

Now Concerning Spiritual Things
an historical account of one man's walk with God

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THE MILLENNIAL KINGDOM
PART TWO

The second coming of Christ is the signal event which will trigger the climax of the Great Tribulation¹ and the beginning of the millennial kingdom on earth. The coming of Messiah to rule and reign on earth with absolute authority is what the Jewish nation has looked forward to for many centuries. Here in summary are the events beginning with the Second Coming which lead to the establishment of the millennial kingdom.

The setting for the Second Coming is related to the battle of Armageddon. In preparation, the armies of the world will converge on the tiny nation of Israel through the sixth bowl (vial in KJV) judgment.² Christ will then destroy Babylon in one hour as the whole earth mourns.³ The Antichrist will then send his army to surround and attach Jerusalem.⁴ He will also dispatch forces to Bozrah (Petra) in southern Jordan, at that time the refuge of many Jews who will have fled persecution beginning with the middle of the Tribulation.⁵ These events will trigger the national regeneration and conversion of Israel just before the Second Coming.⁶

Under these circumstances, a now converted Israel will plead for Messiah – Jesus of Nazareth – to come and rescue them from the impossible situation of Armageddon. Then is when Christ returns to earth to rescue Israel, to defeat the Antichrist and judge all the world's unbelievers. At this time He also finally delivers Israel. Christ first returns to Bozrah and rescues Israel from the Antichrist and his armies.⁷ He

then makes His victory descent to the Mount of Olives in Jerusalem⁸ to complete the Second Coming and to establish His earthly reign at the beginning of the Millennium.⁹

As I have previously written, the earthly theocratic millennial kingdom instituted by the Lord Jesus will include all the saved of Israel and the saved of the Gentiles who are living at the time of His return. Scripture makes it clear that the death of all sinners will occur before the institution of the Kingdom,¹⁰ that only the saved enter the Kingdom,¹¹ and that the saints of the Most High shall rule the Kingdom forever and ever.¹²

John F. Walvoord writes of the following seven judgments that will take place at the Second Coming.¹³

1. ***Judgment on the Armies Gathered In the Holy Land.***¹⁴ Under satanic temptations and enticement, the armies of the world will gather in the Holy Land to fight for superiority. This will signal the breakup of the world government and the rebellion of major nations against the world ruler. Satan will gather the armies of the world to have them present in a terrible slaughter of millions of men and their horses. Christ will speak the Word and they all will be killed instantly and vultures will feed on their dead bodies. Here is proof that there is no victory for those who

⁸See Joel 3:14-17; Zechariah 14:3-5; Matthew 24:29, 30.

⁹This brief synoptic overview of "Second Coming Events" was referenced from Thomas Ice & Timothy Denny, *Fast Facts on Bible Prophecy*, Harvest House {Publishers, Eugene, Oregon 97402, p. 184.

¹⁰See Isaiah 1:19-31; 65:11-16; 66:15-18; Jeremiah 25:27-33; 30:23, 24; Ezekiel 11:21; 20:33-44; Micah 5:9-15, etc. Referenced from **J. Dwight Pentecost**, *Things To Come*, Zondervan Publishing House, Grand Rapids, Michigan, pp. 503, 504.

¹¹See Matthew 13:30, 31, 49, 50; 25:31-46.

¹²See Daniel 7:18, 22, 27.

¹³Referenced from **John F. Walvoord**, *Major Bible Prophecies*, Zondervan Publishing House, Grand Rapids, Michigan, pp.381-388.

¹⁴See Revelation 16:13-16; 19:15-18.

¹See Revelation chapters 6-18 for the climax of the Great Tribulation.

²See Revelation 16:12-16.

³See Revelation 18:10.

⁴See Zachariah 12:1-9; 14:1, 2.

⁵See Jeremiah 49:13, 14; Micah 2:12.

⁶See Hosea 6:1-3; Zechariah 12:10-14; Romans 11:25-27.

⁷See Isaiah 14:3-21; Jeremiah 49:20-22; Joel 3:12, 13; Zechariah 14:12-15; Revelation 14:19, 20.

are opposed to God and that future judgment is sure and absolute.

