

Seeking My King & His Kingdom

Lesson #37 The Millennial Kingdom In God's Word

The Millennium is a part of God's overall plan for mankind and creation. The Bible, specifically the New Testament, places great emphasis on the future and preparing for eternity.

As Christians, we are to live our present lives in view of eternity. How we live now reveals our heart's view of God and will to some extent, determine our role for the future.

Brewster: "If The Word of God were a treasure map, I believe more people would read it. This proves they have no idea what unspeakable riches it holds."

Isa. 33:6 And wisdom and knowledge shall be the stability of thy times, and strength of salvation: the fear of the LORD is his treasure.

"Within these pages lie a secret treasure and a hidden power to which nothing can compare. It is full of truth and life for those who find it."

Therefore we should seek to understand the riches of God's Word and His Amazing Grace, hide His Word in our hearts so we will be found always walking according to God's plan.

He Promises to never forsake us. He is our sure and certain hope, our anchor. [Heb. 6:19]

A. Millennium comes from 2 Latin words:

Mille = 1000 Annum = Year

Greek word "chilias" = 1000 = appears 6x in Rev. 20. Defines the duration of Christ's kingdom
Rapture > 7 Year Tribulation [Time of Jacob's Trouble] > Christ's 2nd Coming >
1000 Year Millennial Kingdom > Satan's Final Rebellion > Great White Throne > Eternity

B. It Is Christ's Time of His Manifestation and His Time of Revelation

He will reign in time and space.

"Christ, in all of His glory, will institute His reign of righteousness and peace.

During the millennium, the unveiled glory of Christ will shine forth in all of its fullness."

Hab. 2:14 For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.

C. The Millennium is the Fulfillment & The Climax Of All God's Redemptive Promises & Redemptive Purposes Since The Fall Of Man

It is the realization of our hope - the Hope of the Saints of all ages.

It will culminate in the Kingdom Of Our Lord Jesus Christ - Paradise Regained!

It is also referred to:

- "the times of restitution" Acts 3:21
- "the times of refreshing" Act 3:19
- "the regeneration" Matthew 19:28
- "the dispensation of the fullness of times" Eph. 1:10
- "the 1000 year reign of Christ" Rev. 20:1-10

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| • "the Day of the Lord" | Isa. 2:12; 13:6,9 |
| • "that Day" | Isa. 2:11; Zech. 12:8-11 |
| • "the world [age] to come" | Matt. 12:32; Luke 20:35 |
| • "the Kingdom of Christ and of God" | Eph. 5:5; Matt. 20:21 |
| • "the Kingdom of God" | Mark 14:25; Luke 19:11 |
| • "the Kingdom of Heaven" | Matt. 3:2, 4:17; 5:3 |
| • "the consolation of Israel" | Luke 2:25 |
| • "the redemption of Jerusalem" | Luke 2:38 |

D. God's Word Is Filled With References To The Millennial Kingdom

- There are ~31,102 verses in God's Word
- ~2,163 reference the Millennium = ~15%
- ~1845 References in 17 of the Old Testament Books
- ~ 318 References in 23 of the New Testament Books

E. Scripture divides time [entire period from the creation of Adam to the "new heaven and a new earth" of Rev. 21:1] into 7 unequal periods, usually referred to as Dispensations [Eph. 3:2]. These periods are also called ages [Eph. 2:7] and days, as in "the day of the Lord."

- Dispensations are a method of interpreting history that divides God's work and purposes toward mankind into different periods of time. It is not an explicitly taught doctrine of God's Word. The value of dispensationalism lies in its systematic view of history's different eras and the various ways in which the Ancient of Days interacts with His creation.
- Dispensations are a moral or probationary period in man's history.
- These periods are marked off in Scripture by some change in God's method of dealing with mankind, or a portion of mankind, in respect of the two questions: of sin and of man's responsibility.
- Each dispensation may be regarded as a new test of the natural man.
- Each dispensation ends in judgment, marking man's utter failure in every dispensation.
- God begins each period by placing man in a favorable position. He leaves man to his own utter failure. Then God in His mercy intervenes and places man in a new position of blessing.

The 7 Dispensations

1. AGE OF INNOCENCE was from the "Creation of Man" and his commission to rule over the Earth to the "Fall of Man" and his expulsion from the "Garden of Eden." God's Commands:

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| a. Replenish the Earth With Children | b. Subdue the earth |
| c. Have dominion over the animals | d. Care for the garden |
| e. DO NOT EAT the fruit from the Tree of Knowledge of Good & Evil | |

God warned of the punishment: spiritual [immediate] and ultimately physical death.

