

“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 and to 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.....