2. Judgment on the World Ruler and His Associate.¹⁵

The world ruler (designated “the beast”) and his associate (designated “the false prophet”), will be captured and thrown alive into the lake of fire, eternal punishment prepared for the devil and his angels but unoccupied until this event. The false prophet performed miracles, signs and deluded those who had received the mark of the beast and worshiped his image. This event marks the end of the times of the Gentiles which began with the capture of Jerusalem in 605 B.C. by Nebuchadnezzar and the Babylonian armies. At this time the whole earth will be brought into subjection to Jesus Christ as King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

3. Judgment on Satan.¹⁶ Satan and his angels will be bound in the bottomless pit (the abyss) and therefore will be inactive for a thousand years. After that he will be set free for a short period of time. The binding of Satan that the apostle John saw in his vision is illustrative language to clearly reveal that Satan will not be loose in the Millennium to do any tempting. Satan’s final judgment will come at the end of the Millennium when he will be cast into the lake of fire prepared specifically for him and his angels.

4. Judgment of Tribulation Martyrs.¹⁷ Tribulation martyrs and apparently all the Tribulation righteous dead will be raised at the Second Coming so they can join the Church in reigning with Christ for a thousand years.

5. Judgment of Old Testament Saints.¹⁸ Old Testament saints will probably be raised at the Second Coming as Daniel prophesied: “Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake, some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt. Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the heavens, and those who lead many to righteousness like the stars forever and ever.” The indication here is that the Old Testament saints will be raised in time to participate in the millennial kingdom, as will all the saved prior to the Second Coming, on a selective basis while the unrighteous will *all* be raised and judged at the end of the

Millennium.

6. Judgment on Living Israelites.¹⁹ At the time of the Second Coming there will be left in the world many living Israelites (and living Gentiles) who will need to survive the purging judgments relative to their qualifications to enter into the millennial kingdom. The general theme of Matthew Chapters 24 and 25 is that of preparedness for the Second Coming. Those who are righteous will enter into the Kingdom blessing. Those who are wicked will be assigned a place of judgment and death. This is indicated by the parable of the ten virgins and the parable of the talents. The five wise virgins along with the five-talent and the two-talent servants appear to be rewarded with entry into the millennial kingdom while the five foolish virgins and the one-talent servants appear to be put to death and excluded from the kingdom. The main point of judgment of the living Israelites is whether or not they are worthy to enter the millennial kingdom since all others will be put to death and will have their final judgment at the end of the Millennium at the Great White Throne judgment.

7. Judgment of the Living Gentiles.²⁰ Gentiles who survive the Tribulation will be subject to the purging judgment of Christ as brought out in the judgment of the nations. Here the sheep (the saved) are contrasted with the lost (the goats). The sheep are saved while the goats are cast into everlasting fire which involves everlasting punishment.

Only adults who are saved will be allowed entry into the Millennium. Children who enter the Millennium who have not reached the age of responsibility will face the question of whether or not they will accept (trust) Christ as Savior and Lord. That portion of the millennium residents who enter the Kingdom as children and those who are born during the Millennium will be judged at the end of the millennial Kingdom.

At the Second Coming of Christ, all of the righteous will have been judged. Only the wicked will be left in the graves and the remaining judgments will deal with the wicked at the Great White Throne judgment. Those who are in open rebellion against Christ throughout the thousand years reign of the King will incur immediate death while those not

¹⁵See Revelation 19:20; 20:10; Matthew 25:41; Luke 21:24.

¹⁶See Revelation 20:1-3, 10; Revelation Chapter 19.

¹⁷See Revelation Chapter 20; Hebrews 9:27; 2 Timothy 2:12.

¹⁸See Daniel 12:2, 3; 1 Thessalonians 4:16; Philippians 3:11.

¹⁹See Matthew Chapters 24 & 25. In a number of judgment predictions, Israel is sometimes judged as a separate people and sometimes they are included in general judgments: Psalm 9:7; 50:3; 96:13; Ecclesiastes 11:9; 12:14; Ezekiel 18:20-28; Daniel 7:9, 10; Amos 4:12 and other scriptures in at least sixteen New Testament books

²⁰See Matthew 25:31-46.

receiving Jesus in their heart will be dealt with at the end of the Millennium.

