



THE MILLENNIUM

A booklet written to consider the reality of what lies ahead during the millennial reign of Christ when Jesus will be King of all the earth and the saints have put on immortality, ruling with Christ with a rod of iron. It will see all Israel saved and all Israel restored to their land. The lion will lie down with the lamb, swords will be beaten into ploughshares. Children will not die as infants any longer and dying at 100 years will be considered young. This is the future but who considers it?

The Millennium

“And they came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.” (Revelation 20:4b)

As we draw near to the end of this age, and the return of the Lord Jesus Christ to catch away His saints before God pours out His wrath on this last wicked generation, the reality needs to be considered that this is not the end of the world, but a time that will usher in the promised return of Christ to reign for a thousand years. Scripture has much to tell us of this next age in the plan and purpose of God. But how much do we know about this coming age?

Many think that the Christian’s future, after death, is to remain in heaven for ever, but this is far from what scripture tells us of what lies ahead in eternity.

Let us allow the the scriptures to speak for themselves and let us allow the Holy Spirit to show us something of what lies before us, the church, which is the body of Christ.. This is *our* future.

We will be forever with Him

Paul tells us that we who are alive when Jesus returns with His angels in the sky, “will be caught up” with the righteous dead who will be raised, “to meet the Lord in the air, and thus we shall always be with Him. (cf.1 Thessalonians 4:17)

Jesus Himself said that it will be immediately after the great tribulation, the three and half years when Satan has great wrath, that the “sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and then

all the tribes of the earth will mourn *as they* see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky with power and great glory. And He will send forth His angels with a great trumpet and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of the sky to the other.” (Matthew 24:29-31)

At the end of this age the true church, the body of Christ, will be caught away in the ‘twinkling of an eye’ before the great and awesome day of the Lord begins.

After the coming of Jesus on the clouds, and the catching away of the end-time church, God will begin to pour out His wrath - His great anger - upon the earth for three and a half years before Jesus returns to the earth itself with His saints, to reign for one thousand years. Then the millennial reign of Christ upon the earth will begin.

The Judgement Of The Nations

The first half of the last seven years of this present age, which scripture describes as “the times of the Gentiles”, or nations, sees a time of tribulation such as the world has never seen until that time. (cf. Matthew 24:21) It is a time of Satan having great wrath because he knows his time is short. (cf. Revelation 12:12) But it is also the time when the gospel of the Kingdom will be preached in the whole world to all nations as a witness, before this age comes to an end. (cf. Matthew 24:14) The whole world will have had opportunity to be delivered from the wrath that is to come.

This day of God’s wrath is called the ‘Day of the Lord’ in Old Testament scripture, a great and awesome day, a day of darkness and not light, a day of destruction. “Near is the great day of the Lord, near and coming very quickly; Listen, the day of

the Lord! In it the warrior cries out bitterly. A day of wrath is that day, a day of trouble and distress, a day of destruction and desolation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, a day of trumpet and battle cry against the fortified cities and the high corner towers. I will bring distress on men so that they will walk like the blind, because they have sinned against the Lord; And their blood will be poured out like dust and their flesh like dung. Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to deliver them on the day of the Lord's wrath; And all the earth will be devoured in the fire of His jealousy, for He will make a complete end, indeed a terrifying one, of all the inhabitants of the earth." (Zephaniah 1:14-18)

God's Judgements Are Just

Few like to consider the extent of the sins of mankind that are being manifest in this last evil generation. Mankind has turned his back on their Creator, considering themselves to be their own salvation, and carrying out without concern all selfish and evil intents of their own hearts. Jeremiah said, "The human heart is the most deceitful of all things, and desperately wicked. Who can understand it?" (Jeremiah 17:9) "For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed the evil thoughts, fornications, thefts, murders, adulteries, greed, wickedness, deceit, debauchery, envy, slander, arrogance, and foolishness. All these evils come from within, and these are what defile a man." (Mark 17:21&22) Coming again is a similar time to that which existed before the great flood when "the LORD saw how great the wickedness of the human race had become upon the earth, and that every inclination of the thoughts of the human heart was only evil all the time." (Genesis 6:5)

