

Passage: Revelation 20:4-6

Title: The Millennial Kingdom

Summary: The Millennial Kingdom, as spoken of in Revelation 20, is a 1,000 year period that begins right after the Tribulation Period. We will live here on earth with Jesus for 1,000 years. Wow, a thousand years, that is a long time. What will we be doing, what will the earth be like, who else will be here? We will look into these questions and more, and most importantly the question, how should this affect my life today as a follower of Jesus Christ.

Revelation 20:1–6 (NKJV) ¹ Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. ² He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years; ³ and he cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal on him, so that he should deceive the nations no more till the thousand years were finished. But after these things he must be released for a little while. ⁴ And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Then I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received his mark on their foreheads or on their hands. And they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years. ⁵ But the rest of the dead did not live again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection. ⁶ Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years.

Blessing / John on Patmos

The only book that comes with a promised blessing for those who read it:

(Revelation 1:3 NKJV) Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written in it; for the time is near.

John on Patmos / John wrote 5 Books / Believe – Eternal Life – Be Ready

John on the Island of Patmos receives this revelation of Jesus Christ. The Apostle John wrote 4 other books to the church. The Gospel of John, and 1,2,3 John, and this fifth book, Revelation. In the Gospel of John he wrote that we might believe, he uses the word believe some 60 times:

(John 20:31 NKJV) but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.

He wrote us in 1,2,3 John so that we might know that we have eternal life:

(1 John 5:13 NKJV) These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God.

So he wrote that we might believe, then that we might know, and now he writes Revelation so that we might be ready:

(Revelation 2:7 NKJV) "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give to eat from the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God."

Before Glorified Christ / Write these Things / All Things Coming Before Throne

John is now before the glorified Christ, and Jesus says John now write these things so that they might be ready, for this book is all about man coming before the Holy God, the flow of all humanity is flowing to the throne of God whether man realizes it or not, John writes so that all of man might be ready:

(Ephesians 1:10 NKJV) that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth; in Him.

Book of Revelation Outline

- The Things Which You Have Seen - (Chapter 1).
 - Revelation of the Glorified Risen Christ
- The Things Which Are - (Chapters 2-3).
 - The 7 Churches
- The Things Which Will Take Place After This - (Chapters 4-22).
 - The Scene around the Throne of God – Rev 4-5
 - The Tribulation Period – Rev 6-19
 - 7 Seals
 - 7 Trumpets
 - 7 Bowls
 - Marriage Supper of the Lamb
 - Battle of Armageddon

- Millennial Kingdom – Rev 20
- New Heaven and New Earth – Rev 21-22

(Revelation 1:19 NKJV) "Write the things which you have seen, and the things which are, and the things which will take place after this.

Outline for Chapter 20

- Satan Bound – 20:1-3
- The Millennial Kingdom – 20:4-6
- Satan Loosed/Cast into Lake of Fire – 20:7-10
- White Throne Judgment – 20:11-15

Lord Returned / 1st thing Satan Bound

The Lord has come back. The final, climactic battle of Armageddon is over. The Millennial kingdom has begun....Jesus Christ is coming to establish His 1, 000 year reign on the earth, and the first thing necessary to establish the kingdom is that Satan is bound and cast into the bottomless pit.

This period is known as the Millennial Kingdom, the Kingdom Age, and it last for 1000 years.

Summary: The Millennial Kingdom, as spoken of in Revelation 20, is a 1,000 year period that begins right after the Tribulation Period. We will live here on earth with Jesus for 1,000 years. Wow, a thousand years, that is a long time. What will we be doing, what will the earth be like, who else will be here? We will look into these questions and more, and most importantly the question, how should this affect my life today as a follower of Jesus Christ.

Let's ask The Who the what the when the where and as always the most important is how does this affect my spiritual yeah as a follower of Christ today.

Prayer

The Word of God is Living and Powerful, and is ready, and will do a mighty work in our lives.

Hebrews 4:12 (NKJV) ¹² For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

In Every Study

- Who Is God? (How Great is He?)
- What Does He Think of Me? (How Wonderful Are His Thoughts Towards Me?)
- What Does He Want Me to Do?
- What Can I Boldly Request of Him?
- What Do I Need to Be on Guard of When I Leave Here Today?

Boldly come to the throne of grace, ask God to reveal Himself in a mighty way to you, and to do I might work in you, and through you.

Hebrews 4:16 (NKJV) ¹⁶ Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need

The Millennial Kingdom (20:4-6)

(Revelation 20:4 NKJV) And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Then I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received his mark on their foreheads or on their hands. And they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.

(Revelation 20:5 NKJV) But the rest of the dead did not live again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection.

World Longs Peace / Laugh when Arrested Disturbing Peace

The world longs for a one world government, a world of peace where there are no more wars, no more killing, no more divisions and the likes. The world truly is looking for peace. I always laugh when

someone is arrested for disturbing the peace, for I wonder where they found peace to disturb in the first place. Finally, peace on the earth, and it found here in Revelation 20.

One of Most Prophesied Events / Caused Division and Hatred in Church

This passage is about peace, one thousand years of peace, one of the most prophesied events in all of the scriptures, it is known as the Millennial (1000year) Kingdom. The passage is on peace, yet it has caused so much division in the church, it has caused so much hatred in the world, and it has brought on so much death in the world.