Adamic Covenant > Gen. 3:16-19 - Includes 1st Prophecy in the Bible

A. Curses & Death Pronounced: Note: God decreed 7 judgments because of sin.

1. Satan is cursed for as long as he lives.

2. Satan's head will ultimately be crushed.
3. Throughout history, there will be conflict between the serpent's offspring and the woman's offspring; between good and evil.
4. Painful childbirth for women
5. Marital strife; women are to submit to their husband
6. Men have to work to feed themselves. The soil cursed; thorns & thistles; survival =struggle
7. Death introduced and will be the inescapable fate of all living things.

This short-lived dispensation ended due to Adam and Eve's failure to NOT EAT the forbidden fruit. This dispensation ended with the human race under condemnation and the whole earth cursed. Men claim that innocence and a perfect environment are safeguards against wrongdoing, but the catastrophe of Eden proves this is not true. Its far-reaching effects were the most disastrous. It closed in judgment. "So He drove the man out."

2. AGE OF CONSCIENCE - Gen. 3:8 - 8:22

a. Demonstrates what man will do if left to his own will and conscience which has now been tainted by the inherited sin nature.

<i>Stewards:</i>	Cain and Seth and their families	
<i>The Period:</i>	Expulsion from the Garden of Eden until the Flood, about 1,656 years	
<i>Responsibility:</i>	To do good and offer blood sacrifices [Genesis 3:7, 22; 4:4]	
<i>Failure:</i>	Wickedness	[Genesis 6:5-6, 11, 12]
<i>Judgment:</i>	The worldwide Flood	[Genesis 6:7, 13; 7:11-14]
<i>Grace:</i>	Noah and his family are saved	[Genesis 6:8-9; 7:1; 8:1]

3. Dispensation of HUMAN GOVERNMENT, a period of 429 years, is recorded in Gen. 8:15-11:32. It includes from the "Flood of Noah" to the "Call of Abraham."

<i>Stewards:</i>	<u>Noah</u> [1 st Civil Leader] and his descendants	
<i>The Period:</i>	From the Flood to the confusion of tongues at Babel, about 429 years	
<i>Responsibility:</i>	Obey God; To scatter and multiply	[Gen. 9]
<i>Failure:</i>	Refusal to scatter and the building of the <u>tower of Babel</u>	[Gen. 11:1-4]
<i>Judgment:</i>	Confusion of languages	[Gen. 11:5-9]
<i>Grace:</i>	<u>Abraham</u> is chosen—the start of the Jewish race	[Gen. 12:1-3]

4. AGE OF PROMISE, a period of 430 years, is recorded in Gen. 12 - Exodus 19:25.

It includes from the "Call of Abraham" through the lives of the Patriarchs to the Exodus of Israel from Egypt under Moses. God developed a great nation that He had chosen as His people. The basic promise was the Abrahamic Covenant, an unconditional covenant.

<i>Responsibility:</i>	Obey God; Dwell in the Land
<i>Failure:</i>	Disobeyed God; Dwelt in Egypt
<i>Judgment:</i>	Egyptian Bondage

5. AGE OF LAW, a period of ~1718 years, includes from the giving of the Law at Mt. Sinai until it was suspended with the death of Jesus Christ.

Responsibility: Keep & Do the Law Of Moses
 Failure: Broke The Law
 Judgment: Christ, the Messiah, was crucified; Worldwide dispersion of Israel
 The Jewish nation still owes God 7 years of the 490 years He required of them.

6. AGE OF GRACE [Church Age] began with the new Covenant in Christ's blood. It starts with the coming of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost and will end with the Rapture of the Church [I Thess. 4]. This dispensation occurs between the 69th & 70th week of Daniel 9:24.

- Dispensation is worldwide and includes both Jews & Gentiles.
- Man's responsibility = Repent & Believe in Jesus, the Son of God
- Holy Spirit indwells believers as the Comforter [John 14:16-25]
- Has lasted +2,000 years - No one knows when it will end, but it will end with the Rapture of all born-again believers. Drawing to a close

Complete the Age of Law: 7 years Israel owes God. Time Of Jacob's Trouble

7. Seventh Dispensation = Millennial Kingdom Of Jesus Christ

It brings about the culmination of life on Earth and the closest thing yet to how God really wanted to live with us on this planet.

- Last 1000 years - Jesus Christ will rule on earth as king over Israel and the nations of the world. [Isa. 2:4; 42:1]
- Fulfills the prophecy to the Jewish nation that Messiah will return and be their King.
- Initially, everyone will worship God. [Isa. 2:2-3]
- The world will live in peace. [Isa. 11:6-9; 32:18]
- Satan will be bound. [Rev. 20:1-3]
- God will fulfill promises made to the world that cannot be fulfilled while Satan is free and humans have political authority.
- Some of these promises, called covenants, were given specifically to Israel. Others were given to Jesus, the nations of the world, and creation. All of these will be fulfilled during Jesus' 1,000-year reign.
- Ends with the final judgment of Rev. 20:11-14 - Satan is loosed from his prison to return to earth. He will be able to gather a great and terrible army which will attack the City of God and try to overthrow Jesus Christ.

