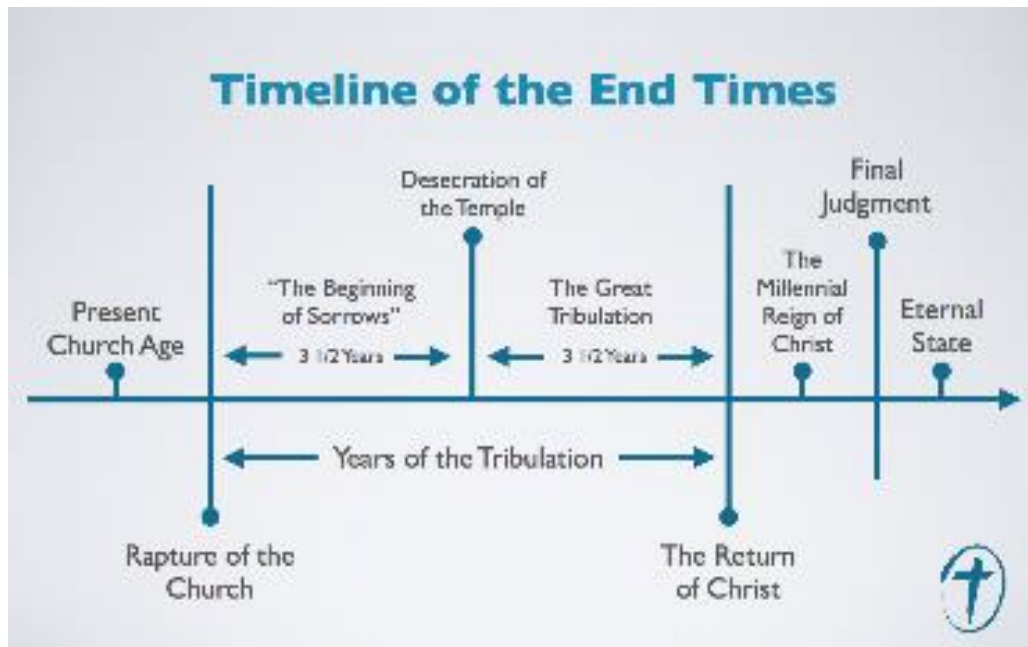


Last week we looked at Jesus’ second coming. Here is our timeline as we look at what happens next.



Jesus left heaven and came to fight the nations that had assembled against Israel. As studied last week he brought the armies of heaven with him which were going to go to battle against the armies of the Anti-Christ that have assembled to destroy the nation of Israel.

This battle was called the Battle of Armageddon in the Valley of Meggido, which is also called the Valley of Jezreel and the Valley of Jehosaphat. But, Jesus with the word that proceeded from his mouth destroyed these Armies and all those that had followed the Anti-Christ. This battle precedes Jesus’ Millennial Reign.

One thing we did not really cover last week is what happened to the Anti-Christ and the False Prophet. Go back for a moment to Revelation Chapter 19 and look at verse 20.

Revelation Chapter 19:20

And the beast was captured, and with the false prophet who in its presence had done the signs by which he deceived those who had received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped its image. These two were thrown alive into the lake of fire that burns with sulfur.

What is the lake of fire? Hell! So, Hell is now open for business. And it’s first two occupants are the Anti-Christ and the False Prophet. Hell is reserved for all those that reject Jesus as Lord. There is coming a time when all those that reject Jesus will be cast into Hell. But, no one else is there yet because the final judgment has not happened. We will see that at a later teaching.

You may say, “Well! What happened to Satan?” That is what we are going to see now. Let’s read our verses:

Revelation 20:1-10

¹Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, holding in his hand the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain. ²And he seized the dragon, that ancient serpent, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years, ³and threw him into the pit, and shut it and sealed it over him, so that he might not deceive the nations any longer, until the thousand years were ended. After that he must be released for a little while. ⁴Then I saw thrones, and seated on them were those to whom the authority to judge was committed. Also, I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for the testimony of Jesus and for the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or its image and had not received its mark on their foreheads or their hands. They came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years. ⁵The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were ended. This is the first resurrection. ⁶Blessed and holy is the one who shares in the first resurrection! Over such the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ, and they will reign with him for a thousand years. ⁷And when the thousand years are ended, Satan will be released from his prison ⁸and will come out to deceive the nations that are at the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them for battle; their number is like the sand of the sea. ⁹And they marched up over the broad plain of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city, but fire came down from heaven and consumed them, ¹⁰and the devil who had deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and sulfur where the beast and the false prophet were, and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