Who (is in the Millenium):

We will answer this after the What – When – Where.

What (is the Millennial Kingdom):

Literal 1,000

The word in the Greek is “chilla” and it means literally 1,000. The Word is used 6 times in this chapter.

Satan Bound 1,000yrs / Lion – Abide own Vine – no Slaves – Plowshares / Fantastic time Peace

Satan will be in the abussos for one thousand years. This explains how the wolf can lie down by the lamb, how the lion and bullock shall graze together, how snakes shall eat only dust—how peace will reign (Isaiah 65:25). It explains how every man will abide under his own vine (Micah 4:4), how no one will have to work for anyone else (Isaiah 65:23)—how prosperity will abound, and no more war as the swords are beat into plowshares. The Millennium will be a fantastic time of unparalleled peace and total prosperity because Satan will not be on the scene.

(Isaiah 65:20 NKJV) "No more shall an infant from there live but a few days, Nor an old man who has not fulfilled his days; For the child shall die one hundred years old, But the sinner being one hundred years old shall be accursed.

(Isaiah 65:21 NKJV) They shall build houses and inhabit them; They shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit.

(Isaiah 65:22 NKJV) They shall not build and another inhabit; They shall not plant and another eat; For as the days of a tree, so shall be the days of My people, And My elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands.

(Isaiah 65:23 NKJV) They shall not labor in vain, Nor bring forth children for trouble; For they shall be the descendants of the blessed of the LORD, And their offspring with them.

(Isaiah 65:24 NKJV) "It shall come to pass That before they call, I will answer; And while they are still speaking, I will hear.

(Isaiah 65:25 NKJV) The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, The lion shall eat straw like the ox, And dust shall be the serpent's food. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain," Says the LORD.

(Micah 4:4 NKJV) But everyone shall sit under his vine and under his fig tree, And no one shall make them afraid; For the mouth of the LORD of hosts has spoken.

(Isaiah 2:4 NKJV) He shall judge between the nations, And rebuke many people; They shall beat their swords into plowshares, And their spears into pruning hooks; Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, Neither shall they learn war anymore.

(Isaiah 11:1 NKJV) There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse, And a Branch shall grow out of his roots.

(Isaiah 11:2 NKJV) The Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him, The Spirit of wisdom and understanding, The Spirit of counsel and might, The Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD.

(Isaiah 11:3 NKJV) His delight is in the fear of the LORD, And He shall not judge by the sight of His eyes, Nor decide by the hearing of His ears;

(Isaiah 11:4 NKJV) But with righteousness He shall judge the poor, And decide with equity for the meek of the earth; He shall strike the earth with the rod of His mouth, And with the breath of His lips He shall slay the wicked.

(Isaiah 11:5 NKJV) Righteousness shall be the belt of His loins, And faithfulness the belt of His waist.

(Isaiah 11:6 NKJV) "The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, The leopard shall lie down with the young goat, The calf and the young lion and the fatling together; And a little child shall lead them.

(Isaiah 11:7 NKJV) The cow and the bear shall graze; Their young ones shall lie down together; And the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

(Isaiah 11:8 NKJV) The nursing child shall play by the cobra's hole, And the weaned child shall put his hand in the viper's den.

(Isaiah 11:9 NKJV) They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain, For the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD As the waters cover the sea.

(Isaiah 11:10 NKJV) "And in that day there shall be a Root of Jesse, Who shall stand as a banner to the people; For the Gentiles shall seek Him, And His resting place shall be glorious."

(Isaiah 11:11 NKJV) It shall come to pass in that day That the LORD shall set His hand again the second time To recover the remnant of His people who are left, From Assyria and Egypt, From Pathros and Cush, From Elam and Shinar, From Hamath and the islands of the sea.

(Isaiah 11:12 NKJV) He will set up a banner for the nations, And will assemble the outcasts of Israel, And gather together the dispersed of Judah From the four corners of the earth.

(Isaiah 11:13 NKJV) Also the envy of Ephraim shall depart, And the adversaries of Judah shall be cut off; Ephraim shall not envy Judah, And Judah shall not harass Ephraim.
(Isaiah 11:14 NKJV) But they shall fly down upon the shoulder of the Philistines toward the west; Together they shall plunder the people of the East; They shall lay their hand on Edom and Moab; And the people of Ammon shall obey them.
(Isaiah 11:15 NKJV) The LORD will utterly destroy the tongue of the Sea of Egypt; With His mighty wind He will shake His fist over the River, And strike it in the seven streams, And make men cross over dry-shod.
(Isaiah 11:16 NKJV) There will be a highway for the remnant of His people Who will be left from Assyria, As it was for Israel In the day that he came up from the land of Egypt.

It is What We Prayed

The Millennial Kingdom is what we prayed for – Thy Kingdom come:

Matthew 6:9–13 (NKJV) ⁹ In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. ¹⁰ Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as *it is* in heaven. ¹¹ Give us this day our daily bread. ¹² And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors. ¹³ And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

When (is the Millennial Kingdom) :

3 Views

The passage of peace has 3 common views/positions people take on the Millennium. The timing is based on “when” Christ returns to set up His kingdom.