In the Tribulation Period of 7 years, all of man's failures come to awful fruition:

Innocence	Men live the lie and call evil good.	Gen. 3:5
Conscience	Corrupt minds ignore God's Word	Matt. 24:37-39
Government	World unites with antichrist against God	
Promise	Israel is in the Promised Land, but in UNBELIEF	
Law	Rebuilt Temple is given over to false worship	
Grace	Apostate church is aligned with the antichrist	
Tribulation Period	Ends with the battle of Armageddon in Revelation 19.	

During The Millennial Kingdom, the disorder of the previous ages is corrected.

Innocence	God's truth is known by all men.	Jer. 31:34
Conscience	God's people have holy hearts to serve Him.	Jer. 31:33
Government	Christ rules from Jerusalem	
Promise	Israel is in her land. Abrahamic & Davidic Covenants are fulfilled.	
Law	True temple worship declares that Christ has fulfilled the Law.	
Grace	True Church is with Christ in His glory	

God's Purpose in The Dispensation of The Millennial Kingdom

1. To put down all rebellion and all enemies under the feet of Christ so that God may be all in all as before rebellion. [I Cor. 15:24-28; Heb. 2:7-9; Eph. 1:10]
2. To fulfill the everlasting covenants made with Abraham [Gen. 12, 13 & 15]; Isaac [Gen. 26]; Jacob [Gen. 28:35] and David [II Sam. 7] and others.
3. To vindicate and avenge Christ and His saints [Matt. 26:63-66; Rom. 12:19; Psa. 2; Isa. 63; Rev. 1:7; 6:9-11; 19:1-10; I Pet. 1:10-11; II Tim. 4:7-8; Rom. 8:17-21]
4. To restore Israel and deliver them from the nations and make them the head of all nations forever. [Acts 15:13-17; Matt. 24:31; Isa. 11:11; Ezek. 20:33-44, 38, 39; Deut. 28]
5. To exalt the saints of all ages in some kingly or priestly capacity according to the promises and according to their works [Rom. 8:17-21; 14:10-11; II Cor. 5:10; Phil. 3:20-21; Col. 3:4; I Pet. 1:10-13; 5:1, 4; Rev. 1:5; 2:26; 5:10; 11:18; 12:5; 20:4-6; I Cor. 6]
6. To gather together in "one" all things in Christ which are in heaven and in earth [Eph. 1:10] and restore all things as before the rebellion [Acts 3:20-21; I Cor. 15:24-28]
7. To judge the nations in righteousness and restore the earth to its rightful owners [Isa. 2:2-4; 11:1-11; Matt. 25:31-46; Dan. 7:9-27; I Cor. 6]
8. To restore a righteous and eternal government on earth as originally planned [Isa. 9:6-7; 11:1-19; 42:1-5; Dan. 2:44-45; 7:13-27; Luke 1:32-35; Rev. 11:15; 19:11-16; 20:4-6]
9. To fulfill the scores of prophecies concerning the reign of The Messiah [Dan. 9:24; Acts 3:20-21; I Pet. 1:10-13]

The Means To Accomplish God's Purposes

God will send Jesus Christ with the mighty angels and all the resurrected and glorified saints from heaven:

1. To put down all rebellion on earth
2. Bring all rebels into judgment
3. Complete dispensational dealings of God with men
4. So that all the curse may be removed
5. The kingdom of God become established permanently over the earth as in the beginning

Matt. 24:29-31 Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken: ³⁰ And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven:

and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.

And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

Matt. 25:31-46 When the Son of man shall come in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then shall He sit upon the throne of His glory: ³² And before Him shall be gathered all nations: and He shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats: ³³ And He shall set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left.

II Thess. 1:7-10 And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, ⁸ In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: ⁹ Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of His power; ¹⁰ When He shall come to be glorified in His saints, and to be admired in all them that believe (because our testimony among you was believed) in that day.

Rev. 19:11-21 And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and He that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He doth judge and make war. His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. ¹³ And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. ¹⁴ And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. ¹⁵ And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.

¹⁶ And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS. ¹⁷ And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God;

¹⁸ That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all men, both free and bond, both small and great.

¹⁹ And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army.

²⁰ And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.

²¹ And the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, which sword proceeded out of his mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh.

Rev. 20:1-3 And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. ² And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, ³ And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season.