

# KINGDOM NOW & FUTURE

Adult Sunday  
School  
9-10 am  
June 2 -23

1. End Times' Genesis: The Church's Birth
2. End Times' Tribulation: This Generation
3. End Times' Jubilation: The Millennium
4. End Times' Culmination: New Heaven and Earth

HERITAGE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

SERIES: KINGDOM NOW AND FUTURE

## MESSAGE 3. END TIMES' JUBILATION: THE MILLENNIUM

Speaker: Jonas G. Croissant

Good morning dear brothers and sisters in Christ. Today we continue our series *Kingdom Now and Future* with the third message which regards the Millennial Kingdom of Jesus.

Let's pray: *"Dear Heavenly Father, we praise your eternity, goodness, wisdom, and grace. Revelation 1:3 promises us: "Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of the prophecy, and heed the things which are written in it", so we come before you Lord and ask that you may mightily bless us with your marvelous Word. May I be granted power, humility, clarity, and freedom to preach and teach, and may your Word comfort us and give us the hope of these glorious promises, for we ask it in Jesus's name, amen".*

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I have dreamt to teach and preach on the 1000-year reign of Jesus or millennium of Rev. 20:1-10 for many years (please turn there) and today we have the privilege to consider the whole story of the King of History from creation to the future earthly kingdom. If you are a Christian, by the authority of the Word of God, today I am going to tell you your future, or shall I say our

future in the millennium on earth. This future history is as real as your past history! How blessed we are to have the Scriptures! I will endeavor to explain this passage in three parts:

- I. **KINGDOM RISE** (v. 1-3)
- II. **KINGDOM REIGN** (v. 4-6)
- III. **KINGDOM RIOT** (v. 7-10)

## I. Kingdom Rise

<sup>1</sup>Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, holding the key of the abyss and a great chain in his hand. <sup>2</sup>And he laid hold of the dragon, the serpent of old, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years; <sup>3</sup>and he threw him into the abyss, and shut *it* and sealed *it* over him, so that he would not deceive the nations any longer, until the thousand years were completed; after these things he must be released for a short time.

## II. Kingdom Reign

<sup>4</sup>Then I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was given to them. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony of Jesus and because of the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received the mark on their forehead and on their hand; and they came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years. <sup>5</sup>The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were completed. This is the first resurrection. <sup>6</sup>Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years.

## III. Kingdom Riot

<sup>7</sup>When the thousand years are completed, Satan will be released from his prison,<sup>8</sup> and will come out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together for the war; the number of them is like the sand of the seashore. <sup>9</sup>And they came up on the broad plain of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city, and fire came down from heaven and devoured them. <sup>10</sup>And the devil who deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are also; and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever”.

**Christians have 3 different views on the millennium which all come down to how we interpret the 1000 years:** Premillennialism, postmillennialism, and amillennialism. Christians embracing these 3 views are called premillennialists, postmillennialists, and amillennialists, or premils, postmils, and amils. As the names indicate, Premillennialism asserts that Christ will come back pre-millennium, that is before the millennium starts. Postmillennialism teaches that the second coming of Christ will be after or at the culmination of the millennium. Amillennialism teaches that the millennium of Revelation 20 is being fulfilled spiritually in the Church age

between the two comings of Christ and has nothing to do with an actual 1000 years. We will see that the Bible teaches premillennialism.

## I. FIRST, LET'S SEE **THE RISE OF THE KINGDOM**

The Kingdom of God will rise in the future on earth. This is a magnificent story which dates back to the day of Adam. Please turn to Genesis 1:26..., as I read, consider how God established Man as the delegated king to whom He gave all things: "26 Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and **let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing** [...] 28 God blessed them; and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and **subdue it; and rule**". You may never have heard this and yet Scripture affirms that man was made have dominion on the earth, not just live in it. Ruling the earth means wisely building great structures, drilling oil, and extracting the earth's precious minerals, cutting trees and so on. How gracious was God to give to humanity and the first Adam the privilege and command to rule the earth! Psalm 8:4ff: "4 **What is man that You take thought of him, and the son of man that You care for him?** [...] 6 **You make him to rule over the works of Your hands; You have put all things under his feet**". Adam was to reflect God's image for His glory by being a kind, faithful, wise, and powerful ruler on the earth.

The divine plan was perfect by the human execution quickly turned into a disaster! Adam and Eve disobeyed perhaps only a few days later. They were told not to eat the forbidden fruit or else they become mortals, and yet they did. They did not have a baby yet and they had already ruined the beautiful earth of God by sinning and bringing a curse onto themselves. God said to Adam: "**Cursed is the ground because of you**" (Genesis 3:17). The perfect earth, fully good, was now cursed. Natural disasters such as hurricanes, tsunamis, earthquakes, poisonous plants and animals as well as all kinds of diseases were all introduced by the divine curse because of Man's willful disobedience.

But God had covenanted in eternity past with His Son for the redemption of the elects and the renewal of His earthly kingdom was already set to happen. 1 Corinthians 15:45-48 names Jesus the "**second Adam**" and the "**last Adam**" because where Adam failed, Jesus has and will succeed. The second Adam has not sinned like the first Adam did and has thus won a spiritual salvation Kingdom which is not of this world. The last Adam will bring an earthly kingdom, but unlike the first Adam who failed within less than a year, the absolute Ruler Jesus Christ will execute perfect justice on the earth for 1000 years. About this kingdom and the role of the saints in it, Jesus taught that on its inauguration day he will say: "**Come, you who are blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world**" (Matthew 25:34). Indeed, the millennial kingdom of Jesus is an *earthly* kingdom which was foretold in many places in the Bible. Job 19:25: "I know that my Redeemer lives, and **at the last he will stand upon the earth**". Psalm 37:9 "the evildoers will be cut off, **but those who**

**hope in the LORD will inherit the land**". Matthew 5:5: "Blessed are the gentle, **for they shall inherit the earth**". Inheriting the earth equals inheriting the kingdom. This kingdom is not of this world and its evil forces, but it will be *in* this world because earthly creatures are meant to live on earth. The rise of this kingdom is also prophesied to occur after a worldwide tribulation just as in the days of Noah when all were killed but eight people. We read about this tribulation and the following earthly kingdom in Isaiah 24-25. Please open your Bible in Isaiah 24... Listen to the words of Isaiah 24:6: "**Therefore, a curse devours the earth, and those who live in it are held guilty. Therefore, the inhabitants of the earth are burned, and few men are left.**" Then in verse 23, the earthly kingdom begins: "**For the Lord of hosts will reign on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem, and His glory will be before His elders.**" The last generation of men during the tribulation will not pass away until all these things are fulfilled. Listen to Revelation 5:10 and the lyrics of a song of the elders for Jesus in heaven: "**You have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth.**" The Bible speaks unmistakably of a future messianic earthly kingdom.