- A-Millennium
- Post-Millennium
- Pre-Millennium

1.) A-Millennium

No Millennium / Catholic – Lutheran – Presbyterian - Episcopalian

A-Millennium – the “a” in the Latin (by the way the word Millennium isn’t used in the Bible it is just referred to as the 1,000 years or Kingdom Age), so the ‘a’ means “no”, so they take the position that it is no-millennium. They believe it is symbolic, Those denominations include the Catholic Church, Lutheran Church, Presbyterian Church, and the Episcopalian Church.

Say Symbolic – Like Satan can’t stop Preaching / Long Chain / Divine Outline

They say it is all 'symbolic, like Satan won't be able to stop the preaching of the gospel, and that this is the kingdom age. The problem is that if this is the Kingdom Age, and Satan is bound than and that is one long chain. They need to observe the Divine Outline of the book back in 1:19.

Revelation 1:19 (NKJV) ¹⁹ Write the things which you have seen, and the things which are, and the things which will take place after this.

2.) Post-Millennium

Church Establishes / Evangelism / Thought Depresses Me

Post-Millennium – the Post Millennium belief is that the church establishes and prepares the Kingdom Age and Jesus will come back after we Christianize the world through evangelism and rid it of evil, and Then Jesus will come back to claim His spotless bride. The very thought of that depresses me, for if you leave that up to man, we will never see Jesus.

Last 20 years / Dominion Theology / Church Subdue World / Divine Outline

The theologies that have exploded in the last twenty years are Kingdom Now, Dominion Theology, Reconstructionist, Latter Rain. They all teach that the church will subdue the world and make it perfect, then the Lord can return, but not until the world is perfect. Find that in the Bible, would you?! Their Twisted theology comes because they don't understand the divine outline of the Book of Revelation, and because they do not take the whole counsel of God

Another Problem / Earth gets Worse

Another problem with this position is that it contradicts scriptures for the Word tells us that when Jesus returns the world will be as it was in the days of Noah. We read about it also in 1 Timothy 4, 2 Timothy, 2 Peter 3, and Jude that the earth will be in terrible shape when Jesus returns, not good;

(Matthew 24:37 NKJV) *"But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.*

(1 Timothy 4:1 NKJV) Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons,

(2 Timothy 3:1 NKJV) But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come:

Another problem / Forced Conversion / Israel Cast Aside - Hitler

Another problem is that men have believed that if necessary, use force, that happened in the Crusader period. Also, this position cast Israel aside which contradicts what we have been studying all through this book. One such person who took this approach, to horrendous extremes, was Adolf Hitler who thought he were ushering in the 1,000 year reign, and Hitler thought he was destroying the vile offspring of the Christ killers.

3.) Pre-Millennium

Rapture – Tribulation – Battle – Jesus Returns

Pre-Millennium - The third view, the correct view, is that it is a literal 1,000 year period. The Pre-Millennium believe that God will rapture His church, then there will be 7 years of Tribulation on earth climaxing at the Battle of Armageddon, and Jesus returning (Second Coming) with His saints to then set-up the Millennial Kingdom.

In this Period we Reign with Christ

In this period Christ will reign from Jerusalem and we will reign with Him. We will be in our glorified bodies. That means to me that I can eat anything I want and not worry about the impact. That excites me.

Time of Peace / No Deaf – Feeble – Blind

The Scriptures tell us that this will be a time of peace, and health. The blind will see, the deaf will hear

(Isaiah 35:3 NKJV) Strengthen the weak hands, And make firm the feeble knees.

(Isaiah 35:4 NKJV) Say to those who are fearful-hearted, "Be strong, do not fear! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, With the recompense of God; He will come and save you."

(Isaiah 35:5 NKJV) Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, And the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped.

(Isaiah 35:6 NKJV) Then the lame shall leap like a deer, And the tongue of the dumb sing. For waters shall burst forth in the wilderness, And streams in the desert.

Time of Massive Repopulation / Long Life Span / Lots of Kids / Pre-Fall / Streams in Desert

This will be a time of massive repopulation as people will live hundreds of years as God will restore the earth to the conditions of the earth before the fall. People will live lifespan as in the days of Adam, 800 and 900 years (Ish 65 says a child will still be considered a child at 100). So massive repopulation of the earth during the 1000 years. It appears the earth will be back to as it was before the fall. The Bible says that the rose will bloom in the desert,

(Isaiah 65:20 NKJV) "No more shall an infant from there live but a few days, Nor an old man who has not fulfilled his days; For the child shall die one hundred years old, But the sinner being one hundred years old shall be accursed.

(Isaiah 35:1 NKJV) The wilderness and the wasteland shall be glad for them, And the desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose; Isaiah 35:2 NKJV) It shall blossom abundantly and rejoice, Even with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, The excellence of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, The excellency of our God.

*(Isaiah 35:6 NKJV) Then the lame shall leap like a deer, And the tongue of the dumb sing. **For waters shall burst forth in the wilderness, And streams in the desert.***

(Isaiah 35:7 NKJV) The parched ground shall become a pool, And the thirsty land springs of water; In the habitation of jackals, where each lay, There shall be grass with reeds and rushes.

