

Doctrinal Summary of The Millennial Reign of Christ

In Revelation 11:15 John records loud voices in heaven identifying that the kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of Christ.

“Then the seventh angel sounded; and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, ‘The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ; and He will reign forever and ever.’”

The word “world” in the phrase “kingdom of the world” is translated from the Koine Greek word κόσμου (“kos-mou”) which literally means, “world system, based on initiation.” It is a reference to all that is in the created universe, both material and immaterial. This includes the beings, the planets, and the laws that govern their existence and operation, and relationships. The kingdom of the world is the government over that world system. Jesus identified Satan as the ruler of the present (fallen) world in John 14:30. However, Satan’s governance over the kingdom of the world will end with a new government being put in place over the world with Jesus as its king.

The word “become” is translated from the Koine Greek word ἐγένετο (“eh-geh-ne-to”) which literally means, “it really has participated in the action in a point in time to come into existence through transition from one state into another.” When Jesus returns to the world with His bride at the end of the tribulation He takes possession of the kingdom of the world as His own and He will “reign forever and ever.” This is accomplished through His judgment of the nations (cf. Matt. 25:31-46), the binding of Satan in the abyss for one thousand years (cf. Rev. 20:1-2), and the establishment of His kingdom (cf. Luke 1:32-33). Thus, the seventh angel announces that the transition of Satan’s governance over the world system to Jesus Christ’s governance has taken place so that Christ reigns as King.

The word “reign” is translated from the Koine Greek word βασιλεύσει (“ba-si-leu-sei”) which literally means, “He will really perform the action in a point in time in the future to possess and exercise supreme authority and power over a specified area.” Jesus Christ will become the One with supreme authority and power over the world system and He will exercise that authority forever beginning with a period of one thousand years that provides time for tribulation saints’ offspring to be redeemed should they choose to respond to Jesus as the Christ during His reign. During the millennial reign Jesus Christ will bring peace and righteous leadership to the world. This peace and leadership extends to all parts of the world system including the animal kingdom as 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” (cf. Is. 11:6ff).

Church age believers, as the bride of Christ, will rule and reign alongside of Jesus Christ during His kingdom (cf. Rev. 3:21; 1 Jn. 5:4-5; Rev. 20:4). Furthermore, they will have picked up a stewardship to carry out during the millennial reign having been based upon their faithfulness in carrying out God’s designed plan for their life during the church age (cf. Matt. 25:14-30; 1 Cor. 3:8-15;). Old Testament saints and tribulational saints will reign as regents during this time (cf. Deut. 28:1,13; Rev. 20:4) being under the authority of Jesus Christ and the church (cf. Matt. 19:28).

The millennial reign of Christ is one last expression of God’s grace and mercy allowing the offspring of tribulational saints alive at the second advent one thousand years to believe in Christ as their savior before the final judgment, the great white throne judgment.