**And Jesus comes back before the rise of this kingdom, hence the biblical name pre-millennialism.** Please open your Bible in Mat 25:31...: "**When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne**". According to this verse and its context, Jesus first comes in glory with the angels to take the tribulation saints and to kill His enemies, and then He will sit on His glorious throne which Isaiah 24:23 says will be in Jerusalem. The commencement of the millennium will take place after a worldwide cataclysm destroying the earth and its wicked inhabitants to prepare it for the millennial reign, just as God flooded the earth and then restored it for men and His glory.

**With that in mind, let's ponder Rev. 20:1-3.** A mighty unknown angel comes from Heaven to the earth and binds the Devil with a chain. In case you thought that Satan is a close match for God, this text tells us that God does not even have to come Himself to deal with the Devil. One of His Angel can easily capture Satan and lock him up after throwing him down into the pit! John the Baptist used the same word in Mat 3:10 when he said that every bad tree will be cast into the fire. Picture this in your mind. The Devil is cast down by force into the "**abyss**" (v.3) which also a "**prison**" (v. 8). Now the amillennialists and postmillennialists who deny the literal 1000-year reign of Christ teach that Satan was bound at the cross and can no longer deceive the nations because the Gospel advances in the world. However, this is an impossible claim and you know why? Because in our text says that the Devil, and by implication his demons, are thrown into the abyss. **I know why you're not more excited about this... That's because you have to know what kind of prison we are talking about!** That's *not* the kind of prison were prisoners can come out with an ankle monitor under house arrest or parole after repeated offenses. No, no, the Devil does not have a 24,900-mile-long chain long enough to move around the whole earth as freely as he does today. The Greek words for the "**great chain**" (v. 1) is *mega* and it speaks of a highly massive and heavy chain. It's a *mega*-chain. It's probably a figurative chain since Satan is a spirit, but remember figurative language

always speaks of literal reality, so that the Devil will be bound by a mega spiritual power. So, the Angel has this chain in one hand and he grabs the Devil with the other and places Him into the abyss, also called the bottomless pit. Let me tell you no chain is long enough for the Devil to come out of the *bottomless* pit! The biblical word abyss is also used Luke 8:31 when the legions of demons in the possessed man “*were imploring [Jesus] not to command them to go away into the abyss*”. They were imploring Him because by one word Jesus could have sent and locked them there. What is this abyss? This place is always where demons are incarcerated pending their final sentencing to hellfire. Romans 10:6-7 shows that it is the opposite of heaven. This is not the place of holy angels but of fallen angels. We read about it in Jude 6 which talks about the fallen angels Genesis 6:4 who had sexual relations with the daughters of men, “*And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day*”. In Revelation 9:2, an angel who has the key of the abyss opens it and “*there arose a smoke out of the pit, as the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened*”. This is a place of darkness, fire, smoke, and chained devils. This is called a prison because the whole point is to lock devils up to stop their evil altogether. This verse also shows us that demons are allowed to leave once the abyss is opened, although before the opening they had zero impact on the earth. That's what will happen to Satan. He will be thrown into the pit and will have zero influence on the world.

Now in case you think that Satan will just be in a **bottomless open pit**, verse 3 was written: The angel threw the Devil “*into the abyss, and **shut it and sealed it over him**” “so that he would not deceive the nations any longer, until the thousand years were completed” (Rev. 20:3). Obviously, this can't describe our current age since our passage does not give *parole* to the Devil. This bottomless pit will not only be *shut* but it will also be *sealed*. The Greek word *sphragizō* translated “*sealed*” in verse 3 is a very interesting word. It's the same word used in Mat 27:66 for the tomb of Jesus which was sealed so that no one could steal His body. Now that was strong enough as physical seal, but hear what 2 Co 1:21-22 has to say about a spiritual seal: “*And it is God who establishes us with you in Christ, and **has anointed us, and who has also put his seal on us and given us his Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee.***” You are spiritually sealed by the Holy Spirit, and Ephesians 4:30 says that this seal lasts until the day of redemption. This powerful seal is the same kind that only Jesus could open in Revelation. What's the point? Well, a seal from the Creator cannot be removed by creatures! And Satan will be shut and sealed into the abyss and pretending that we are in the millennium and that he is currently bound is ridiculous; an utter caricature of the words of Scripture.*

Furthermore, today, unlike the blessed time of the millennium, the Devil and his minion's rick havoc on the earth and deceive the nations. Satan is the Deceiver. He is called “*the god of this world*” in 2 Corinthians 4:4. The “*prince of the power of the air, who **now works in the hearts of the children of disobedience***” in Ep. 2:2. In 1 Peter 5:8 we are told that “*the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour*”. The Greek word *deceive* in

Rev 20:3 means to lead astray and cause to err. Unlike the millennium when the whole earth be filled with the knowledge of the Lord, Mat 22:29 shows that those deceived today know not the Scriptures or the power of God. Mark 12:27 shows that those deceived deny the resurrection of Jesus. 1 Co 6:9 says that those who are deceived teach that unrepentant sinners will enter the kingdom of God. 2 Tim 3:13 teaches that those who are deceived in the church age are led astray by false teachers who are themselves deceived by the Devil. There is thus no way to biblical maintain that the Devil is currently bound and not deceiving the nations since all these evil things exist today. Surely, people get saved by the Gospel, but 2 Corinthians 4:4 yet reads, "the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God." These descriptions are for the church age and demonstrate that the Devil is currently deceiving the nations but one day he will be locked up for 1000 years. All of this happens after chapter 19 when John saw the return of Jesus who begins his **rule** of the nations] **with a rod of iron**" (v. 15) which is why He name is "**King of kings, and Lord of lords**" (v. 16). The second Adam is victorious over the "dragon, the serpent of old, who is the devil and Satan", unlike Adam and Eve who lost the battle against the serpent in the Garden of Eden.