Maybe Axis Shift / No More Hurricanes - Floods

It appears the earth will be restored to the Edenic glory as it was before the flood, as it was in the Garden of Eden. The earth, the whole earth, will be a paradise. There will probably be an equalizing of the climates. There will be no more hurricanes. There will probably not be any polar icecaps. We do know that under the polar icecaps there were at one time forests under the icecaps. The coal deposits tell us that. We do know that in the frozen Arctic Circle in Siberia, in that icy tundra, they have found the remains of mammoths that were frozen in place. When they were cut open, the digestive tracts had parts of tropical vegetation. So we know that at one time, the climate of the earth was vastly different than it is today. That there didn't exist the polar icecaps, but there were tropical animals roaming around the area of the North Pole. Without the polar icecaps, of course, the land surface would be covered more

with water. There would be a difference between the present percentage of sea and land. But without the polar icecaps, you would not be getting these tremendous radical changes of climate. There would be much more sun. The earth, of course, presently is tilted at twenty-three and a third degrees, which gives us our seasons. Perhaps God will readjust because the Bible says the earth is going to wobble like a drunken man and will be moved out of its place. Perhaps the Lord will correct, and we will not be in a twenty three and a third degree angle on our axis in relationship to the sun, but directly perpendicular which would bring not the seasons but an equal kind of daylight and nighttime. And the whole earth could be like Hawaii. There will be a renewed longevity of life. There will be, of course, greater moisture in the atmosphere because of the evaporation of the oceans with more water and not the storms and so forth. There will be a greater evaporation. More moisture will be carried in the atmosphere, which will give us more filters from the ultra violet rays and all. And the earth will be a beautiful place. The whole earth will be filled with His glory! Righteousness will cover the earth as the waters cover the seas. We will be living with Christ and reigning with Christ over the earth:

(Isaiah 24:20 NKJV) The earth shall reel to and fro like a drunkard, And shall totter like a hut; Its transgression shall be heavy upon it, And it will fall, and not rise again.

Where (is the Millennial Kingdom):

In Jerusalem

The Millennial Kingdom will be world-wide, but the epicenter will be Jerusalem, and Jesus will rule and reign from there. He will assume the "Throne of David".

Isaiah 16:5 (NKJV) ⁵ In mercy the throne will be established; And One will sit on it in truth, in the tabernacle of David, Judging and seeking justice and hastening righteousness."

Matthew 25:31 (NKJV) ³¹ "When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory.

Zechariah 6:12–13 (NKJV) ¹² Then speak to him, saying, 'Thus says the Lord of hosts, saying: "Behold, the Man whose name is the BRANCH! From His place He shall branch out, And He shall build the temple of the Lord; ¹³ Yes, He shall build the temple of the Lord. He shall bear the glory, And shall sit and rule on His throne; So He shall be a priest on His throne, And the counsel of peace shall be between them both.' "

Jeremiah 3:16–17 (NKJV) ¹⁶ "Then it shall come to pass, when you are multiplied and increased in the land in those days," says the Lord, "that they will say no more, 'The ark of the covenant of the Lord.' It shall not come to mind, nor shall they remember it, nor shall they visit it, nor shall it be made anymore. ¹⁷ "At that time Jerusalem shall be called **The Throne** of the Lord, and all the nations shall be gathered to it, to the name of the Lord, to Jerusalem. No more shall they follow the dictates of their evil hearts.

During the Millennium, the Ark is no longer the focus of worship in Jerusalem. It will be replaced by the Throne of the Lord as all nations shall be gathered to it. (The Ark and Mercy Seat were two separate objects in the Scripture.)

New Temple

The description of the Millennial Temple in Ezekiel 40-48 is highly detailed which indicates it is not simply symbolic. All nations are to worship there using offerings and sacrifices, and it is open only on the Sabbath Day and New Moons.

The Millennial Temple

In the Book of Ezekiel. In chapter 40, we come to the millennial age. Once the Tribulation is over—the seven-year period when the world is judged—the Lord will come back to earth and everything will be made right. The final eight chapters of the Book of Ezekiel deal primarily with the temple that will be built during the Millennium. We see the description of the temple in chapters 40 through 43, worship in the temple in chapters 44 through 46, and the land around the temple in chapters 47 and 48.

Ezekiel 40:4–5 (NKJV) ⁴ And the man said to me, "Son of man, look with your eyes and hear with your ears, and fix your mind on everything I show you; for you were brought here so that I might show them to you. Declare to the house of Israel everything you see." ⁵ Now there was a wall all around the outside of the temple. In the man's hand was a measuring rod six cubits long, each being a cubit and a handbreadth; and he measured the width of the wall structure, one rod; and the height, one rod.

Ezekiel 43:4–5 (NKJV) ⁴ And the glory of the LORD came into the temple by way of the gate which faces toward the east. ⁵ The Spirit lifted me up and brought me into the inner court; and behold, the glory of the LORD filled the temple.