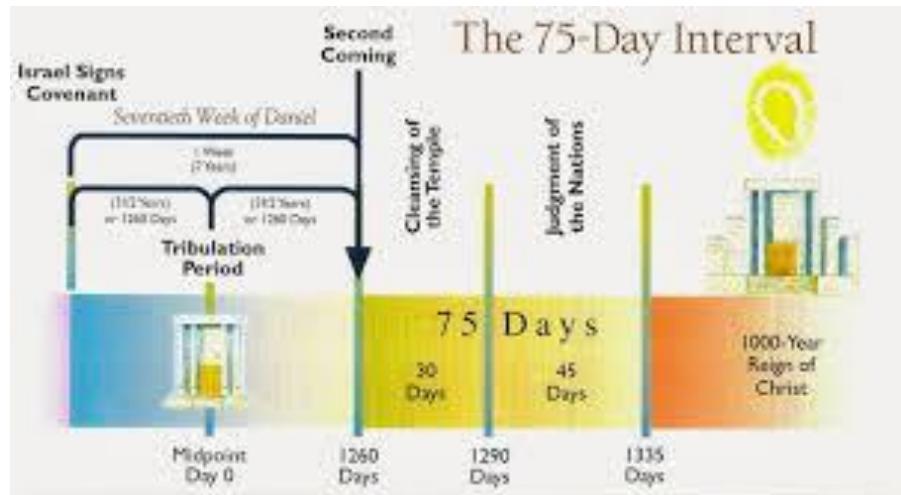
So, after the battle of Armageddon we see that the Anti-Christ and the false prophet are cast into Hell. There are two events that according to Scripture take place before the millennial reign of Jesus begins. We see one in verses 1 to 3. Satan is seized and is thrown into the bottomless pit for a thousand years. This Angel, which I would say was Michael. That is just my thought. Because when you see Gabriel in Scripture he is bringing messages and when you see Michael you see him fighting.

The bottomless pit is different from Hell. The Greek word is:

Abussos: bottomless, the abyss

The abyss, the bottomless pit is where angels who had not stayed within the order they were supposed to follow. In Luke 8 when we read the event of the man that was in the grave yard that was possessed by a legion of demons. Luke 8 records that the demons asked Jesus not to through them into the abyss. Also, in Jude 1:6 we see a reference of angels who did not stay within their own position which refers back Genesis 6 when it talks about angels lusting after women on earth and having relations with them. They were cast into the abyss, chained and held for the final judgment. Satan is arrested, if you will, but not forever at this point. For how long? A thousand years.

The second event is what is described at the 75-day interval. Look at this picture:



This is described in Daniel. Turn to Daniel Chapter 12. We know that the first 3 ½ years of the tribulation there is peace. The Temple is rebuilt. Sacrificial offerings are made for the Jews. Then the last 3 ½ half years there is the wrath of God poured out as the Anti-Christ takes power and desecrates the temple. Both of those time frames are listed as 1260 days. Let's read Daniel 12:11 and 12.

Daniel 12:11-12

¹¹And from the time that the regular burnt offering is take away and the abomination that makes desolate is set up, there shall be 1290 days. ¹²Blessed is he who waits and arrives at the 1335 days.

What scholars believe is taking place here is that the Temple is made right again because the Anti-Christ has desecrated the temple with his statue of himself. Also, it is taught that during this time is what is called the Sheep and Goat Judgment, or Judgment of the Nations described in Matthew 25:31-33. This is where those that survived the tribulation and are saved will go into the Millennial Kingdom and those that took the mark of the beast will be cast into Hades to await the Great White Throne Judgment.