## II. SECONDLY, LET'S SEE **THE KINGDOM REIGN**

Revelation 20:4-6 reads: **4** Then I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was given to them. (those are the saints who came from heaven are now reigning with Jesus). And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony of Jesus and because of the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received the mark on their forehead and on their hand (these are the tribulation martyrs of Revelation 6-7); and they came to life (they are literally raised up and these include OT saints who will be with us during the millennium. Are you excited to meet David and Isaiah at this time?) and reigned with Christ for a thousand years. **5** The rest of the dead did not come to life (the rest of the dead means that the first and second parts of the dead were both literally dead) until the thousand years were completed. This is the first resurrection (I insisted on the fact that people who died in the tribulation will then enjoy a literal resurrection because amils and postmils say that the millennium is now and have to arbitrarily deny the physical resurrection mentioned here and say that this is a picture of regeneration in the church age. However, the Greek word is never used for regeneration in the NT and always refers to a physical resurrection). **6** Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years". We also know that we are not in the millennium because verse 5 teaches that, "the rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were completed" which means that unbelievers are not present at the beginning of the millennium. All the unbelievers killed by the return of Jesus in Revelation 19 do not enter the kingdom. Now, this never happened in church history since there were always unbelievers,

but the kingdom will have a fresh start with Jesus washing the earth clean of evil by the tribulation and the battle of Armageddon.

We also learn here that the earthly reign of Jesus will last a 1000 years. Here are **10 REASONS TO INTERPRET LITERALLY THE 1000 YEARS:**

**1. Rev. 20 uses definite articles for the 1000 years which demands a definite number.** Six times we read of “**a thousand years**” or “**the thousand years**”. This specific language demands a specific duration.

**2. The word year with a number is always literal in the Bible, there are no exceptions.** The words for year and years appear 62 times in the New Testament and it always means literal years whenever a number precedes it.

**3. Every prophecy involving years in the Bible was fulfilled literally. Genesis 15:13** foretold that Jews would be “**enslaved and oppressed four hundred years.**” And they spent 400 years in Egypt and Exodus 12:41 states that “**to the very day**” they “**went out from the land of Egypt.**” **In Genesis 18** God prophesied to Abraham a son with 89-year-old Sarah who laughed in unbelief, and one year later it happened. **Jeremiah 25:11 foretold** the Jewish deportation in Babylon for “**seventy years**” and the Jews served “**until seventy years were complete**” (2 Chr. 36:21). **Daniel 9 speaks of the prophecy of 490 years in two parts: 483 years and the last seven years.** The 483 years started with the “**decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until Messiah the Prince**” (Daniel 9:25) by the Persian King Artaxerxes on March 14<sup>th</sup> 445 BC until the day when Jesus Christ entered Jerusalem as the Prince riding on a donkey on 9 Nisan AD. 30 (April). That’s again 483 years of fulfilled prophecy to the very day.

**4. The objection of 2 Peter 3:8 holds no water: “with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day”.** The point of this verse is simply to say that God is outside of time. *For the Lord one day is as a thousand years, not for man.*

**5. The objection of Psalm 50:10 holds no water: “For all the animals of the forest are mine, and I own the cattle on a thousand hills”,** and people take this verse to mean that the number 1000 can thus be symbolically used elsewhere in Scripture. But we can’t plug a verse into an unrelated verse and mix and shake the two to come up with a mutant interpretation. That’s not how God wants us to read our Bibles.

**6. This 1000-year reign of Jesus will be a fulfillment of numerous OT prophecies** on an earthly kingdom: cf **2 Sam. 7:12-16; Ps 2, Is. 11:6-12, 24:23; Hosea 3:4-5; Joel 3:9-21; Amos 9:8-15; Micah 4:1-8; Zephaniah 3:14-20; Zechariah 14:1-12.**

**7. Most OT prophecies were literally fulfilled.** Using non-literal interpretation would not have predicted the first coming of Jesus and does predict His second coming.

**8. 1000 years does not fall into the category of figures of speech.** Waymeyer argues that we can identify a figure of speech if the following three elements are present: (i) *reading the passage literally involves an absurdity*; (2) *taking the text figuratively clarifies the meaning*; (3) *the expression falls into known categories of symbols*. Since there is no absurdity with 1000 years, a loss of clarity when taken figuratively, and 1000 years does not fall into a known category of figures of speech, it is not a figure of speech (you can find more details in the book *Christ's Prophetic Plans*).

**9. Most numbers are literal numbers in the book of Revelation.** Waymeyer pointed out that out of the 254 numbers found in Revelation, most of them are to be literally interpreted unless the Bible indicates otherwise. For instance, the 7 spirits of God in Revelation 1:4 is symbolic because Eph 4:4 says that there is “one Spirit” and it is thus absurd to see seven Holy Spirits. This expression symbolically represents the omniscience of the one and only Holy Spirit and echoes the 7 literal ministries of the Spirit in Isaiah 11:2. So, unless numbers cannot possibly be literal like in the case of the Spirit of God, we should understand them literally because this is the rule of language. Consider the 7 golden lampstands of Revelation 1 are the 7 literal churches in various real cities in Asia Minor addressed in chapters 2 and 3. Although the seven churches symbolize all the churches of all times and thus show us what churches will face through the Church age, nonetheless, these were literal churches in real cities of the first century. The 7 stars of Revelation 1 are 7 literal messengers for the 7 real churches. The churches, seals, trumpets, and bowls are all literally seven in number in the descriptions of the book of Revelation. Revelation 21 speaks of “twelve apostles” and we know that there are 12 apostles. The woman of Revelation 12 who has a crown with 12 stars symbolizes Israel and the 12 tribes. The 3 unclean spirits of Rev. 16 are actually 3 in number. The 3 angels connected with the last 3 woes of Rev. 8 add up to a total of 3. Besides, there is no reason to discard the natural meaning of the 7000 men killed by an earthquake in Revelation 11:13, or the 7 kings of Revelation 17, or the 144,000 Jews of Revelation 7, especially because 12,000 Jews are saved from all literal 12 tribes which sum up to 144,000. Rev 12 says that a third of the angels rebelled with Satan and we have no reason to doubt this figure. And even when the same chapter symbolically speaks of the Satan the Dragon with 7 heads, 10 horns, and 7 diadems, it literally refers to 7 past kingdoms and 10 future kingdoms. Furthermore, the last seven years of the 490-year prophecy of Daniel are predicted in Revelation 12 to occur at the end of the world, and the last 3.5 years of these seven years are precisely converted as 42 months and 1260 days. Hence in Revelation, days, months, and years are literal days, months, and years.