Ezekiel 43:6–7 (NKJV)⁶ Then I heard *Him* speaking to me from the temple, while a man stood beside me. ⁷ And He said to me, “Son of man, *this is the place of My throne and the place of the soles of My feet, where I will dwell in the midst of the children of Israel forever. No more shall the house of Israel defile My holy name, they nor their kings, by their harlotry or with the carcasses of their kings on their high places.*”

Note: I personally do not feel there is conclusive scripture (one way or the other) that the Temple of the Tribulation is going to be the same Temple of the Millennial. Maybe it is, and it gets cleansed (Daniel 12:11-12) and established as the Temple in the Millennial. Or it may very well be when Jesus sets His foot down upon the Mount of Olives (Acts 1:9-11) in His Second Coming, the whole topography of Jerusalem is really changed, and the Dome of the Rock and the Temple are reduced to rubble. Who knows, but God knows. But I surely lean towards that the this temple (and sure the Dome of the Rock) will be brought to rubble when Jesus puts His feet down on Mount Olives (Zechariah 14) when He returns the Second Time.

Acts 1:9–11 (NKJV)⁹ Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. ¹⁰ And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel, ¹¹ who also said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This *same* Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven.”

Zechariah 14:3–4 (NKJV)³ Then the LORD will go forth And fight against those nations, As He fights in the day of battle. ⁴ And in that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, Which faces Jerusalem on the east. And the Mount of Olives shall be split in two, From east to west, *Making a very large valley; Half of the mountain shall move toward the north And half of it toward the south.*

Exciting Times

Wow, what exciting times we live in. I hope this study of the Temple has got you excited about the soon return of your Savior. The past history, and the future history of the temple is amazing. All Israel would stand in awe to see the glory of God fill the temple, every year, once a year they would wait with hopeful anticipation on the Day of Atonement to hear the High Priest declare that there in the Holy of Holies man’s sins have been covered for one more year.

No Temple in New Jerusalem

And when the 1,000 year reign is over, and God creates the New Heaven and New Jerusalem, there will be no Temple for Jesus will be the Temple. We will study that when we get to chapter 21:

Revelation 21:22–27 (NKJV)²² *But I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple.* ²³ *The city had no need of the sun or of the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it. The Lamb is its light.* ²⁴ *And the nations of those who are saved shall walk in its light, and the kings of the earth bring their glory and honor into it.* ²⁵ *Its gates shall not be shut at all by day (there shall be no night there).* ²⁶ *And they shall bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it.* ²⁷ *But there shall by no means enter it anything that defiles, or causes an abomination or a lie, but only those who are written in the Lamb’s Book of Life.*

Notes: Recap on 4 Temples:

1. The first temple was the temple of Solomon. Lavish and ornate, filled with gold and smelling of cedar, this is the temple that Jews of all ages think back to and sigh longingly for. This first temple was destroyed by the Babylonians in 586 BC.
2. The second temple was started by Zerubbabel in 516 BC after the return from the Babylonian exile. Later, this structure was greatly enhanced by Herod the Great in the time leading up to Jesus’ birth. This temple survived until AD 70, when the Romans destroyed it along with much of the city of Jerusalem.
3. The tribulation temple is the third in line. It will have the shortest life span of any of the temples. Zechariah prophesied, “In that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, which faces Jerusalem on the east. And the Mount of Olives shall be split in two, from east to west, making a very large valley; half of the mountain shall move toward the north and half of it toward the south” (Zechariah 14:4). This massive shift in the earth’s surface will cause an earthquake that will level everything for miles and miles.
4. With the third temple gone, there is need for one more before temples become obsolete with the new heavens and new earth, when “the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple” (Revelation 21:22). This fourth temple will be built at the beginning of the millennium and will serve as the world’s center for worship for 1,000 years. This is the temple to which all mankind will travel from all the corners of the earth, as we will soon see in Zechariah 14. Among those who will travel there to worship are the remnant who survive the great tribulation, along with their offspring, who will have been born during the 1,000-year kingdom.

The Highway of Holiness

Isaiah 35:1–10 (NKJV) ¹ The wilderness and the wasteland shall be glad for them, And the desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose; ² It shall blossom abundantly and rejoice, Even with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, The excellency of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, The excellency of our God. ³ Strengthen the weak hands, And make firm the feeble knees. ⁴ Say to those *who are* fearful-hearted, “Be strong, do not fear! Behold, your God will come *with* vengeance, *With* the recompense of God; He will come and save you.” ⁵ Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, And the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. ⁶ Then the lame shall leap like a deer, And the tongue of the dumb sing. For waters shall burst forth in the wilderness, And streams in the desert. ⁷ The parched ground shall become a pool, And the thirsty land springs of water; In the habitation of jackals, where each lay, *There shall be* grass with reeds and rushes. ⁸ A highway shall be there, and a road, And it shall be called the Highway of Holiness. The unclean shall not pass over it, But it *shall be* for others. Whoever walks the road, although a fool, Shall not go astray. ⁹ No lion shall be there, Nor shall *any* ravenous beast go up on it; It shall not be found there. But the redeemed shall walk *there*, ¹⁰ And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, And come to Zion with singing, With everlasting joy on their heads. They shall obtain joy and gladness, And sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

The specific phrase highway of holiness is found only once in Scripture, in Isaiah 35. In this chapter, God promises that, in the future, the land of Israel will be blessed with fertility and “the desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose” (verse 2). Isaiah’s prophecy of the messianic kingdom also encourages the weak and fearful to be strong, for God will come with vengeance to save the long-oppressed people of Israel (verses 3–4). There will be gladness and shouts of joy when the new, restored Zion will see God’s glory, experience His presence, and be guided and protected by Him.

