

“The Millennium” or “The Millennial Reign of Christ”

All Scripture is KJV: Revelation 20

INTRODUCTION: WHAT DOES THE BIBLE HAVE TO SAY?

This morning I thought I would take the time to preach on something that I have never preached on before, and that is the “The Coming Millennium that is spoken of in the bible.

Often I am asked or confronted about this topic and so I thought with those questions in mind, let’s begin to visit the Word of God on this subject.

The questions most often asked on this subject is as follows.

- 1. What is “The Millennial Reign of Christ?”**
- 2. When does it take place?**
- 3. Where does it take place?**
- 4. What is the purpose of the Millennium?**
- 5. What is it going to be like?**
6. And I suppose a few more question can be added to that list of thought.
 - So when we read the scriptures we have to ask the Lord to guide us by His Holy Spirit in the Word of God, and the Holy Spirit to present to me and you, the truths of God’s unquestionable Word.
 - Thereafter we need to be willing to listen accept the truths from God, and know that it is Him who is expressly speaking to us from His Word.

So to start out let’s ask the first question as one of the six question we stated:

- 1. What is the Millennium or Millennial Reign of Christ and when is it going to take place.**

Well before we get there turn with me to 1 Corinthians 13:9-11

1 Corinthians 13:9-12 King James Version (KJV)

⁹ For we know in part, and we prophesy in part.

¹⁰ But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away.

¹¹ When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things.

¹² For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.

1. You have to understand that when you are dealing with prophecy there are certain things that we still find hard to understand because we have not experienced them yet.
2. Even here the Apostle Paul was finding it difficult to understand certain things and he told us that for now, we may not fully understand the things to come, but in time as more and more is realized things become clearer.
3. That's why he says ¹² For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.
4. That's why he said in verse 9 ⁹ For we know in part, and we prophesy in part.

So in the same way we can only go as far as to say what has already been revealed to us in the Word of God up to this point.

5. We also have to understand that the Millennium and the New Heaven and the New Earth are still a long way off into the distant future.

But like all things we approach in the bible we must and can only use the clear scriptures to determine what the Millennium is going to be like.

❖ Well; let us turn to Revelation 20 to start with.

Revelation 20 King James Version (KJV)

1 And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand.

² And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years,

³ And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season.

⁴ **And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them:** and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; **and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.**

⁵ But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection.

⁶ Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.

⁷ And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison,

⁸ And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog, and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea.

⁹ And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them.

¹⁰ And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

¹¹ And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them.

¹² And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.

¹³ And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works.

¹⁴ And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.

¹⁵ And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

1. So the first question we started out with was **What is the Millennium or Millennial Reign of Christ and when is it going to take place.**

- a) We see from Revelation 20 that it is going to be a time period of a literal 1000 years in which Jesus is ruling and reigning here on this earth, whilst Satan is bound in the bottomless pit.
- b) It is a time period in which the “saints” of God are ruling and reigning with him here on this earth.

But in order for us to understand the goings on of this event it is helpful for us to read **Revelation 19**, which talks about the events which lead into the Millennium.

- c) So Revelation 19 is the event in which Jesus gathers his saints which is the armies in heaven to come and join him at the marriage feast of the Lamb, in which the saints get to see the judgement of God (Battle of Armageddon) being delivered to smite the unbelieving nations who brought their armies to fight against him.
- d) They are the ones who are killed and their flesh is given to the fowls of the air to be devoured and eaten.
- e) Shortly before the armies which come against Jesus, the Beast and the False Prophet who had deceived the nations are identified and cast alive into the Lake of Fire Burning with Brimstone.

1. The Millennium only starts after the Battle of Armageddon is fought.
2. And the Millennium is only after the Great tribulation at the end of that 7 year period spoken of by the Prophet Daniel 9:27.

Daniel 9:27 ²⁷ And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.

3. Also Read Daniel chapter 12 for further information on the time of the end.
 - f) What you also need to understand about the Millennium is that it begins with a great battle and a judgement and it also ends with a great battle and judgement.
- A)** And so the first thing that happens at the start of the Millennium is seen as we read in **Revelation 19:11-13**

¹¹ And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness **he doth judge and make war.**

¹² His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself.

¹³ And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called **The Word of God.**

- ❖ And we know that this is Jesus Christ the Judge, who has come to judge the nations, and here we see he has to take care of some unfinished business, first of all on those who come against him.

Then notice also in verse 14 that he is coming with his armies from heaven.

¹⁴ **And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses,** clothed in fine linen, white and clean.

- ❖ This is what Jude 14 was talking about..... **Jude 14**¹⁴ And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints, ¹⁵ To execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him.

- ✚ Then as we look again to **Revelation 19:15-16,** we see that when Jesus comes before the Millennium starts, he is coming with his armies from Heaven to fight against those nations and armies who have risen up against him to do battle.

¹⁵ And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.

¹⁶ And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.