Now the millennial reign of Jesus is about to begin. Who is there? How does that look? What is going on? First of all, imagine a world where righteousness and goodness dominate. A world where there's absolutely no injustice, a world where everybody is treated fairly, a world where no court ever renders an unjust or undeserved verdict. Imagine a world where everything is true and right and everything is noble. Every area of life and society and commerce and education and everything else is under complete control and directed toward what is right. Now, notice I did not say that there was no sin. To see that we must go to several Old Testament texts.

Let's answer this first. How long is the Millennial Reign? 1000 years. It is mentioned 6 times in verses 1 to 7. Who will be there? Look at verses 4 to 5.

Revelation 20:4-6

⁴Then I saw thrones, and seated on them were those to whom the authority to judge was committed. Also, I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for the testimony of Jesus and for the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or its image and had not received its mark on their foreheads or their hands. They came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years. ⁵The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were ended. This is the first resurrection. ⁶Blessed and holy is the one who shares in the first resurrection! Over such the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ, and they will reign with him for a thousand years.

Who makes up those that are on the thrones and those that were given the authority to judge.

1. *Jesus*
2. *Jews – 1000's if not millions of Jews were saved during the Tribulation*
3. *Martyrs - Those that were beheaded for not taking the mark of the beast*
4. *Survivors – Those that survived the tribulation and did not take the mark of the beast*
5. *Old Testament Saints, New Testament Saints and the Apostles*

To see that the Old and New Testament Saints and the Apostles are there we must go to other portions of Scripture. Turn to Daniel 7:27

Daniel 7:27

²⁷And the kingdom and the dominion and the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven shall be given to the people of the saints of the Most High, his kingdom shall be an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him.

This would describe the Old Testament saints. We know Jews will be in the Millennial Reign so it would be just logical that the Old Testament saints would be there. Turn to Matthew 19:28-29

Matthew 19:28-29

²⁸Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, in the new world, when the Son of Man will sit on his glorious throne, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel, ²⁹And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or fathers or mother or children or lands, for my names sake, will receive a hundredfold, and will inherit eternal life.

There are your apostles and now the New Testament saints. Turn to 1 Corinthians 6:2-3.

1 Corinthians 6:2-3

²Or do you not know that the saints will judge the world? And if the world is to be judged by you, are you incompetent to try trivial cases? ³Do you not know that we are to judge angels? How much more, then, matters pertaining to life!

Revelation 5:9-10

⁹ And they sang a new song, saying, "Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, ¹⁰ and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth."

There you have it. These are the one's that will rule. But who else is there. It is those that survived through the tribulation. It is the Jews that were saved and the Gentiles that did not take the mark of the beast. They have gone into the Millennium, the thousand years, and they have their mortal bodies. There will be marriages and children will be born over the thousand years.

But before we get into that. How does the world look? What actually does life look like? One of the best portions of Scripture that describes that is Isaiah 65. Turn to Isaiah 65 and let's look at that. We will look at verses 17 to 25.

Isaiah 65:17-25

¹⁷ "For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth, and the former things shall not be remembered or come into mind. ¹⁸ But be glad and rejoice forever in that which I create; for behold, I create Jerusalem

to be a joy, and her people to be a gladness. ¹⁹ I will rejoice in Jerusalem and be glad in my people; no more shall be heard in it the sound of weeping and the cry of distress. ²⁰ No more shall there be in it an infant who lives but a few days, or an old man who does not fill out his days, for the young man shall die a hundred years old, and the sinner a hundred years old shall be accursed. ²¹ They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit. ²² They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat; for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be, and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands. ²³ They shall not labor in vain or bear children for calamity, for they shall be the offspring of the blessed of the Lord, and their descendants with them. ²⁴ Before they call I will answer; while they are yet speaking I will hear. ²⁵ The wolf and the lamb shall graze together; the lion shall eat straw like the ox, and dust shall be the serpent's food. They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain," says the Lord.

This portion of Scripture and along with Isaiah 35 describes a world that has been refurbished. If you remember during the tribulation that there was such upheaval to all of creation. In Chapter 16 of the Bowl Judgments we saw mountains were brought down, islands fled away, seas, rivers and streams were turned to blood. All of this had to be restored because we see the peace and the tranquility and the blessings that came with the Millennial Reign of Jesus.