At the time the kingdom is established, “a highway will be there; it will be called the Way of Holiness” (Isaiah 35:8). The highway of holiness does not need to be a literal highway; the point of the prophecy is that God will remove all obstacles and “smooth the way” for His people, enabling them to access the blessings of the kingdom. Some point to the fulfillment of this prophecy as the Jews’ return from captivity in Babylon and Persia. But the language of Isaiah 35 gives it a broader context, including physical healing and environmental blessings (verses 5–7). The highway of holiness could also be seen to refer to the Way that is Christ (see John 14:6), the way of sovereign grace that redeems us from sin.

The highway of holiness has three important characteristics. The first is found in Isaiah 35:8: “It will be for those who walk on that Way. The unclean will not journey on it; wicked fools will not go about on it.” The highway of holiness is a place of holiness. It is reserved for those who are righteous in God’s sight. No one entering the kingdom will be foolish or sinful. Christ alone provides the way of holiness, having exchanged His perfect righteousness for our sin (2 Corinthians 5:21). His righteousness is imputed to us, enabling us to be holy, even as He is holy. The highway is reserved for His people alone.

Second, the highway of holiness is a place of safety, reserved for the redeemed of the Lord. “No lion will be there, nor any ravenous beast; they will not be found there. But only the redeemed will walk there, and those the Lord has rescued will return” (Isaiah 35:9–10). This is indicative of the safety and security God’s people will experience on the highway. No wicked persons, symbolized by lions and ravenous beasts, will be allowed on the highway. The redeemed of the Lord will walk there in peace and safety.

Third, the highway of holiness will be a place of joy: “They will enter Zion with singing; everlasting joy will crown their heads. Gladness and joy will overtake them, and sorrow and sighing will flee away” (Isaiah 35:10). Just as the ransomed captives would return joyfully from Babylon, all the redeemed of the Lord will enter the millennial kingdom rejoicing.

Isaiah’s mention of a “highway” occurs again in Isaiah 40:3, referring to the first advent of the Messiah: “A voice of one calling: ‘In the wilderness prepare the way for the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God.’” This prophecy was fulfilled by John the Baptist (see Matthew 3:3).

Who (is in the Millennium):

(Revelation 20:4 NKJV) And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Then I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received his mark on their foreheads or on their hands. And they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.

Who make it Out of Tribulation

Who makes up the Millennial Kingdom?

1. NOT ENTER – anyone who took the “mark of the beast” during the Tribulation (Rev 20:5-6). They will be consumed during the Battle of Armageddon, of what we called in Matthew 25, the Judgement of the Nations. They took the mark, an allegiance to the Devil, and thus as well fully rejected and persecuted the people of God (whether that be Israel or believers).

Revelation 20:4–5 (NKJV) ⁴ And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Then I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received his mark on their foreheads or on their hands. And they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years. ⁵ But the rest of the dead did not live again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection.

Revelation 14:9–11 (NKJV) ⁹ Then a third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, “If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives his mark on his forehead or on his hand, ¹⁰ he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation. He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. ¹¹ And the smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever, and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name.”

2. WILL ENTER – All the surviving Jewish people for they will all be saved either as they watch the supernatural provision of God during the Magog Invasion, or in chapter 12 of Revelation where God whisks them away to safety for 3.5 years during the Second half of the Tribulation, but as Roman’s 11:25-27 says, all of Israel shall be saved But make no mistake, the people of Israel can only be saved through the finished work of Christ, they have to come to salvation just as everyone else, through Jesus Christ making them righteous (2 Cor 5:21)

Revelation 12:6 (NKJV) ⁶ Then the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, that they should feed her there one thousand two hundred and sixty days.

Romans 11:25–27 (NKJV) ²⁵ For I do not desire, brethren, that you should be ignorant of this mystery, lest you should be wise in your own opinion, that blindness in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in. ²⁶ And so all Israel will be saved, as it is written: “The Deliverer will come out of Zion, And He will turn away ungodliness from Jacob; ²⁷ For this is My covenant with them, When I take away their sins.”

2 Corinthians 5:21 (NKJV) ²¹ For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

3. WILL ENTER – All the saints (whether Old Testament who died before the cross but believed the Promise of God to send a Deliver (Messiah) for sin, or New Testament saints that believed on the Messiah (Jesus Christ), will make up the kingdom. Ephesians 4 tells us that Jesus emptied the holding place of those who believed a Messiah would come, but they could not be resurrected until the price of sin was paid by the Lamb of God there upon the cross. Upon Jesus’ death on the cross there was a great earthquake and these were seen and appeared to many (Matthew 27).