**10. Revelation 20:1-10 amazingly parallels Isaiah 24:21-23.** Please open Isaiah 24... The first 20 verses talk about the future tribulation on earth and verse 21 says: “21 So it will happen



in that day, That the Lord will punish the host of heaven on high, and the kings of the earth on earth (that's when Jesus returns in Rev 19). 22 They will be gathered together Like prisoners in the dungeon, and will be confined in prison (that's when Satan is imprisoned in Rev 20); and after many days they will be punished (that's the 1000-year imprisonment of Satan followed by the casting into hell). 23 Then the moon will be abashed and the sun ashamed, for the Lord of hosts will reign on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem, and His glory will be before His elders (that's the reign of Rev 20-21)." For these 10 reasons, the millennium is literal.

**You might ask why in the world Christian scholars disagree about the end times since it is so clear?** Answer: they do not take the chapters of Revelation chronologically. When we read this book, we see that Jesus comes back comes in chapter 19 and then the millennium starts in chapter 20. But they invented a strange view to reject the straightforward reading of Revelation. It's called the recapitulation view. It teaches that Revelation depicts the same thing over and over again with different points of views. They say that chapters 1-3 describe the same events as chapters 4-7 which again describe the same events described in chapters 8-11, 12-14, 15-16, 17-19, and 20-22. They slice the book in seven parts. They say that every few chapters, John just recapitulates what he just described with a different point of view.

## NOW LET ME TELL YOU **8 REASONS TO SEE THAT REVELATION IS NOT A SERIES OF FLASHBACKS BUT A CHRONOLOGY**

**1. Jesus told John to write chronologically in Rev. 1:19:** "Therefore write the things which you have seen (past events), and the things which are (present events), and the things which will take place after these things (future events)." Although John can at times talk about past or future events, just as we do, he generally spoke in a chronological fashion.

**2. The book has continuous chronological indicators.** The expression "Then I saw" appears throughout the book in chapters 1, 6, 9, 10, 13, 15, 19, 20, and 21, which shows that John was receiving a progressive revelation.

**3. Faithful Christians of the seven churches in chapters 2-3 are not promised kingdom rewards during their lifetime but in the future.** In 2:26 we read that God "will give authority over the nations" to one has true faith, and this will happen in the Millennium of Rev 20. And in 2:7, God "will grant [him] to eat of the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God", and this will happen in the new heavens and the new earth of Rev 21. These are not promises ever stated to occur in the church age and are yet the future. Hence chapters 1 to 3 cannot describe the same events described in chapters 20-22.

**4. Rev 12 and 20 are incompatible.** Amils and Postmils say that Revelation 12-14 describe the same events of Rev 20-22. This how they defend it: Revelation 12:9 says that "And the great dragon was thrown down, the serpent of old who is called the devil and Satan, who

deceives the whole world; he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him." So Amils will say that you see this is the same dragon and Devil thrown down that we read about in Rev. 20. Next, they will say that both Rev. 12:12 and Rev. 20:3 talk about the Devil having "a short time". The heavenly scene, the battle of Satan, and other superficial comparisons are said to prove that Rev 12 and 20 both speak about the beginning of the Church age. However, this is clearly not the case because:

- a. In Rev. 12, the Devil is **thrown on the earth** and ricks havoc on it, whereas in Rev 20 the Devil is **thrown into the abyss**. These are two different places brethren.
- b. Besides, I just read in Reve 12:9 that Satan "deceives the whole world" when he is "thrown down to the earth", however Rev 20 says that he is thrown into the abyss so that v. 3 "so that he would not deceive the nations any longer" for 1000 years. You can't have a passage saying that the Devil deceives the world and another saying that he will not deceive the world, and maintain that they both talk about the same thing. They don't.
- c. Now you tell me whether the fact that the Devil has "a short time" in Rev 12 better fits the premil view which says that the passage speaks of the seven-year tribulation before the Devil is judged or if this "short time" refers to two thousand years of church history (the amil view)? Furthermore, in Rev 20 the "short time" is at the end of the millennium, not during the millennium, as demanded by the Amil interpretation of Rev 12.
- d. Rev 20:3 which states that the Devil is cast into the abyss "so that he would not deceive the nations any longer". The "any longer" portion indicates that he was doing this before chapter 20 which fits the chronology of Rev. 6-20.

#### **5. The beast and the false prophet cast in hell in Rev 19 are found there in Rev 20.**

Remember, Amils say that Rev 19 is the end of the world and the story supposedly restarts in chapter 20. But Rev 19:20 says that "the **beast was seized, and with him the false prophet**" are "**thrown alive into the lake of fire**" and at the end of the millennium in Rev 20:10 when "the devil" is thrown "into the lake of fire and brimstone, **where the beast and the false prophet are also.**" Did you hear that? The beast and the false prophet **are already** in the lake of fire. How can that be? Well, that's just because chapters 19 and 20 are chronological,

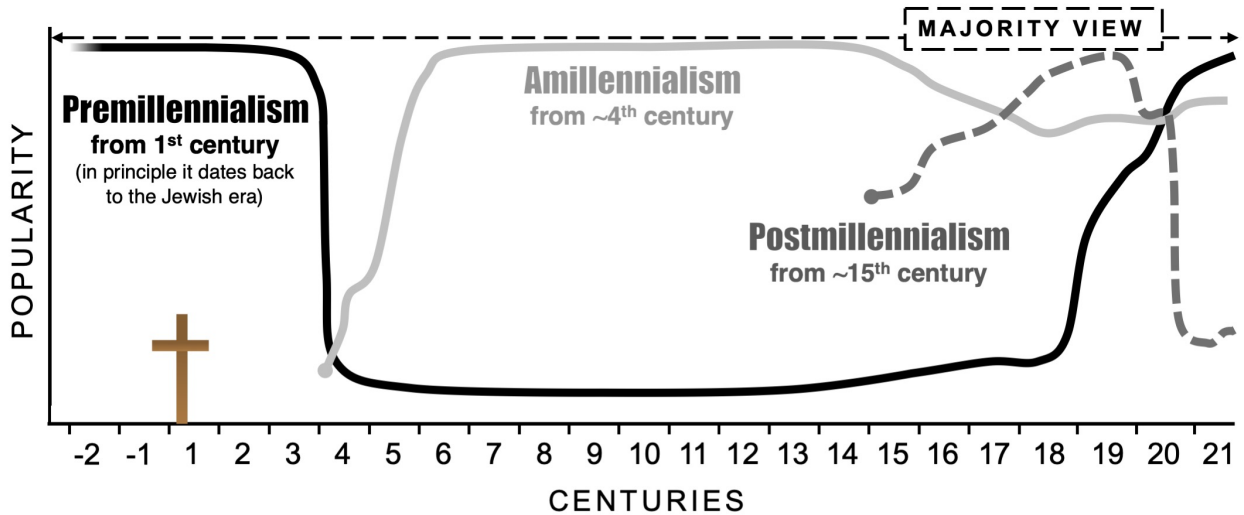
#### **6. The chronology of Revelation is obvious by how the story unfolds.**

Revelation 1 is the prologue. Rev. 2-3 are letters to seven churches representing the church age. Revelation 4-5 has saints in heaven. Revelation 6 to 19 is the tribulation. It exponentially and chronologically grows with judgments as we are literally told in non-apocalyptic passages such as Luke 21. Revelation 19 culminates with the return of Jesus. Rev 20 is the millennial reign. Rev 21 is the New heavens and the Earth, and Rev 22 is the epilogue. Brethren, that's a chronological book.

