

End Times - The Time of His Coming

The New Heaven & The New Earth

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Description

After the final judgement, and Satan and his demons are cast into the Lake of Fire, God will destroy the current heaven and the current earth with intense heat and fire—the elements will literally melt the existing heavens and earth. God then creates a new heaven and a new earth, and the Bible describes that there will be a time of righteousness, peace and joy that has never existed. All things will be made new and brought into complete and final order.

The Revealed Purpose of Christ and the Day of the Lord

- 1) The purpose of Christ returning to the earth is to set up His Kingdom that God has given to Him (Matthew 25:31-46, Luke 19:12-15)
- 2) The Father has promised Christ His own Throne (Matthew 19:28, 25:31)
- 3) Christ encouraged His followers to look for this blessed event called, “The Day of the Lord” as promised of the Father (Acts 3:19-21, Matthew 20:20-24)
- 4) The Apostle John also predicted Christ’s return to set up His Kingdom (Revelation 19:11)
- 5) During this 1,000-year reign, the earth will experience unprecedented peace, joy and righteousness
- 6) Christ will reign on the earth physically and literally. Every eye will see Him, and every tongue confess that He is the Christ and Lord.

There are certain **BLESSINGS** that are associated with the **FUTURE KINGDOM**:

- 1) It will cover the entire earth (Psalms 72:6-11)
- 2) The nations will bow down and worship at Jerusalem (Isaiah 2:2-4, Malachi 4:1-3)
- 3) Christ will rule with perfect justice (Isaiah 9:6)
- 4) Israel shall be restored (Jeremiah 23:6)
- 5) One King shall rule (Ezekiel 37:22, 24-28, Zechariah 14:9).

Christ promised the 12 Apostles thrones to sit upon alongside Him (Matthew 19:28)

- 1) This shall occur when Christ returns in all His splendor (Matthew 25:31)
- 2) The believer is also promised that if he qualifies, he shall also rule with Christ (2Timothy 2:12)
- 3) The believer is promised great authority (1Corinthians 6:2) and the privilege and ability to reign
- 4) If we suffer with Him as believers, we should also rule and reign with Him.

It would appear that the early church was largely pre-millennial. This view is based on the writings outside Scripture that point to Christ returning and reigning for 1,000 years. However, from the fourth century, a strong belief in the millennium began to decline based on the following reasons:

- 1) The persecution of the church came to an end when Constantine became a believer
- 2) The Kingdom rule of Christ became widely accepted as symbolic
- 3) People began to believe that the defeat of Satan was actually personal victory in the life of the believer, thus they were already ruling with Christ and He was reigning
- 4) During the dark ages there was little or no interest in the return of Christ, but with the reformation there came a new sensitivity to the subject. Once again, the church turned to the belief of the physical return of Christ and His rule and reign for 1,000 years.

Closing

Reason for John writing Revelation:

- 1) John is writing to an audience facing extreme persecution under Domitian to give them living hope
- 2) What they believed about their future was determined how they lived
- 3) Revelation 21:6 - "To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment"
 - a) Jesus came not only to forgive us of our sin, He came to satisfy the thirst in our soul
 - b) Jesus on the cross says, "I thirst" (John 19:28).