

Eschatology

The Millennial Kingdom

“Thy Kingdom Come, Thy Will Be Done”

As redeemed children of the Lord Jesus, our hearts should skip a beat (or two) when we hear and pray these words. The day will come when our faith will indeed become sight and we will reign with our Lord as he physically rules over this earth with perfect love and justice as The King of kings and Lord of lords!

The coming Kingdom of Jesus is not just the fulfillment of the Abrahamic and the Davidic Covenants; it is the goal towards which all of redemptive history progresses.

There are three major views of the millennial kingdom as summarized below.

➤ **Postmillennialism:**

Through Christian influence, society will continue to improve until it reaches a utopian-like state. Thus it is believers who will bring in the millennial kingdom. Christ will return after this general period of peace and prosperity has been established.

➤ **Amillennialism:**

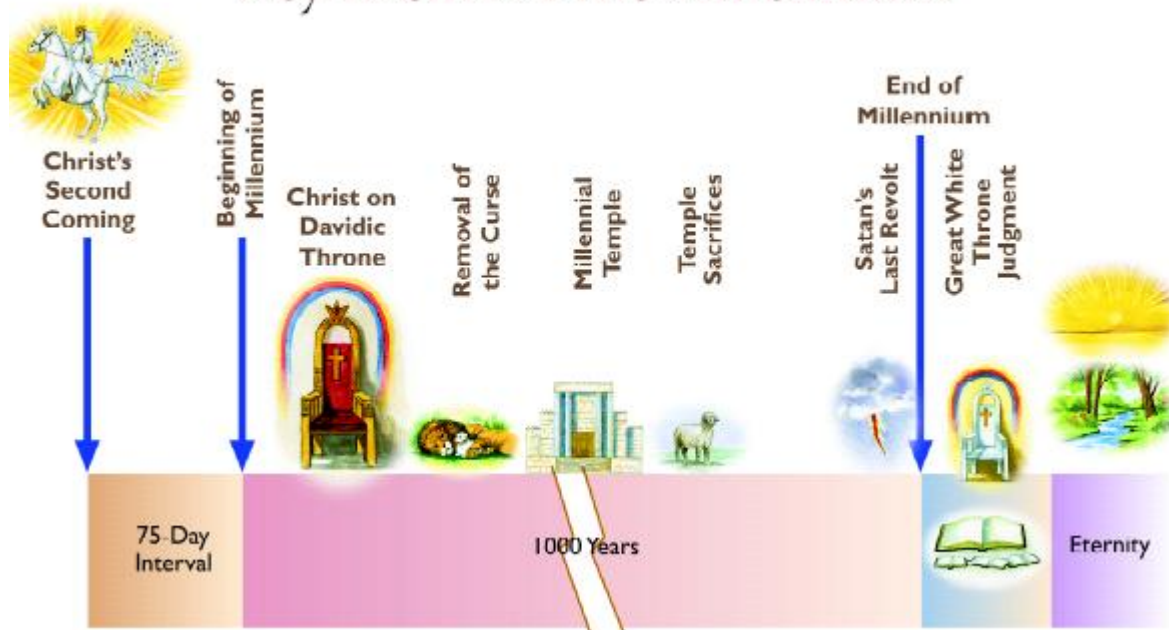
The millennial kingdom is not a future, thousand-year kingdom on earth. Rather, it is a spiritual kingdom that refers to Christ's rule in the hearts of His people during the church age.

➤ **Premillennialism:**

The millennial kingdom refers to a future, physical kingdom that Christ will establish at His return. The kingdom, which will be centered in Jerusalem, will last for one thousand years, after which this world will be destroyed and replaced by the new earth.

At the heart of the debate over millennial views is the issue of hermeneutics. All sides in the debate agree that interpreting OT prophecy **literally** leads naturally to premillennialism.

Key Events of the Millennium



Many OT passages speak of a yet future time of true peace and prosperity for the righteous followers of God under the physical rule of Jesus on earth. Zechariah 14:9 says, “The LORD will be king over all the earth; in that day the LORD will be the only one, and His name the only one.” Then verses 16-21 tell us what the Millennial kingdom will be like.

Other OT passages include Ps. 2:6-9; Is. 2:2-4; 11:6-9; 65:18-23; Jer. 31:12-4,31-37; Ezek. 34:25-29; 37:1-6; 40-48; Dan. 2:35; 7:13-14; Joel 2:21-27; Amos 9:13-14; Micah 4:1-7; Zeph. 3:9-20; and many, many more.

The NT also speaks of the coming Millennial kingdom in passages such as Matt. 5:1-20; 19:27-30; 26:27-29; Mark 14:25; Luke 22:18; 1Cor. 6:9-11 and Revelation 20.

A thorough systematic study of the Millennial kingdom shows that it's not until we get to Revelation 20 that we are told the kingdom will last 1,000 years.