**7. There can be no earthly kingdom without a King on earth.** Hence the kingdom of Rev 20 must follow the return of Jesus in Rev 19.

**8. The testimony of the early Church.** Please **look at the handout** which depicts the estimated popularity of millennial views in church history.

## MILLENNIAL KINGDOM VIEWS IN HISTORY



Designed by Dr. J. G. Croissant; inspired from a course of Dr. Rick Griffith (ThM, PhD, Dallas Seminary), professor at Singapore Bible College.

You can see that the oldest view is premillennialism which was the majority view during the first three centuries A.D. Isn't it that interesting that the disciples of the apostles were all premillennial? It **very hard** to believe that all the early church held to a futuristic premillennial view and yet that Jesus taught preterism. The view of amillennialism was systematized by Augustine in the fourth century. This view really arose because of three factors. **Number 1. The allegorical method** of interpretation prevalent among philosophers of the day began to influence second-century Christians and this is how they felt no shame in allegorizing Revelation and the literal promises of God to Israel. **Number 2. The Platonic philosophy of dualism** taught that matter is inferior, and that the spiritual world of the soul is superior, and this is really why Augustin and then the majority of Church history until the Reformation embraced amillennialism. God could not promise an earthly reign because matter was seen as inferior. **Number 3. A growing hatred toward the Jews.** Anti-Semitism has been linked to the rise of amillennialism by many theologians. Of course, modern amils and postmils may not be anti-Jews at all, but the facts remain, the Jews were seen as Christ-killers and no kingdom could be promised to them in the mind of many. Amillennialism was thus born because of presuppositions and philosophical influences which lead Christians to believe that only a spiritual kingdom could possibly be promised by God. This has been the view of the Catholic church ever since. During the Protestant Reformation of the 16<sup>th</sup> century, the urgent

priorities of fighting crucial doctrines of justification by faith alone, Sola Scriptura, the Holy Spirit, and ecclesiology sadly explains why the Reformers ignored the reformation of their eschatology. Then, the Puritans in the 18<sup>th</sup> century popularized the view of postmillennialism which is very similar to Amillennialism although it differs in teaching that human society will get Christianized by the Gospel. The view declined in the 20<sup>th</sup> century because (1) liberals adopted a humanistic version of postmillennialism, and (2) the two world wars showed an obvious incompatibility of reality with the postmillennial belief that the world getting better. In the last two centuries, premillennialism has become again the majority view among Christians who studied the Bible on their own and read Revelation chronologically and OT prophecies literally.

**Now let's go back to Revelation 20:4-6 and let me show you the Scriptures which explain what our reign with Christ will be like.** I told you at the beginning that God has planned from eternity past and the book of Genesis to have mankind rule over the earth. Well, God is going to get the plan done in the person of the second Adam Jesus Christ. Christians are going to sit on "thrones [...] and judgment [will be] given to them" (v. 4). Note that the reign of Christians in the millennium is one of the key weaknesses of amillennialism because there is no sense in which Christians are reigning today if one only follows the NT usage of the term. Consider Mat 19:28 where Jesus explains to the apostles their kingdom reward: "**Truly I say to you, that you who have followed Me, in the regeneration** (a term which speaks of the rejuvenated earth in the millennium) **when the Son of Man will sit on His glorious throne, you also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.**" What a reward! They shall reign with Christ and be leaders of Israel in the millennium. Converted Israel will have a unique place of authority during the millennium and the 12 apostles will reign over Israel. Non-Jewish Christians will likely reign over the nations. That's why Jesus said that faithful Christians who worked hard with pure motives for the kingdom in their lifetime will be put in charge of entire cities. Several passages display the future throne and judgment given to glorified Christians in the kingdom. 1 Cor. 6:2: "**Do you not know that the saints will judge the world?**" 2 Tim. 2:12: "**if we endure, we will also reign with him**". Consider the sarcasm of Paul in 1 Corinthians 4:8 when he wrote: "**You have begun to reign without us!**" The reign is future, and the Corinthians were acting arrogantly as if they were already reigning with Christ.

**Now in the millennium, there will be both glorified saints such as raptured Christians and resurrected OT saints and unglorified tribulation saints** who survived the great tribulation. Some Christians have objected to this because of personal biases and say that it seems impossible to have both glorified and unglorified saints together for 1000 years on earth but this is exactly what happened with Jesus was raised. Glorified Jesus with an immortal body came to the disciples, could be touched, he ate and drunk with them, and yet they were still not glorified. We know that mortal humans will enter the 1000 years kingdom from Zechariah 14:16 which follows the Tribulation and killing of the unbelievers on earth, it reads:

"Then it will come about that **any who are left of all the nations that went against Jerusalem will go up from year to year to worship the King**, the Lord of hosts, and to celebrate the Feast of Booths." These come out alive of the great tribulation. And when the Prince of Peace comes, Isaiah 2:4 tells us that there will never be wars again for 1000 years!

These facts answered the who is in the millennium. Let's see the where. The Bible says that the whole earth will be the Kingdom of Christ and the whole earth will be filled with His knowledge. However, Israel has a place of prominence in the millennial kingdom, and the capital of the millennium is Jerusalem. Revelation 20:9 calls it "**the beloved city**". You and I will regularly come or perhaps even live in Jerusalem.