Jerusalem During the Millennium: The city of Jerusalem during the Millennium will be a greatly changed city. Here are seven evidences of those changes.

1. It will be accessible to all so all who seek the King will find audience within its boundaries.²¹

2. As a part of the “Holy Oblation” the city will be greatly enlarged over its present size.²² Assuming a reed to be 10.56 feet in length, the city will cover ten square miles with a one-half mile perimeter marking within the ten-mile square. (These dimensions assume the length of a *reed* to be 10.56 feet which some bible students believe. Others conclude the length of the *reed* measurement of Ezekiel to be 7.2 feet. In this case the city will cover a seven-mile square area with a one-third mile perimeter marking within the seven-mile square area. Either way the millennial city of Jerusalem will be greatly expanded over its present size.)

3. The city will become the world center of worship of the millennial age.²³

4. It will endure forever.²⁴

5. The city will be protected by the power of the King in such a pronounced way that word will travel far and wide so that its inhabitants will never again fear for their safety from an internal or external source. Hallelujah!²⁵

6. Jerusalem will become a glorious city bringing honor to Jehovah.²⁶

7. The city will become **the center of the millennial earth.**²⁷

Palestine during the Millennium: Palestine will undergo great changes as compared with the time of the original grant made to Abraham and his descendants.

1. Palestine, with its original borders instituted, will become the literal inheritance of Israel

for the first time since God gave the land to Abraham proving once again that God’s word will not return void but will accomplish the purpose for which it was sent, fulfilling God’s covenant with Israel.²⁸

2. The land will be greatly enlarged by comparison to any of its former areas and there will be no PLO (or any other) opposition to the enlarged occupancy since most, if not all, of the opposition will have been slain by the breath of the mouth of the King.²⁹

3. The topography of the area will be changed. Much of the mountainous terrain which characterizes the enlarged area today will become a fertile plain. The changed topography will allow a river to flow out from the temple, either ten or fifteen miles³⁰ north of the northern boundary of Jerusalem, through the city and divide to flow into the Mediterranean and Dead seas to provide an abundance of fresh water for the land. Palestine will become “beautiful in elevation” (or in situation).³¹

4. Fertility and productivity of the land will be so profuse that the plowman will literally overtake the reaper. As one harvest is reaped, another will be planted so that there will be continuous production. Every season of the year will be harvest season.³²

5. Rain at the appropriate time was promised as a sign of God’s approval and blessing throughout the Old Testament while the absence of rain was a sign of God’s judgment and disapproval. Millennial Palestine will experience an abundance of rainfall at the appropriate times to support the profuse fertility and productivity of the land.³³

6. A reconstruction of the land will be necessary after being ravaged during the Tribulation period. The refuse of the destruction, including disposal of dead bodies, removing and disposing of the weapons of war, will be cleaned up with dispatch,

²¹See Isaiah 35:8, 9.

²²See Jeremiah 31: 38-40; Ezekiel 48:30-35; Zechariah 14:10.

²³See Jeremiah 30:16-21; 31:6, 23; Joel 3:17; Zechariah 8:8, 20-23.

²⁴See Isaiah 9:7; 33:20, 21; 60:15; Zechariah 8:4.

²⁵See Isaiah 14:32; 25:4; 26:1-4; 33:20-24.

²⁶See Isaiah 52:1-12; 60:14-21; 63:3; 62:1-12.

²⁷See Isaiah 2:2-4; Jeremiah 31:6; Micah 4:1; Zechariah 2:10.

²⁸See Ezekiel 36:8, 12; 47:22, 23; Zechariah 8:12.

²⁹See Isaiah 26:15; 33:17; Micah 7:14; Genesis 15:18-21.

³⁰See Ezekiel 45:1-6; 48:21. I view this temple as literal, not figurative but separate and distinct from the one in Jerusalem. The ten or fifteen mile distance is based on whether the length of a reed is 10.5 or 7.2 feet in length.

³¹See Isaiah 33:10, 11; Ezekiel 47:1-12; Zechariah 4:7; 14:4, 8, 10; Psalm 48:2.

³²See Isaiah 29:17; 32:15; 35:1-7; 51:3; 55:13, etc.