Over the next few weeks, we will be studying what the scriptures teach about what the Millennial kingdom will be like, what the “theocratic” government will be like and what will our worship unto Jesus be like during the 1,000 years.

Much of scripture describes the conditions that will exist within the kingdom of Christ Jesus our LORD during His 1,000 year reign on the earth. The following outline will show the “greatness of the kingdom” (Daniel 7:27).

A. Peace

The unification of the nations of the world under the reign of Christ will bring both national and individual peace as the fruit of Messiah’s reign (Isa. 2:4; 9:4-7; 11:6-9; 32:17-18; 33:5-6; 54:13; 55:12; Ezek. 28:26; 34:25,28; Hos. 2:18; Mic. 4:2-3; Zech. 9:10).

B. Joy

The fullness of joy will be a distinctive mark of the age. (Isa. 9:3-4; 12:3-6; 14:7-8; 66:10-14; Jer. 30:18-19; 31:13-14; Zeph. 3:14-17; Zech. 8:18-19; 10:6-7)

C. Holiness

The land will be holy, the city holy, the temple holy and the subjects holy unto the Lord. (Isa. 1:26-27; 29:18-23; 31:6-7; 35:8-9; Ezek. 36:24-31; 37:23-24; 43:7-12; Joel 3:21; Zeph. 3:11,13; Zech. 8:3; 13:1-2; 14:20-21)

D. Glory

The glory of God will find full manifestation. (Isa. 24:23; 4:2; 35:2; 40:5; 60:1-9)

E. Comfort

Jesus will personally minister to every need. (Isa. 12:1-2; 29:22-23; 40:1-2; 61:3-7; Jer. 31:23-25; Zeph. 3:18-20; Zech. 9:11-12; Rev. 21:4)

F. Justice

There will be the administration of perfect justice to every individual (Isa. 9:7; 11:5; 42:1-4; 65:21-23; Jer. 23:5; 31:22-30).

G. Full knowledge

The ministry of the King will bring the subjects of His kingdom into full knowledge (Isa. 11:1-2, 9; 41:19-20; 54:13; Hab. 2:14).

H. Instruction

This knowledge will come about through the instruction that issues from the King (Isa. 2:2-3; 12:3-6; 29:17-24; Jer. 3:14-15; 23:1-4).

I. The removal of the curse

The original curse (Gen. 3:17-19) will be removed. Even the animals will be changed (Isa. 11:6-9; 35:9; 65:25).

J. Sickness removed

The Great Healer will remove sickness & death, except for overt sin (Isa. 33:24; Jer. 30:17; Ezek. 24:16).

K. Healing of the deformed

All who are deformed going into the kingdom will be healed.
(Isa. 29:17-19; 35:3-6; 61:1-2; Jer. 31:8; Mic. 4:6-7; Zeph. 3:19)

L. Protection

Through Jesus, there will be a supernatural work of the preservation of life (Isa.. 41:8-14; 62:8-9; Jer. 32:27, 23:6; Ezek. 34:27; Joel 3:16-17; Amos 9:15; Zech. 8:14-15, 9:8, 14:10-11).

M. Freedom from oppression

There will be no social, political or religious oppression.
(Isa. 14:3-6; 42:6-7; 49:8-9; Zech. 9:11-12)

N. Reproduction by the living peoples

The living saints who go into the kingdom will have children. These born in the age will not be born without a sin nature, so salvation will be required for them.
(Jer. 30:20; 31:29; Ezek. 47:22; Zech. 10:8)

O. Labor

There will be a fully developed industrialized society, providing the needs of the King's subjects. Agriculture as well as manufacturing will provide employment.
(Isa. 62:8-9; 65:21-23; Jer.31:5; Ezek. 48:18-19)

P. Unified language

The language barriers will be removed from all the different nations (Zeph. 3:9).

Q. Unified worship

All the world will unite in the worship of God and God's Messiah.
(Isa. 45:23; 52:1, 7-10; 66:17-23; Zech. 13:2; 14:16; 8:23; 9:7; Zeph. 3:9; Mal. 1:11; Rev. 5:9-14).

R. The manifest presence of God

God's presence will be fully recognized and fellowship with God will be experienced to an unprecedented degree.
(Ezek. 37:27-28; Zech. 2:2; 10-13; Rev. 21:3)

S. The perpetuity of the millennial state

That which characterizes the millennial age is not viewed as temporary, but eternal.
(Isa. 51:6-8; 55:3; 56:5; 60:19-20; Jer. 32:40; Ezek. 16:60; 37:26-28; 43:7-9; Dan. 9:24; Hosea 2:19-23; Joel 3:20; Amos 9:15).

Is it any wonder as to why in John's closing remarks on the canon of scripture he says "Amen. Come, Lord Jesus."

Yes, Lord Jesus, come quickly!