**Now, please turn to Isaiah 65:17**... The passage reads as follows: "17 "For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth; and the former things will not be remembered or come to mind [...] 20 "**No longer will there be in it an infant who lives but a few days, or an old man who does not live out his days; for the youth will die at the age of one hundred and the one who does not reach the age of one hundred will be thought accursed**". Wait a second, I thought we were in Revelation 21 in the new heavens and a new earth when there is no crying, and no death and we just read that people can die. What's going on? This verse only makes sense with premillennialism. Isaiah gives us verses which describe either the millennium or the new heavens and a new earth or both. That's the OT prophetic perspective where descriptions of two prophetic events are merged into one passage. To understand the fact that people can die at age 100 and be called cursed, which is not our case today since we would rather say that they had a fairly long life, you have to have in your eschatology a planet earth which is better than ours with much longer lives and yet that is different from the eternal state where people cannot die. Do you have room in your eschatology to embrace this verse without doing any injustice to it? Amills have no answer although some of the best attempts have been to claim this is an analogy of immortality. Of course, as John Piper pointed out, how could "dying" be an analogy of "not dying"? That's non-sensical. No, that's simply a description of the millennium where people will live hundreds of years and some unbelievers will be judged and die in youth at age 100. You say, this sounds strange? Well, not at all, because Ezekiel 36-37 which speaks of the restoration of National Israel asserts: "**This desolate land has become like the garden of Eden; and the waste, desolate and ruined cities are fortified and inhabited**" (Ezekiel 36:35). The land of Israel will become not Eden, but *like* Eden! The earth will be like a paradise with an excellent climate again without the rigors of the season which appeared after the flood. Hence Amos 9 explains that the whole world will be an agricultural paradise. Isaiah 51:3: "**And [Zion's] wilderness He will make like Eden, and her desert like the garden of the Lord; Joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and sound of a melody** (that's music in the millennium)". So what were Eden times like? Answer: people lived 900+ years! People did not die at age 100, that would be a curse. In the 1000-year kingdom, people will again live 900+ years. The earth will be as close to paradise it can possibly be in a fallen world. People who defy Christ the King with

commit abominable crimes will be put to death, like in the OT theocracy. Those who oppose him will be ruled with a rod of iron. There will be no injustice, corruption, or any such things, it will be a glorious society under Christ's rule. Jeremiah 33:15: Messiah will "execute justice and righteousness in the land". What a day!

**Let's continue with Isaiah 65:21ff:** "21 "They will build houses and inhabit them; They will also plant vineyards and eat their fruit. (yes in the kingdom people will work, just as in the garden of Eden. Jesus said that he would not eat the fruit of the vine until we are in the kingdom) 22 "They will not build and another inhabit, They will not plant and another eat; For as the lifetime of a tree, so will be the days of My people, and My chosen ones will wear out the work of their hands. 23 "They will not labor in vain (yes we will work), or bear children for calamity; For they are the offspring of those blessed by the Lord, and their descendants with them. 24 It will also come to pass that before they call, I will answer; and while they are still speaking, I will hear (that's instantaneous answers to prayers! And watch this). 25 **The wolf and the lamb will graze together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox; and dust will be the serpent's food. They will do no evil or harm in all My holy mountain," says the Lord**". This is consistent with Isaiah 11:6ff: "6 **And the wolf will dwell with the lamb, and the leopard will lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little boy will lead them.** (I think we all agree that today the baby is behind the fence of the animals in the zoo, and the lion and the lamb are in different cages) 7 **Also the cow and the bear will graze, their young will lie down together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox.** 8 **The nursing child will play by the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child will put his hand on the viper's den.** 9 They will not hurt or destroy in all My holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord As the waters cover the sea. 10 Then in that day the nations will resort to the root of Jesse (imagine a society where all people will follow Jesus, at least in the beginning; a society with no doctrinal debate, everyone will be premil! The perfect unity of the faith, a nearly perfect society), **who will stand as a signal for the peoples; and His resting place will be glorious.**" Do you get the picture? Just as during the time surrounding Eden, animals will be herbivores and gentle with babies and humans just as Adam was able to approach all the animals, and touch and name them one by one. Unlike after the fall, people will work and reap a harvest. There will be no shortage of food, no shortage of water, it will be a time of abundance and reward. What a day is coming when Jesus will be worship by the whole world! A day when you and I can personally meet, speak to, and worship Jesus in Jerusalem! What a day or Come Lord Jesus! Maranatha!

Looking at other facets of the future Kingdom, Hebrews 6:5: says that unbelievers in the early Church who witnessed miracles "tasted the goodness of the word of God and the **powers of the age to come**". This implies that miracles will occur at the hand of Christ during the millennium. These are the supernatural powers of the age to come. In fact, the miracles and healings of Jesus really were a preview of the millennial kingdom. And various OT passages also show that preaching and prophecy will also be prominent in the millennium.

**Now let's talk about the millennial temple and sacrifices.** Israel and a sacrificial system will be reestablished God to make Israel be the beacon of light for the world that they were meant to be. This temple is described in Ezekiel 40 to 48. Now, I want to answer 2 typical questions:

**Q1. How do we know that the Ezekiel temple is a future literal temple for the millennium?**

Your assignment is to read Ezekiel 40-48 at home, but here are 10 reasons to expect it:

**1. Ezekiel 40-48 describes specific dimensions** for the temple and other items just as the writings in Exodus and Leviticus. Consider Ezekiel 40:5ff: "5 And behold, there was a wall on the outside of the temple all around, and in the **man's hand was a measuring rod of six cubits** (i.e. these are human dimensions), each of which was **a cubit and a handbreadth**. So he measured the **thickness of the wall, one rod; and the height, one rod**. 6 Then he went to the gate which **faced east, went up its steps and measured the threshold** of the gate, one rod in width; and the other threshold **was one rod in width**. 7 The guardroom was **one rod long and one rod wide; and there were five cubits between the guardrooms**". Once you read the passage, you realize that this will be just as real on earth as the OT temple and tabernacle were. There is no spiritual hidden meaning, it's just how Jesus will build the temple. It's the manual with building specifications so precise that an actual map can be created.

**2.** Dolphin wrote, that this future **"temple in Israel that is much too large to fit on the present Temple Mount site. The Temple of Ezekiel proper measures 875 feet square, and it sits in the middle of a large consecrated area Ezekiel's temple is also very different in many details from any previous temples that have existed in Israel (or elsewhere)"**.

**3.** The millennial temple of Ezekiel 40-48 is **consistent by multiple other OT passages** in Isaiah 2:3, 56:6-7, 60:13, Daniel 9:24, Joel 3:18, Haggai 2:7-9, Zechariah 6:12-15, 8:20-23.

**4.** The section of Ezekiel 40-48 contains many **real names** from the Jewish tribes which **signals historicity**. Again, it reads just as the OT historical passage and yet it is a prophecy.

**5. Zadok's sons will serve as priests in the millennial temple** (Ezekiel 40:46, 43:19, 44:15, and 48:11). Since this tribe never had this role in history, then we know that this is yet future.

