

The End Times and The Last Days – What to Expect and How to Prepare

Lesson 32 “What is the Purpose of the Millennium?”

The Premillennial position believes that Jesus will come to establish His Messianic Kingdom on earth, but why will there be a literal earthly Millennium?

What is the purpose it will fulfill?

Why is it necessary?

According to Scripture, there are three important functions in the plan of God:

1. To Reward the Faithful –

He will do this by giving them authority to reign over the earth.

Jude 1:14 “Enoch, who lived in the seventh generation after Adam, prophesied about these people. He said, “Listen! The Lord is coming with countless thousands of His holy ones.”

Rev 19:14 “The armies of heaven, dressed in the finest of pure white linen, followed Him on white horses.”

- After Jesus defeats the Anti-Christ and his armies and judges the nations, He will establish His Kingdom on earth for a 1,000 yr. reign.
- The Kingdom will include worship and serving the Lord Jesus Christ.
- It also emphasizes that we will be ruling with Christ – Dan. 7:18, 21, 22, 27
“But in the end, the holy people of the Most High will be given the kingdom, and they will rule forever and ever.”

As I watched, this horn was waging war against God’s holy people and was defeating them, ²² until the Ancient One—the Most High—came and judged in favor of His holy people. Then the time arrived for the holy people to take over the kingdom.

Then the sovereignty, power, and greatness of all the kingdoms under heaven will be given to the holy people of the Most High. His kingdom will last forever, and all rulers will serve and obey Him.”

Believers will be the judges over the world:

1Cor 6:2-3 “Don’t you realize that someday we believers will judge the world? And since you are going to judge the world, can’t you decide even these little things among yourselves? ³ Don’t you realize that we will judge angels? So, you should surely be able to resolve ordinary disputes in this life.”

Rev 2: 26-28 “To all who are victorious, who obey Me to the very end, to them I will give authority over all the nations. ²⁷ They will rule the nations with an iron rod and smash them like clay pots. ²⁸ They will have the same authority I received from My Father, and I will also give them the morning star!”

Rev 20:4, 6 “Then I saw thrones, and the people sitting on them had been given the authority to judge. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their testimony about Jesus and for proclaiming the word of God. They had not worshiped the beast or his statue, nor accepted his mark on their foreheads or their hands. They all came to life again, and they reigned with Christ for a thousand years. ⁶ Blessed and holy are those who share in the first resurrection. For them, the second death holds no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him a thousand years.”

During this present age, the Lord is testing and examining His people to determine their future position of authority and responsibility in the Millennium Kingdom. Believers will be given rulership in the Kingdom over men and angels based on what we did with the treasures and talents God entrusted us with here on earth – Luke

19:12-26 “He said, “A nobleman was called away to a distant empire to be crowned king and then return. ¹³ Before he left, he called together ten of his servants and divided among them ten pounds of silver, saying, ‘Invest this for me while I am gone.’ ¹⁴ But his people hated him and sent a delegation after him to say, ‘We do not want him to be our king.’

¹⁵ “After he was crowned king, he returned and called in the servants to whom he had given the money. He wanted to find out what their profits were. ¹⁶ The first servant reported, ‘Master, I invested your money and made ten times the original amount!’

¹⁷ “‘Well done!’ the king exclaimed. ‘You are a good servant. You have been faithful with the little I entrusted to you, so you will be governor of ten cities as your reward.’

¹⁸ “The next servant reported, ‘Master, I invested your money and made five times the original amount.’

¹⁹ “‘Well done!’ the king said. ‘You will be governor over five cities.’

²⁰ “But the third servant brought back only the original amount of money and said, ‘Master, I hid your money and kept it safe. ²¹ I was afraid because you are a hard man to deal with, taking what isn’t yours and harvesting crops you didn’t plant.’

²² “‘You wicked servant!’ the king roared. ‘Your own words condemn you. If you knew that I’m a hard man who takes what isn’t mine and harvests crops I didn’t plant,

²³ why didn’t you deposit my money in the bank? At least I could have gotten some interest on it. ²⁴ “Then, turning to the others standing nearby, the king ordered, ‘Take the money from this servant, and give it to the one who has ten pounds.’

²⁵ “‘But, master,’ they said, ‘he already has ten pounds!’