³³See Isaiah 30:23-25; 35:6, 7; 41:17, 18; 49:10; Ezekiel 34:26.

so the earth may be cleansed again.³⁴

7. Palestine will be redistributed among the twelve tribes of Israel. In Ezekiel 48:1-29 this redistribution is related in detail. Here the Prophet outlines the division into three portions:

(a) The northern land apportioned to each tribe, in this order beginning at the northernmost border and extending southward, Dan, Asher, Naphtali, Manasseh, Ephraim, Reuben and Judah. The borders of each parcel begins at the Mediterranean sea and extends in an easterly direction "From the northern border along the road to Hethlon at the entrance of Hamath, to Hazar Enan, the border of Damascus northward, in the direction of Hamath."

(b) The southern portion is allotted north to south in the following order, Benjamin, Simeon, Issachar, Zebulun and Gad.

(c) Between the northern and southern portions lies a section known as the Prince's portion, within which lies the "Holy Oblation," (that portion of the land set apart for the Lord measuring twenty-five thousand reeds square) which contains at its center, the expanded city of Jerusalem, the southern limit of which coincides with the southern limit of the Holy Oblation. Within the Holy Oblation, equal portions of land are set aside for the Levites and the Priests.³⁵

Gentiles will be Israel's servants during the Millennium. The nations which persecuted Israel and usurped authority over Israel in the past ages will find Israel exalted over them by the King and they, themselves, will be in subjection to the nation they persecuted.³⁶

Here is a word of admonition to every Gentile (non-Jew) concerning the descendants of Abraham. God will bless those who bless them and curse those who curse them.³⁷ David in Psalm 122:2 admonishes us to "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem." I do not believe that there will be peace in Jerusalem until the millennial reign of Christ because the descendants of Ishmael will continue to persecute the descendants of Isaac.³⁸ I therefore believe that to pray for the peace

of Jerusalem is to actually pray for the Second Coming when thereafter the King will rule over the city and true Peace will then prevail. Therefore to pray for the peace of Jerusalem is in essence identical to praying, "Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven." The peace of Jerusalem and the will of God on earth as it is in heaven will occur only after the Second Coming when Christ will reign as King of Kings and Lord of Lords. I am reminded of the time over thirty years ago when the Lord spoke to me and said, "Pray for My family." Then after I had been obedient to His request for many years, He revealed to me that *His family* I had been praying for was the nation of Israel – the flesh and blood relatives of the Lord Jesus. His family continues to be in my daily prayers with more specificity since the revelation of Israel as *His family*. Join me in praying for Israel to bless and receive a blessing.

As a matter of further interest, because I have been faithful in praying for *His family* as I was directed, He has revealed to me that I am participating in the calling out, equipping and preparation of the 144,000 Jews who will be protected and sealed as servants of God during the Great Tribulation. And He has given me one of my assignments for the Millennium: a Gentile representative to the nation of Israel. So I believe I will be traveling to Jerusalem periodically to meet with and report to whomever may be my immediate superior in the capitol city of the Millennial world. These events may be much closer than most think. Too many of God's servants are saying the same thing for me to believe otherwise. It took some time for me to get over the impact of God needing ***ANYBODY*** to pray for His family. However, upon reflection, human vessels are the only means He has to bring about His desires, His will on the earth. The short three and one-half year ministry of Jesus is a good example. When the Holy Spirit was sent seven days after Jesus ascended back to heaven, He had done His part. He then commissioned³⁹ His followers to take up where he left off and *demonstrate His reality* to the world. Unless individuals do His bidding, it won't be done. You and I have a great responsibility ***AND*** a great opportunity. It's a fun trip serving the Lord. Believe me!

... more about the millennial Kingdom next time, the Lord willing.

³⁴See Isaiah 32:16-18; 49:19; 61:4, 5; Ezekiel 36:33-38; 39:9.

³⁵See Ezekiel Chapter 48.

³⁶See Isaiah 14:1, 2; 49:22, 23; 60:14; 61:5; Zechariah 8:22, 23.

³⁷See Genesis 12:3.

³⁸See Galatians 4:28, 29.

³⁹See Matthew 28:16-20; Mark 16:14-18; Luke 24:36-49; John 20:19-23; Acts 1:6-8.