Ephesians 4:8–10 (NKJV) ⁸ Therefore He says: “When He ascended on high, He led captivity captive, And gave gifts to men.” ⁹ (Now this, “He ascended”—what does it mean but that He also first descended into the lower parts of the earth? ¹⁰ He who descended is also the One who ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.)

Matthew 27:51–53 (NKJV) ⁵¹ Then, behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; and the earth quaked, and the rocks were split, ⁵² and the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised; ⁵³ and coming out of the graves after His resurrection, they went into the holy city and appeared to many.

4. WILL ENTER – the Raptured saints, for that is us, as we come back with Him (Revelation 19).

Revelation 19:11–16 (NKJV) ¹¹ Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. ¹² His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself. ¹³ He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. ¹⁴ And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. ¹⁵ Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. ¹⁶ And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS

1 Thessalonians 4:15–18 (NKJV) ¹⁵ For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. ¹⁶ For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷ Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. ¹⁸ Therefore comfort one another with these words.

5. WILL ENTER

The martyred saints of the Tribulation.

Revelation 20:4–5 (NKJV) ⁴ And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Then I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received his mark on their foreheads or on their hands. And they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years. ⁵ But the rest of the dead did not live again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection.

6. WILL ENTER – At the Judgement of the Gentiles (also called the separating the sheep from the goats), anyone who took the mark is not in, and..... anyone who did not take the mark, but still yet in the end after all this, refused to receive Jesus as Lord and Savior (which we wonder if that is even possible after seeing Him face-to-face, and getting the greatest presentation of the Gospel ever,) , they will be judge to hell. Why? Because only the righteous can enter into the Millennial Kingdom, and a person can only be made righteous (2 Cor 5:21), through the finished work of Christ.

Matthew 25:31–46 (NKJV) ³¹ "When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. ³² All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats. ³³ And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left. ³⁴ Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: ³⁵ for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; ³⁶ I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.' ³⁷ "Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? ³⁸ When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You? ³⁹ Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?' ⁴⁰ And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.' ⁴¹ "Then He will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels: ⁴² for I was hungry and you gave Me no food; I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink; ⁴³ I was a stranger and you did not take Me in, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.' ⁴⁴ "Then they also will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to You?' ⁴⁵ Then He will answer them, saying, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.' ⁴⁶ And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

2 Corinthians 5:21 (NKJV) ²¹ For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

I like the context of Matthew 25, the parable of the 10 virgins, 5 had oil supply, and 5 didn't, and only 5 went into the marriage banquet. ARE YOU READY?

Matthew 25:1–13 (NKJV) ¹ "Then the kingdom of heaven shall be likened to ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. ² Now five of them were wise, and five were foolish. ³ Those who were foolish took their lamps and took no oil with them, ⁴ but the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. ⁵ But while the bridegroom was delayed, they all slumbered and slept. ⁶ "And at midnight a cry was heard: 'Behold, the bridegroom is coming; go out to meet him!' ⁷ Then all those virgins arose and trimmed their lamps. ⁸ And the foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' ⁹ But the wise answered, saying, 'No, lest there should not be enough for us and you; but go rather to those who sell, and buy for yourselves.' ¹⁰ And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding; and the door was shut. ¹¹ "Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, Lord, open to us!' ¹² But he answered and said, 'Assuredly, I say to you, I do not know you.' ¹³ "Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming."

Matthew 6:33 (NKJV) ³³ But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

Why (is the Millennial Kingdom):

It is the last period of dispensation on the earth. Scholars agree on at least 7, but some add merge the last 2, some break them out.

Seven/Eight Dispensation Periods

- #1 Dispensation of Innocence: (from creation to fall).
- #2 Dispensation of Conscience: (from fall to flood.)
- #3. Dispensation of Government: (from flood to Babel)
- #4 Dispensation of Promise (Vision): (from Abraham to Exodus).
- #5 Dispensation of the Law: (from Exodus to Calvary - The law was given).
- #6 Dispensation of Grace: from Calvary to the Rapture – the Church Period)
- #7 Dispensation of Tribulation: (7 year period)
- #8 Dispensation of Millennial Kingdom: (1000 yr period).

How (Does the Millennial Kingdom Affect Me Today):

We Rule – No Satan – but Human Nature / Extraordinary Powers

So we will rule with Jesus, and though those living in the Millennium won't be influenced by Satan, they still will have their human nature to deal with. So when they think of ripping off a bicycle, we will be those who enforce Christ's righteousness. That is, before the guy can even develop the plan to steal the bicycle, we'll say, "Don't even think about it." It will be an enforced righteousness that governs the Millennial kingdom and that allows a glorious time of peace on earth. So we will have extraordinary powers in our glorified bodies.

We won't be Judged / When is It / We will Give and Account – Well Done

We won't be judged on the White Throne Judgment we will read in a moment, for that judgment is about man's sin, and our sin has already been judged. We will be judged however, and that judgment is called the Bema Seat Judgment (2 Cor 5), I don't know when Bema Seat Judgment is. Is it right after Rapture, sometime during 7 year Marriage Supper, right before we return for the Second Coming, is it before or after the Lord separates the sheep from the goats? I really am not sure. We won't be judged for our sins, but we will give an account for what we did with the gifts that He gave us. We will be rewarded for what we have done in His name. This is called the Bema seat of Christ. This is where we will hear those words, "well done thy good and faithful servant, you have been faithful with the little things, I will make you ruler over many". Those words come from the parable of the talents in Matthew 25.