²⁶ “‘Yes,’ the king replied, ‘and to those who use well what they are given, even more will be given. But from those who do nothing, even what little they have will be taken away.

- Some will be governors over ten cities, some will rule over five cities.
- All believers will reign, but the extent and responsibility of that reign is being determined right now in our life.
- As it is said: **“The Training for Reigning Is Now!”**

2. To Redeem Creation –

The curses upon the earth and mankind will be reversed during the Millennium. There are five curses pronounced upon the earth and mankind after the Fall in the Garden of Eden: Gen 3:14-19

1. Serpent
2. satan
3. the woman
4. the man
5. Nature

Gen 3:14-19 “Then the LORD God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this, you are cursed more than all animals, domestic and wild. You will crawl on your belly, groveling in the dust as long as you live.

¹⁵ And I will cause hostility between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring. He will strike your head, and you will strike his heel.”

¹⁶ Then he said to the woman, “I will sharpen the pain of your pregnancy, and in pain you will give birth. And you will desire to control your husband, but he will rule over you.” ¹⁷ And to the man he said, “Since you listened to your wife and ate from the tree whose fruit I commanded you not to eat, the ground is cursed because of you.

All your life you will struggle to scratch a living from it. ¹⁸ It will grow thorns and thistles for you, though you will eat of its grains. ¹⁹ By the sweat of your brow will you have food to eat until you return to the ground from which you were made.

For you were made from dust, and to dust you will return.”

- During the Millennium, all animals will revert to being plant eaters as they were originally in Creation – Gen 1:30.
- The wolf and the lamb will lie down together in harmony, and the child will be able to play next to a poisonous snake – Isa. 11:6 – 9 “In that day the wolf and the lamb will live together; the leopard will lie down with the baby goat. The calf and the yearling will be safe with the lion, and a little child will lead them

all. ⁷The cow will graze near the bear. The cub and the calf will lie down together. The lion will eat hay like a cow. The baby will play safely near the hole of a cobra. Yes, a little child will put its hand in a nest of deadly snakes without harm. ⁹Nothing will hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain, for as the waters fill the sea, so the earth will be filled with people who know the LORD.”

Those who think we are NOW in the Millennium should try putting these animals together and see what happens!!

We are not there YET!

- The earth will become amazingly productive and beautiful as the deserts will blossom like a rose – Isa. 35:1-7.
- The earth will be like a huge Garden of Eden
- God’s original purpose was to bring all things under the dominion of humankind and to submit all things to Himself through human beings – Gen. 1:26-27
“Then God said, “Let us make human beings in Our image, to be like us. They will reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, the livestock, all the wild animals on the earth, and the small animals that scurry along the ground.” ⁷So God created human beings in His own image. In the image of God, He created them; male and female He created them.”

III: Johann Sebastian Bach sometimes would sleep more than he should have. His children had a unique way of waking him up.

They would go to the piano and begin to play a composition.

When they got to the last note, they would stop. They wouldn’t play the last note.

It worked like a charm and would always wake him up.

He would get up and go to the piano and play the final chord. He couldn’t stand to leave it hanging there incomplete – unfinished.

In the same way, we are all waiting for the last note on the final page of God’s song of victory. God will not leave His grand composition without striking the final note.

THE FINAL NOTE IS THE MESSIANIC KINGDOM OF JESUS CHRIST!

3. To Realize the Biblical Covenants –

God made very special promises/covenants to Israel through Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, David, and others.

God made four unconditional covenants with His followers:

1. The Abrahamic Covenant –
2. The Land Covenant –
3. The Davidic Covenant –
4. The New Covenant –

None of these four have been literally fulfilled.

Jesus, the Son of David will fulfill them when He comes to sit on the Throne of David and rules over the house of David from the City of David, Jerusalem.

He will fulfill the Abrahamic covenant and its promises of the land and descendants; The Land covenant with its promise of the land; the Davidic covenant with its promises concerning David's house, throne, and kingdom; and the New Covenant with its promises of a new heart, the forgiveness of sins, and the indwelling of the Spirit for a converted nation.

Without the Millennial reign of Christ, these covenants remain incomplete and unfulfilled.

The Millennium is no optional part of Gods' plan for the end times.

It must occur for God to keep His promises to reward the faithful with authority, redeem creation from the Curse, and realize the Biblical covenants by fulfilling His Promises.