God's Mercy In Judgement

Before this time commences the Lord seals the sons of Israel,

the natural branches that have not responded to the gospel because God had partially hardened their hearts, but who are chosen, beloved for the sake of the father's. (cf. Romans 11:28) These sons of Israel are sealed so that they will not be touched during this time of judgement and wrath: "Do not harm the earth or the sea or the trees until we have sealed the bond-servants of our God on their foreheads.' And I heard the number of those who were sealed, one hundred and forty-four thousand sealed from every tribe of the sons of Israel: from the tribe of Judah, twelve thousand were sealed, from the tribe of Reuben twelve thousand, from the tribe of Gad twelve thousand, from the tribe of Asher twelve thousand, from the tribe of Naphtali twelve thousand, from the tribe of Manasseh twelve thousand, from the tribe of Simeon twelve thousand, from the tribe of Levi twelve thousand, from the tribe of Issachar twelve thousand, from the tribe of Zebulun twelve thousand, from the tribe of Joseph twelve thousand, from the tribe of Benjamin, twelve thousand were sealed." (Revelation 7:3-8) This number represents the perfect number of God's choice.

In heaven, the church is with the Lord, "a great multitude which no one could count, from every nation and all tribes and peoples and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, and palm branches were in their hands"... these being "the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb." (Revelation 7:9&13)

The Judgement of the Nations

The wrath of God will see the judgement of the nations. Jesus spoke of this judgement:

"But when the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne. All the nations

will be gathered before Him; and He will separate them from one another, as the shepherd separates the sheep from the goats; and He will put the sheep on His right, and the goats on the left. “Then the King will say to those on His right, ‘Come, you who are blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry, and you gave Me something to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave Me something to drink; I was a stranger, and you invited Me in; naked, and you clothed Me; I was sick, and you visited Me; I was in prison, and you came to Me.’ Then the righteous will answer Him, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry, and feed You, or thirsty, and give You something to drink? And when did we see You a stranger, and invite You in, or naked, and clothe You? When did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?’ The King will answer and say to them, ‘Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did it to one of these brothers of Mine, even the least of them, you did it to Me.’

“Then He will also say to those on His left, ‘Depart from Me, accursed ones, into the eternal fire which has been prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry, and you gave Me nothing to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave Me nothing to drink; I was a stranger, and you did not invite Me in; naked, and you did not clothe Me; sick, and in prison, and you did not visit Me.’ Then they themselves also will answer, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry, or thirsty, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not take care of You?’ Then He will answer them, ‘Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.’ These will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.” (Matthew 25:31-46)

The book of Revelation describes the judgements in the form of seven trumpet judgements and seven bowls of wrath that will last for three and a half years.

Jesus' Return Brings The Final Judgement Of His Wrath And Satan Is Bound

At the end of the wrath of God being poured out upon the earth Jesus will return to the earth itself, returning with His saints, the church, his armies which have been in heaven for three and a half years, clothed with white linen, white and clean. (cf.Revelation 19:11-14)

On earth, still in rebellion, are gathered the “the beast and the kings of the earth and their armies, assembled to make war with *Jesus* and against His army.” (Revelation 19:19)

Jesus smites these forces opposing His return, with the breath of His mouth: “From His mouth comes a sharp sword so that with it He might smite the nations, and He will rule them with a rod of iron.” (Revelation 19:15)

Then, will be seen, “An angel coming down from heaven with the key to the Abyss, holding in his hand a great chain. He *will seize* the dragon, the ancient serpent who is the devil and Satan, and *he will be bound* for a thousand years. And he *will throw* him into the Abyss, shut it, and *seal* it over him, so that he *cannot* deceive the nations **until the thousand years are complete**. After that, he must be released for a brief period of time. (Revelation 20:1-3)