**6. Ezekiel 47:8-12 describes the temple surroundings according to the new earth's climate present in the millennium.** A desert next to the Dead Sea will have plenty of sea creatures "10 And it will come about that fishermen will stand beside it; from Engedi to Eneglaim (real places probably near Qumran) there will be a place for the spreading of nets. **Their fish will be according to their kinds, like the fish of the Great Sea, very many.** (i.e. the Mediterranean Sea) 11 But its swamps and marshes will not become fresh; they will be left for salt. 12 **By the river on its bank, on one side and on the other, will grow all kinds**

**of trees for food. Their leaves will not wither and their fruit will not fail. They will bear every month because their water flows from the sanctuary, and their fruit will be for food and their leaves for healing”.**

**7.** Since **the vision of Ezekiel 7-12 regarding the destruction of the first Jewish Temple and the Babylonian deportation literally came true in history** down to the very details, there is every reason to expect the same for the vision of the millennial temple.

**8. Importantly, it is not a return to the Mosaic economy** because in the millennium temple there will be **no** Ark of the Covenant, **no** Holy of Holies, **no** Day of Atonement, and **no** Levitical high priest. These all pointed forward to Christ and He Himself will be present.

**9. Jews interpreted this passage and the Messianic kingdom literally.**

**10. In the OT temple, foreigners and people with physical deformities were excluded** but Isaiah 56:3-7 says that all people will be welcomed in the millennial temple: **“their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be acceptable on My altar; for My house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples”**. This brings us to the question of millennial sacrifices.

**Q2. Why will there be millennial sacrifices and what will they do?** First note that millennial sacrifices are explicitly mentioned in various passages such as Isaiah 66:20-23, Jeremiah 33:18, Ezekiel 43:18-46:24, Zechariah 14:16-21, and Malachi 3:3-4. To explain their purpose, let’s see what happens when you have a perfect human society led by Jesus, and yet children of Christians rebel to follow Satan. That’s part 3 entitled Kingdom Riot in Rev. 20:7-10.

### III. Kingdom Riot

**<sup>7</sup>When the thousand years are completed, Satan will be released from his prison,<sup>8</sup> and will come out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog (that’s the names of ancient enemies of God in the OT which will be given to those who rebel against Jesus), to gather them together for the war; the number of them is like the sand of the seashore. <sup>9</sup>And they came up on the broad plain of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city, and fire came down from heaven and devoured them. <sup>10</sup>And the devil who deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are also; and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever”.**

Satan was *bound* for a 1000 years (v.3) and is eventually *released* from the prison of the abyss. The Greek words translated *bound* and *released* are both used for the donkey that was tied and not going anywhere and then loosed to be used by Jesus for His triumphal entry in Jerusalem. In Mat 16:19 Jesus said to Peter: **“And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be **bound** in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be **loosed** in heaven.”** No one gets into heaven



unless God has opened and loosed the door of the heart by the key of the Gospel of our regeneration. You see when the Angel having the key of the abyss bound Satan, the Serpent did not go anywhere outside of his prison for 1000 years. But, now God lets him loose.

Please note that in only ten verses the preterist camp of the amils and postmils has misinterpreted the words or the implications of the words abyss, chain, Satan, bound, thousand years, shut, sealed, deceive the nations, thrones, reign, had been beheaded, came to life, first resurrection, released, and a short time. Without any doubt, only the premillennial chronological interpretation of Revelation does justice to all the verses of Revelation 20.

In our day, people always have plenty of subject materials to complain about their president or politics. Human rulers always have flaws. But after 1000 years of perfect rule on earth by King Jesus, there will be nothing to complain about! He will be the perfect King the nations have always needed. And yet seemingly at the very second Satan is released, multitudes of unbelievers, children and grandchildren of Christians, will follow Satan! How can it be that creatures will turn against the Creator, the God-Man Jesus who would have been so good for them not for a four, a five, or an eight-year term but for a 1000-year term? How could they hate their King with no reason at all? How could they be so deceived by the Devil to think that Jesus can actually be defeated. After all, they saw for hundreds of years that no one can question His authority and supernatural powers. AMAZING! Brethren, that's what the Bible calls "**The mystery of iniquity**". **The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?** MacArthur said: *"It reminds us [...] that nothing external can change men. Judgment in the great tribulation, think of that. God is pouring out His fury, angels flying through heaven preaching the gospel, a hundred and forty-four thousand witnesses preaching the gospel who are invincible, two witnesses preaching the gospel worldwide who rise from the dead, right in full view of the whole world. Incredible, miraculous judgments falling all around people. They are hearing the gospel like it's never been preached before. It is everywhere. The truth is everywhere. Judgment is everywhere. And people still hate God and hate Christ and will not repent. They will not change in a time of judgment and they will not change in a time of righteousness. They will not change in a time of war. They will not change in a time of peace. They will not change under antichrist's rule, they will not change under Christ's rule. Men love sin in every age and under every condition. They love sin."* How can anyone be saved? By Gospel power through the monergistic divine work of regeneration!

Do you realize how lost in your sins you were? 2 Tim. 2:24-27 say that those who are in opposition need to be granted repentance and knowledge of the truth by God so that "**they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, having been held captive by him to do his will.**" When we are not saved, only God and His sovereign grace can take us out of this sure doom with the Devil and this is tragically illustrated by the release of Satan the riot that begins in Christ's kingdom in Revelation 20:7-9. Unless God elects sinners in spite of themselves, we will all be like Sodom and Gomorrah, Gog and Magog, the Beast and the False Prophet, sinning like hell against our Lord Jesus.

That's why God gave the millennial sacrifices. Ezekiel 43:19-20 describes one such sacrifice: by the "offspring of Zadok", "You shall take some of its blood and put it on its four horns and on the four corners of the ledge and on the border round about; thus you shall cleanse it and make atonement for it". One commentator insightfully wrote: "To the objection that a renewal of 'expiatory' animal sacrifices is unthinkable and would deny the complete efficacy of our Lord's atoning death, the reply is very simple: no animal sacrifice in the Bible has ever had an expiatory efficacy [cf. Heb. 10:4]. These sacrifices were simply a 'remembrance' of the sins committed, and pointed forward to the one sacrifice which would take them away." OT sacrifices were prospective, millennial sacrifices will be retrospective. Speaking of OT sacrifices, Hebrews 10:3 tells us that "**in those sacrifices there [was] a reminder of sins year by year**". Similarly, millennial sacrifices will serve as a memorial of what Christ did.

