called the Great White Throne judgment and it's reserved for the unsaved, it's reserved for those who don't

believe in Jesus, no relationship with Jesus, the ones who never lived for Jesus. It's the final judgment of sinners before they are cast into the lake of fire.

The Book of Life is presented, none of their names are in the book of life.

Matthew 7:21-23 (NLT)

21 "Not everyone who calls out to me, 'Lord! Lord!' will enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Only those who actually do the will of my Father in heaven will enter.

22 On judgment day many will say to me, 'Lord! Lord! We prophesied in your name and cast out demons in your name and performed many miracles in your name.'

23 But I will reply, 'I never knew you. Get away from me, you who break God's laws.'

Matthew 25:31-46 (NLT)

31 "But when the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit upon his glorious throne.

32 All the nations will be gathered in his presence, and he will separate the people as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats.

33 He will place the sheep at his right hand and the goats at his left.

34 "Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the creation of the world.

35 For I was hungry, and you fed me. I was thirsty, and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger, and you invited me into your home.

36 I was naked, and you gave me clothing. I was sick, and you cared for me. I was in prison, and you visited me.'

37 "Then these righteous ones will reply, 'Lord, when did we ever see you hungry and feed you? Or thirsty and give you something to drink?

38 Or a stranger and show you hospitality? Or naked and give you clothing?

39 When did we ever see you sick or in prison and visit you?'

40 "And the King will say, 'I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me!'

41 "Then the King will turn to those on the left and say, 'Away with you, you cursed ones, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his demons.'

42 For I was hungry, and you didn't feed me. I was thirsty, and you didn't give me a drink.

43 I was a stranger, and you didn't invite me into your home. I was naked, and you didn't give me clothing. I was sick and in prison, and you didn't visit me.'

44 "Then they will reply, 'Lord, when did we ever see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and not help you?'

45 "And he will answer, 'I tell you the truth, when you refused to help the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were refusing to help me.'

46 "And they will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous will go into eternal life."

What do we know about hell?

Revelation 19:20 introduces the lake of fire when the antichrist and the false prophet are thrown into this hell.

At the end of the millennial period, God will release Satan and finally cast him into the lake of fire.

Here are some bullet points describing hell:

- Fire and brimstone, a sulphury burning rock
 - Genesis 19:24; Deuteronomy 4:24; Luke 17:28-29; Hebrews 12:29; Revelation 14:10, 19:20, 21:8
- Those cast in hell have physical bodies to be tormented by fire, but not consumed by the fire, eternally imprisoned with no chance of escape, pardon, or relief
 - Mark 9:43-48; Revelation 14:10-11
- Place of unimaginable torment
 - Luke 16:23-24; Revelation 14:10-11
- Place of darkness, no light
 - 1 John 1:5; 2 Thessalonians 1:6-10
- Place full of smoke, burning of body and soul
 - Revelation 14:11; Isaiah 34:8-10
- Jesus ruled place (not Satan)
 - Revelation 14:10
- Lake of fire is the greatest expression of God's righteous fury, weeping and gnashing of teeth (His wrath will be mixed in "full strength")

- Matthew 13:41-42; Revelation 14:10
- It lasts forever, constant and eternal
 - Matthew 18:8, 25:46; 2 Thessalonians 1:6-10; Revelation 14:11

It's believed that hell will be a place where everyone will not suffer equally. **Revelation 20:11-13** twice states that each person's judgment will be "according to their deeds."

What happens after the millennial reign... the 1,000 years?

Matthew 24:35 tells us heaven and earth will pass away.

2 Peter 3:7-13 tell us that both heaven and earth will be destroyed.

Fulfilling Isaiah's prophecy:

Isaiah 65:17 (NLT)

"Look! I am creating new heavens and a new earth, and no one will even think about the old ones anymore.

Revelation 21:1-5 (NLT)

1 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the old heaven and the old earth had disappeared. And the sea was also gone.

2 And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven like a bride beautifully dressed for her husband.

3 I heard a loud shout from the throne, saying, "Look, God's home is now among his people! He will live with them, and they will be his people. God himself will be with them.

4 He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All these things are gone forever."

5 And the one sitting on the throne said, "Look, I am making everything new!" And then he said to me, "Write this down, for what I tell you is trustworthy and true."

God is in the resurrection business! He makes something out of nothing - He takes death and gives us life!

Read all of Revelation 21 for a glimpse of heaven!

See, we think that we are in the land of the living, going to the land of the dying. In reality, we're in the land of the dying headed for the land of the living.

Truth is, you're either headed for heaven or you're headed to hell. It's

the only two options.

Choose Jesus now!