

End Times - The Time of His coming

The Millennium

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Description

When Christ returns to the earth He will rule and reign for 1,000 years. This time is called the millennium and it comes after the tribulation and before the new heaven and the new earth. However, the final judgment will take place after the millennium and before the new heaven and the new earth. The Kingdom of God will have come upon the earth and humanity in full force and expression.

Isaiah 2:2

Now it shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established on the top of the mountains and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow to it.

The Order of Things to Come

In the Book of Revelation, we see the order of things to come in the last days leading to the return of Christ:

- 1) Christ returns with His saints (Revelation 19:11-16)
- 2) The Battle of Armageddon (Revelation 19: 17-21)
- 3) The Binding of Satan (Revelation 20: 1-3)
- 4) The enthronement of the saints of the first resurrection (Revelation 4-6)
- 5) The loosing of Satan after 1000 years (Revelation 7-9)
- 6) The judgment of Satan (Revelation 10)

The Defeat of Satan

Revelation 20:7-10

⁷Now when the thousand years have expired, Satan will be released from his prison ⁸and will go out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle, whose number is as the sand of the sea. ⁹They went up on the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city. And fire came down from God out of heaven and devoured them. ¹⁰The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet are. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

- 7) The second resurrection and the Great White Throne Judgment (Revelation 11-15)

Judgment Before the Great White Throne

¹¹Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them. ¹²And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books.

¹³The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works. ¹⁴Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. ¹⁵And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.

- (1) These events lead us to the fact that Christ will return to the earth before the millennium and rule for 1,000 years.

The Time of His Coming: Pre-Millennial

- 8) The term millennial is Latin and means 1,000 years.
- a) In Revelation 20:2-7, 1,000 years is mentioned six times. This doctrine is about Christ setting up an earthly kingdom that will rule for 1,000 years.

Revelation 20:1-3 - The One Thousand Years

¹Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. ²He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years; ³and 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.

- b) Those who believe Christ will return before the millennium are called pre-millennialists
- c) Post millennialists teach that Christ will return after the 1,000-year reign
- d) Amillennialists do not believe in a physical return of Christ but rather that He will return in the heart of believers.

The Kingdom

The word Kingdom is used in two main ways in scripture:

- a) The word denotes a **ruling empire** and a set order of living under a king
- i) As far as the future Kingdom of Christ is concerned, this is yet to come at an appointed time
- ii) Christ taught believers to pray, "Thy Kingdom come" in the Lord's Prayer
- b) Christ represented Himself as one going to a far country to gain a Kingdom (Daniel 7:13)
- i) At His birth, the angel Gabriel promised Him the Kingdom (Luke 1:32)

Luke 1:32

He will be great and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David.

- ii) Currently, Christ is seated on His Father's throne (Matthew 19:28, 25:31) but the day is coming when He will receive His own throne.

Matthew 19:28

So Jesus said to them, "Assuredly I say to you, that in the regeneration, when the Son of Man sits on the throne of His glory, you who have followed Me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

The Promised Kingdom

- a) This kingdom that God will set up on the earth will never be destroyed

Daniel 2:44

And in the days of these kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people; it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever.

Revelation 11:15

Then the seventh angel sounded: And there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdoms of this world have become *the kingdoms* of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!"

- b) The reign of Christ will commence once the "ten-king empire" of the earth is overthrown and destroyed
- c) God must keep the promise He made with David about this Kingdom (2 Samuel 7:11-16)
- d) The angel Gabriel promised that God would give this kingdom to Christ (Luke 1:32)
- e) Both Matthew and Luke record the lineage of Christ and trace His roots to Genesis
- f) This provides proof that Christ is worthy and qualifies to sit upon the throne (Matthew 1:1-16, Luke 3:23-38).

The Bible Provides Ample Support for The Millennium

The Day of the Lord

- a) Paul the Apostle speaks of the day of the Lord

2Thessalonians 2:2

...not to be soon shaken in mind or troubled, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as if from us, as though the day of Christ had come.

- b) The Old Testament also speaks of the reign Christ on the earth (Joel 2:11, Amos 5:18, Malachi 4:2)
- c) The coming of Christ is considered the Breaking of the New Day (Revelation 2:28, 2 Peter 1:19)

2Peter 1:19

And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts;

- d) This period is widely spoken of in the Old Testament as a time of **joy** and **rest** for the earth.

Close

In the end, Christ will put everything back under the Father's feet and under His authority so that all things may be complete and brought back into order; this was the original plan before the foundation of the earth.

1Corinthians 15:24-28

²⁴Then comes the end, when He delivers the kingdom to God the Father, when He puts an end to all rule and all authority and power. ²⁵For He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet. ²⁶The last enemy that will be destroyed is death. ²⁷For "HE HAS PUT ALL THINGS UNDER HIS FEET." But when He says, "all things are put under Him," it is evident that He who put all things under Him is excepted. ²⁸Now when all things are made subject to Him, then the Son Himself will also be subject to Him who put all things under Him, that God may be all in all.