Imagine entering into this kingdom. There are only Christians, and everything is so peaceful and righteous. Unglorified saints can marry and have children. Presumably after a 100 years, one can die as a young adult or a teenager for cursing his parents or Jesus. Perhaps one hundred years would have passed without having a single death on earth. Unfortunately, not all of the children that are born during the millennial kingdom will come to faith in Christ. That shows you that the best parenting is no certainty of salvation for children. It's all about God's sovereign grace, although He uses and rewards our efforts in many ways. This also shows that the excuse of "children are pure, it's society that corrupts them" is folly. In this paradise, a son may ask why does Jesus had scars on His hands and feet when he saw Him in Jerusalem? The father may then explain the bloody ritual of millennial sacrifices in these words: "Listen, my son, OT sacrifices never atoned for sins, and this sacrifice that we are bringing in Jerusalem will not erase your sins either. It's a visual reminder of Jesus' sacrifice as the Lamb of God on the cross. It's a memorial ritual like the Lord's supper without any power on its own, but if you put your faith in the one sacrifice that Jesus made millennia ago, you will be saved. My son, listen, this animal will die to show you how serious your sins are before God and how much He loves you". In sum, **millennial sacrifices will first be memorial** just as the Lord's supper is, and neither diminish the glories of the work of Christ by being physical reminders of the real atonement. **Second, millennial sacrifices will also furnish an opportunity to worship Christ as "peace offerings"** says Ez. 43:27, that is tributes to Christ's redeeming work.

**In closing**, the message of Revelation 20 speaks to you today. Obey the King of kings and the Lord of lords because the battle won't be long. On that day, unbelievers and devilish forces will be instantaneously devoured by fire from heaven (Revelation 20:9), and verse 10, the "devil who deceived them [will be] thrown into the lake of fire and brimstone" where "they will be tormented day and night forever and ever". O, don't be sent to hell by our God who is a consuming fire! Repent and believe! Listen to Psalm 2:1, 11-12, a messianic kingdom psalm: "**1 Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain? [...] 11 Serve the LORD with fear and rejoice with trembling. 12 Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and you perish in the way, for his wrath is quickly kindled. Blessed are all who take refuge in him**".

# ISAIAH'S DESCRIPTION OF ISRAEL'S FUTURE KINGDOM

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Description	Isaiah passages
1. The Lord will restore the faithful remnant of Israel to the Land to inhabit the kingdom at its beginning.	1:9,25-27; 3:10; 4:3; 6:13; 8:10; 9:1; 10:20,22,25,27; 11:11,12,16; 14:1,2; 14:22,26; 26:1-4; 27:12; 28:5; 35:9; 37:4,31,32; 40:2,3; 41:9; 43:5,6; 46:3,4; 49:5,8; 49:12,22; 51:11; 54:7-10; 55:12; 57:13,18; 60:4,9; 61:1-4,7; 65:8-10; 66:8,9,19
2. As the Lord defeats Israel's enemies, He will provide protection for His people.	4:5,6; 9:1,4; 12:1-6; 13:4; 14:2; 21:9; 26:4,5; 27:1-4; 30:30,31; 32:2; 33:16,22; 35:4; 99:8,9; 49:17,18; 52:6; 54:9,10; 55:10,11; 58:12; 60:10,12,18; 62:9; 66:16
3. In her kingdom, Israel will enjoy great prosperity of many kinds.	26:15,19; 27:2,13; 29:18-20; 22:22,23; 30:20; 32:3; 32:15-20; 33:6,24; 35:3,5,6,8-10; 40:11; 42:6,7,16; 43:5,6,8,10,21; 44:5,14; 46:13; 48:6; 49:10; 52:9; 54:2,3; 55:1,12; 58:9,14; 60:5,16,21; 61:4,6-10; 62:5; 65:13-15,18,24; 66:21,22
4. The city of Jerusalem will rise to world preeminence in the kingdom.	2:2-4; 18:7; 25:6; 40:5,9; 49:19-21; 60:1-5,13-15,17; 62:3,4
5. Israel will be the center of world attention in the kingdom.	23:18; 54:1-3; 55:5; 56:6-8; 60:5-9; 66:18-21
6. Israel's mission in the kingdom will be to glorify the Lord.	60:21; 61:3
7. Gentiles in the kingdom will receive blessing through the channel of faithful Israel.	11:10; 19:18,24,25; 42:6; 45:22,23; 49:6; 51:5; 56:3,6-8; 60:3,7,8; 61:5; 66:19
8. Worldwide peace will prevail in the kingdom under the rule of the Prince of Peace.	2:4; 9:5,6; 11:10; 19:23; 26:12; 32:18; 54:14; 57:19; 66:12
9. Moral and spiritual conditions in the kingdom will reach their highest plane since the Fall of Adam.	27:6; 28:6,17; 32:16; 42:7; 44:3; 45:8; 51:4; 61:11; 65:21,22
10. Governmental leadership in the kingdom will be superlative with the Messiah heading it up.	9:6,7; 11:2,3; 16:5; 24:23; 25:3; 32:1; 32:5; 33:22; 42:1,4; 43:15; 52:13; 53:12; 55:3-5
11. Humans will enjoy long life in the kingdom.	65:20,22
12. Knowledge of the Lord will be universal in the kingdom.	11:9; 19:21; 33:13; 40:5; 41:20; 45:6,14; 49:26; 52:10,13,15; 54:13; 66:23
13. The world of nature will enjoy a great renewal in the kingdom.	12:3; 30:23-26; 32:15; 35:1-4,6,7; 41:18,19; 43:19,20; 44:3,23; 55:1,2,13; 58:10,11
14. "Wild" animals will be tame in the kingdom.	11:6-9; 35:9; 65:25
15. Sorrow and mourning will not exist in the kingdom.	25:8; 60:20
16. An eternal kingdom, as a part of God's new creation, will follow the millennial kingdom.	24:23; 51:6; 51:16; 54:11,12; 60:11,19; 65:17
17. The King will judge overt sin in the kingdom.	66:24

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MacArthur Study Bible (NKJV), p.1055.

**Selected passages predicting the Millennial Kingdom Temple:** Isaiah 2:3, 56:6-7, 60:13, Ezekiel 40-48, Daniel 9:24, Joel 3:18, Haggai 2:7-9, Zechariah 6:12-15, 8:20-23.

**Selected passages predicting Millennial Kingdom sacrifices:** Isaiah 56:7, 66:20-23, Jeremiah 33:18, Ezekiel 43:20,26, 45:15-20, Zechariah 14:16-21, and Malachi 3:3-4.