(2 Corinthians 5:8 NKJV) We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord.

(2 Corinthians 5:9 NKJV) Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him.

(2 Corinthians 5:10 NKJV) For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

(Matthew 25:14 NKJV) "For the kingdom of heaven is like a man traveling to a far country, who called his own servants and delivered his goods to them.

(Matthew 25:15 NKJV) "And to one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one, to each according to his own ability; and immediately he went on a journey.

(Matthew 25:16 NKJV) "Then he who had received the five talents went and traded with them, and made another five talents.

(Matthew 25:17 NKJV) "And likewise he who had received two gained two more also.

(Matthew 25:18 NKJV) "But he who had received one went and dug in the ground, and hid his lord's money.

(Matthew 25:19 NKJV) "After a long time the lord of those servants came and settled accounts with them.

(Matthew 25:20 NKJV) "So he who had received five talents came and brought five other talents, saying, 'Lord, you delivered to me five talents; look, I have gained five more talents besides them.'

(Matthew 25:21 NKJV) "His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.'

(Matthew 25:22 NKJV) "He also who had received two talents came and said, 'Lord, you delivered to me two talents; look, I have gained two more talents besides them.'

*(Matthew 25:23 NKJV) "His lord said to him, '**Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.**'*

(Matthew 25:24 NKJV) "Then he who had received the one talent came and said, 'Lord, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you have not sown, and gathering where you have not scattered seed.

(Matthew 25:25 NKJV) 'And I was afraid, and went and hid your talent in the ground. Look, there you have what is yours.'

(Matthew 25:26 NKJV) "But his lord answered and said to him, 'You wicked and lazy servant, you knew that I reap where I have not sown, and gather where I have not scattered seed.

(Matthew 25:27 NKJV) 'So you ought to have deposited my money with the bankers, and at my coming I would have received back my own with interest.

(Matthew 25:28 NKJV) 'Therefore take the talent from him, and give it to him who has ten talents.

(Matthew 25:29 NKJV) 'For to everyone who has, more will be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away.

(Matthew 25:30 NKJV) 'And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

(Matthew 25:31 NKJV) "When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory.

Don't want to Rule / Christ thinks it is Good Idea / Invest Wisely – Run to Win Prize

"I don't like this idea of ruling or of judging," you might be saying. But let me tell you something: Jesus would not have taught us to be seizing opportunities to use our time and treasure wisely here on earth if He thought we wouldn't like the reward for doing so. And Paul would not have told us to run so that we might win the prize (1 Corinthians 9:24) if the prize was not something to be greatly desired.

(1 Corinthians 9:24 NKJV) Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it.

(Revelation 20:6 NKJV) Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years.

First Resurrection / Jesus – Us – Martyred Trib Saints – OT Believers

Verse 5 - This is the first resurrection - The first resurrection is not a single point in time. Rather, the first resurrection begins with the Resurrection of Jesus Christ as the firstfruits (1 Corinthians 15:20, 23). It continues on to include those who believe in Jesus but died before the Rapture (1 Thessalonians 4:14), believers who are alive at the time of the Rapture (1 Thessalonians 4:17), those who are martyred in the Tribulation for their refusal to take the mark of the beast (Revelation 20:4), and the Old Testament saints who believed in Yahweh but did not have opportunity to be a part of the church because they died before Jesus came. Thus, the first resurrection speaks of all those who are included in the grand plan of salvation.

(1 Corinthians 15:23 NKJV) But each one in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, afterward those who are Christ's at His coming.

2nd Resurrection / 2 Deaths / Born Once Die Twice – Born Twice Die Once

The first resurrection is the resurrection unto life, but the second resurrection is the resurrection to damnation. There are 2 deaths spoken of in the Bible, a physical death and a spiritual death. There is a saying, Born once, die twice, born twice die once. If you are only born and never accept Jesus then you die twice, a physical death and then the spiritual death (which is eternal separation from God). If you are born and then accept Jesus (which is to be born-again - born the second time) you may die once physically but not the second death, spiritually which is eternal damnation. this Lake of Fire.

If Nothing is Going Right – Blessed because part of First Resurrection

Gang, even if nothing else in your life goes right, you are so blessed because you are part of the first resurrection. You are going to heaven. The first death is physical. The second death is eternal. Yes, we will die physically unless the Lord raptures us first. But the second death is for those who are damned eternally. Glory be to God, over us this second death has no power.

Prayer

The Word of God is Living and Powerful, and is ready, and will do a mighty work in our lives.

Hebrews 4:12 (NKJV) ¹² For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

In Every Study

- Who Is God? (How Great is He?)
- What Does He Think of Me? (How Wonderful Are His Thoughts Towards Me?)
- What Does He Want Me to Do?
- What Can I Boldly Request of Him?
- What Do I Need to Be on Guard of When I Leave Here Today?

Boldly come to the throne of grace, ask God to reveal Himself in a mighty way to you, and to do I might work in you, and through you.

Hebrews 4:16 (NKJV) ¹⁶ Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need