- ✚ So these are armies of the earth who have come against the Lord Jesus to do battle against him.
- ✚ Then in the next few verse of Revelation 19 we see the angel standing in the sun announcing that the fowls of the air must come because they will be needed to eat the flesh of these armies that Jesus is going to defeat.
- ✓ I could not help but notice that in Revelation 19:8 the marriage of the Lamb is come. Then in verse 9 we are called by Jesus as the saints to the marriage supper of the Lamb.

⁹ And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are **they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb.** And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God.

- ✓ Yet in the same instant when the saints are coming with the Lord, the fowls of the air are also called to eat the flesh of the wicked who have gathered to battle against the Lord and His armies.
- ✓ So the marriage supper of the Lamb is not at the Rapture my friends. The marriage supper of the Lamb only takes place after the seven years, after the Great tribulation, after the Wrath of God was poured out upon the earth.
- ✓ The marriage supper of the Lamb Takes place here in Revelation 19 when Jesus is coming back with his saints to do battle at the Battle of Armageddon, and Judge the nations. Its only then at this time when they are told to come to be his bride prepared.....see **Revelation 19:7-8.**

⁷ Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. ⁸ And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.

- ✚ So let me repeat again, the Rapture is not when the marriage supper of the Lamb occurs. It occurs when Jesus comes riding a white horse with all his saints to do battle at the battle of Armageddon.

- **Remember please.....the Battle of Armageddon, ushers in the start of the Millennium, when we will rule and reign with Jesus for a 1000 years.**

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Next week, we will focus more on the second and third question:

- 2. When does the Millennium take it take place?**
- 3. Where does it take place.**

CLOSE IN PRAYER.....

WHAT IS IT GOING TO BE LIKE IN THE MILLENNIUM?

Part 2 Continued.....

Well first of all God is going to change things.

The whole DNA of man and the environment with animals is going to change.

- ✓ As we read in the Book of Isaiah 2 (Micah 5:2)
- ✓ And Isaiah 11:9.
- ✓ And Isaiah 65:25.

Isaiah 65:17-25 King James Version (KJV)

¹⁷ For, behold, **I create new heavens and a new earth**: and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind.

¹⁸ **But be ye glad and rejoice for ever in that which I create: for, behold, I create Jerusalem a rejoicing, and her people a joy.**

¹⁹ **And I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and joy in my people**: and **the voice of weeping shall be no more heard in her, nor the voice of crying.**

²⁰ **There shall be no more thence an infant of days, nor an old man that hath not filled his days: for the child shall die an hundred years old; but the sinner being an hundred years old shall be accursed.**

²¹ **And they shall build houses, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and eat the fruit of them.**

²² **They shall not build, and another inhabit; they shall not plant, and another eat: for as the days of a tree are the days of my people, and mine elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands.**

²³ **They shall not labour in vain, nor bring forth for trouble; for they are the seed of the blessed of the LORD, and their offspring with them.**

²⁴ **And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear.**

²⁵ **The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, and the lion shall eat straw like the bullock: and dust shall be the serpent's meat. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain, saith the LORD.**

- ✓ There will be **a great change in the Millennium**, in which **God will make those changes in man which were as it was before the flood.**
- ✓ For the animals he will make other changes in which they will change their nature, and their diet.

- ✓ He will take away the danger of the animals so that they will coexist with man in harmony.
 - ✓ There will also be a great change in the responsibility of man to God. Because the Word of the Lord. Which is His Law, that we find in the Book of Leviticus and else where in the Law and the prophets will be the standard by which Jesus will rule the Nations with a rod of iron. (Remember these were not the raptured saints, they are those being born throughout the 1000 yr period. (also those alive)
 - ✓ Those being saved during this time and those who are not saved during this time.
 - ✓ And the Book of Isaiah 2 explains to us what that will be like.
- ❖ Isaiah chapter 2 tells us what the coming of the Lord will be like at the beginning of the Millennium.

(Isaiah 2) King James Version (KJV) (during 1000 yr rein with Jesus)

1 The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

² And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it.

³ And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

⁴ And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

⁵ O house of Jacob, come ye, and let us walk in the light of the LORD.

⁶ Therefore thou hast forsaken thy people the house of Jacob, because they be replenished from the east, and are soothsayers like the Philistines, and they please themselves in the children of strangers.

⁷ Their land also is full of silver and gold, neither is there any end of their treasures; their land is also full of horses, neither is there any end of their chariots:

⁸ Their land also is full of idols; they worship the work of their own hands, that which their own fingers have made:

⁹ And the mean man boweth down, and the great man humbleth himself: therefore forgive them not.

¹⁰ Enter into the rock, and hide thee in the dust, for fear of the LORD, and for the glory of his majesty.

¹¹ The lofty looks of man shall be humbled, and the haughtiness of men shall be bowed down, and the LORD alone shall be exalted in that day.