Some questions that come to mind sometimes are the following: Will people work? Will people marry? Will people have children? Yes, Yes and Yes!

Remember there are three types of people in the Millennium.

- 1. There are resurrected Old Testament Saints*
- 2. New Testament Saints, in which I would include any true follower of Jesus Christ before the tribulation.*
- 3. Jew and Gentile believer that were saved during the tribulation.*

We are in our glorified bodies but those that came through the tribulation are in their mortal bodies. We reign with Jesus during these 1000 years. So, let's look at the reign of Jesus. Because that brings us to the purposes of the Millennial Reign. There is a specific purpose behind these 1000 years.

The first thing that this is a promise kept to the nation of Israel. Just look at the screens:

Jeremiah 33:14-17

¹⁴Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ¹⁵In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David, and he will execute justice and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶In those days Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will dwell securely. And this is the name by which it will be called: The Lord is our righteousness. ¹⁷For thus says the Lord: David shall never lack a man to sit on the throne of the house of Israel, ¹⁸and the Levitical priests shall never lack a man in my presence to offer burnt offerings, to burn grain offerings, and to make sacrifices forever."

Jesus takes up place and sits on the throne of David to rule to fulfill that promise to Israel and rules. The Temple sacrifices will come back and the Levitical priesthood will be re-established. Because we see the prophecy from Micah that details the worship that will take place.

Micah 4:1-2

¹It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and it shall be lifted up above the hills; and peoples shall flow to it, ²

and many nations shall come, and say: "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

Here is Jesus on the throne and he will rule. It will be an absolute rule. It will be a righteous rule. It will be a political, social but more important than all that it will be a spiritual rule. This will be a time of work and worship and everything will be judged by the perfect rule of Jesus Christ and we will rule with Jesus. Israel will be set in the place that they originally were established to be.

Dr. Dwight Pentecost puts it this way and I quote:

“During the millennial reign of Christ, Israel as a nation will fulfill the function for which they were originally set apart by God. They will become a kingdom of priests (Exodus 19;6) who are intermediaries between those who need to be saved and the King who provides salvation. They will become as they were originally appointed to be. God’s lights to the world.”

Absolute, righteous rule. Sin will be dealt with swiftly and justly. You may say, “Wait a minute, wait a minute!” Sin? But, Satan is gone!

It's an amazing thing to think about, isn't it. Though Jesus Christ reigns in a totally renewed universe, though He has absolute power over everything and everyone, though it's a perfect world, His glorious perfections are manifested through His person and His will, and through all of the glorified saints who carry out His will, even though everything is exactly the way it ought to be, everything is right, everything is peaceful, there aren't any wars, everybody's weapons have been pounded into plowshares, everything is flourishing, all the economies of the world are doing very well, everything is prosperity on every front, everything is bliss, utopia has arrived, people will reject Christ.

The children born of those that made it through the tribulation are lost. They need to be saved! This shows again how wicked man's heart is. Remember what Jeremiah 17:9 says:

Jeremiah 17:9

The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; who can understand it?

Verses 7 through 10 tells us that the 1000 years are over and Satan is released to deceive the nations. We won't read them again. But it says he deceives the nation to that point that their number is like the sand of the sea and they and Satan come against Jerusalem and the Lord Jesus and they are consumed by fire. They are cast into Hell where the Anti-Christ and false prophet already are forever and ever. This is the second death that is spoken about in verse 6 for all that have rejected Jesus.

Man has sought and continues to seek a utopia upon this earth. They try to do it politically and socially and all kinds of pleasure that is sin. But they will never receive it because only Jesus can provide a true utopia. He has done it twice.

In the Garden of Eden. It was perfect. God walked with Adam and Eve in the cool of the day! What did Adam and Eve do? They sinned. During the Millennial Reign here it is again and what do the people do? They rebel!!!

Here is the final point. Through the Millennial reign we see God's promises to Israel fulfilled through Jesus Christ. God promises salvation if you will repent of your sins and surrender your life to the Lord Jesus Christ. That means that you will deny yourself! You will flee from sin! You won't waller in it like

a pig in slop! God promises also that he will bring judgment for all of eternity for a rejection of his son!
God is faithful in all aspects of life! You can trust him!