¹² For the day of the LORD of hosts shall be upon every one that is proud and lofty, and upon every one that is lifted up; and he shall be brought low:

¹³ And upon all the cedars of Lebanon, that are high and lifted up, and upon all the oaks of Bashan,

¹⁴ And upon all the high mountains, and upon all the hills that are lifted up,

¹⁵ And upon every high tower, and upon every fenced wall,

¹⁶ And upon all the ships of Tarshish, and upon all pleasant pictures.

¹⁷ And the loftiness of man shall be bowed down, and the haughtiness of men shall be made low: and the LORD alone shall be exalted in that day.

¹⁸ And the idols he shall utterly abolish.

¹⁹ **And they shall go into the holes of the rocks, and into the caves of the earth, for fear of the LORD, and for the glory of his majesty, when he ariseth to shake terribly the earth.**

²⁰ In that day a man shall cast his idols of silver, and his idols of gold, which they made each one for himself to worship, to the moles and to the bats;

²¹ **To go into the clefts of the rocks, and into the tops of the ragged rocks, for fear of the LORD, and for the glory of his majesty, when he ariseth to shake terribly the earth.**

²² Cease ye from man, whose breath is in his nostrils: for wherein is he to be accounted of ?

- ❖ Then also in the **Book of Isaiah Chapter 11:1-10** we read how Jesus is going to rule the nations of the earth in the Millennium.
- ❖ We also read how life is going to be during the Millennial reign of Jesus Christ.

Isaiah 11 King James Version (KJV)

11 And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots:

2 And 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;

³ And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the LORD: and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears:

⁴ But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth: with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked.

⁵ And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins.

⁶ The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them.

⁷ And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together: and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

⁸ And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice' den.

⁹ 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.

¹⁰ And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek: and his rest shall be glorious.

- ❖ Then last of all we read how Jesus is going to destroy the last enemy?
- ❖ Which is death and hell.
- ❖ This will only be possible because at that time, there will be no more sin. So death and hell will not be necessary, and therefore they are both cast into the Lake of Fire.

1 Corinthians 15:20-58

²⁰ But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept.

²¹ For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead.

²² For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

²³ But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming.

²⁴ Then cometh the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power.

²⁵ For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet.

²⁶ The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death.

²⁷ For he hath put all things under his feet. But when he saith all things are put under him, it is manifest that he is excepted, which did put all things under him.

²⁸ And when all things shall be subdued unto him, then shall the Son also himself be subject unto him that put all things under him, that God may be all in all.

²⁹ Else what shall they do which are baptized for the dead, if the dead rise not at all? why are they then baptized for the dead?

³⁰ And why stand we in jeopardy every hour?

³¹ I protest by your rejoicing which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die daily.

³² If after the manner of men I have fought with beasts at Ephesus, what advantageth it me, if the dead rise not? let us eat and drink; for to morrow we die.

³³ Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners.

³⁴ **Awake to righteousness, and sin not; for some have not the knowledge of God: I speak this to your shame.**

³⁵ **But some man will say, How are the dead raised up? and with what body do they come?**

³⁶ **Thou fool, that which thou sowest is not quickened, except it die:**

³⁷ **And that which thou sowest, thou sowest not that body that shall be, but bare grain, it may chance of wheat, or of some other grain:**

³⁸ **But God giveth it a body as it hath pleased him, and to every seed his own body.**

³⁹ All flesh is not the same flesh: but there is one kind of flesh of men, another flesh of beasts, another of fishes, and another of birds.

⁴⁰ There are also celestial bodies, and bodies terrestrial: but the glory of the celestial is one, and the glory of the terrestrial is another.

⁴¹ There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars: for one star differeth from another star in glory.

⁴² **So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption:**

⁴³ It is sown in dishonour; it is raised in glory: it is sown in weakness; it is raised in power:

⁴⁴ It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body.

45 And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit.

46 Howbeit that was not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; and afterward that which is spiritual.

47 The first man is of the earth, earthy; the second man is the Lord from heaven.

48 As is the earthy, such are they also that are earthy: and as is the heavenly, such are they also that are heavenly. *(Paul explaining how we shall be in heaven spiritual form)*

49 And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly. *(a spiritual body form in which we will be in heaven – a spirit)*

50 Now this I say, brethren, that **flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God;** neither doth corruption inherit incorruption.

51 Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed.

52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.

54 So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.

55 O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?

56 The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law.

57 But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.

❖ **May I now ask you the question: Why was the Millennium necessary?**

1. Well firstly it will be necessary to judge all nations?
2. Secondly it will be necessary to defeat the enemy?
3. Thirdly it will be necessary to restore the earth to its former glory before the flood.
4. Fourthly it will be necessary to restore man and the animals.
5. Fifthly it will be necessary to teach the Law of God to His people.
6. Sixthly it will be necessary to fulfil the scriptures?

- ❖ Then lastly I believe God wants to show us how creation was meant to function in a sinless world.

CLOSE IN PRAYER.....