Jesus Returns to the Mount of Olives

Having returned with His angels, in the sky, three and a half years earlier, Jesus now returns to the earth with His saints: “And in that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, which is in front of Jerusalem on the east, and the Mount of Olives will split in its middle from the east to the west, so that half of the

mountain will move to the north and the the half to the south....Then the LORD, My God, will come, and all the holy ones (saints) with Him.” (Zechariah 14:4&5)

Opposite the Mount of Olives is the Eastern Gate of Jerusalem, a gate that has been sealed for centuries. Ezekiel prophesied, “This gate shall be shut; it shall not be opened, and no one will enter by it, for the LORD God of Israel has entered by it; therefore it shall be shut. As the Prince, He shall sit in it as prince to eat bread before the Lord, He shall enter by way of the porch of the gate; and shall go out by the same way.” (Ezekiel 44:2&3)

Ezekiel describes the dimensions of the Temple in detail, the Temple that will be built again upon the Temple Mount, the Temple in which Jesus, the Prince, will sit during His reign upon the earth.

Israel’s Restoration

The return of the Lord that culminates in the destruction of the beast and his armies, will see the restoration of natural Israel, the remnant that are left, those natural sons of Israel who were sealed so that they could not be touched during the outpouring of God’s wrath: “I will bring them back from the peoples, and gather them from the lands of their enemies... gathering them to their own land; and I will leave none of them there any longer.” (Ezekiel 39:27-29)

Ezekiel prophesied that when Israel had been taken from “the nations... from all the lands” and brought into their “own land” that then, “ I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you, and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put My Spirit within you and cause

you to walk in My statutes, and you will be careful to observe My ordinances.” (Ezekiel 36:25-27)

This is the day in which all Israel will be saved and brought into the promised New Covenant, the same Covenant the church, the body of Christ made up of Jew and Gentile, has already come into.

The Millennial reign of Christ will have begun.

The Resurrection, Israel And The Nations

Jesus said, “In the resurrection they neither marry, nor are given in marriage, but are like the angels of God in heaven.” (Matthew 22:30) The coming of Jesus to catch away His church is also the day of the First Resurrection, when “the dead in Christ shall rise first... Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air.” (1 Thessalonians 4:17) Paul explained to the church at Corinth, “At the last trumpet... the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. For this perishable must put on the imperishable, and this mortal must put on immortality.” (1 Corinthians 15:52&53) The coming of Jesus sees His church changed into immortality, always to be with Him.

So it is, As Jesus returns to the earth with His saints, the earth will have three classes of people. First, the church, the body of Christ, those that have come into immortality. Second, natural Israel, those who were sealed - see Revelation 7:4 - so as not to be hurt during the wrath of God being poured out upon the earth, those that will then be brought back to the land and given a new heart. And Third, the rest of mankind who have come through the wrath of God to populate the earth in the Millennium.

Jesus Will Reign From Jerusalem

At this time Jesus will reign from Jerusalem and “All the land will be changed into a plain from Geba to Rimmon, south of Jerusalem, but Jerusalem will rise and remain on its site, from Benjamin’s Gate as far as the First Gate to the Corner Gate, and from the Tower of Hananel to the King’s wine presses.” (Zechariah 14:10)

A new temple described by Ezekiel will be built, a temple prophesied but not yet seen, and God’s glory will fill the temple. God spoke to Ezekiel, “Son of man, this is the place of My throne and the place of the soles of My feet” - He will be there - “where I will dwell among the sons of Israel forever.” (Ezekiel 43:5&7)

The land will be apportioned, a holy portion for Jehovah God, with land on either side for the Prince, then portions for the tribes of Israel, Dan, Asher, Naphtali, Manasseh, Ephraim, Reuben, Judah, a portion for the priests, the Levites, then portions for, Benjamin, Simeon, Issachar, Zebulun and Gad. “The name of the city will be ‘The Lord is there.’” - Jehovah Shemmah. (cf. Ezekiel 45-48)

In that day, “Ten men from the nations of every language will grasp the coat of a Jew saying, ‘Let us go with you, for we have heard that God is with you.’” (Zechariah 8:23) It will be that, that many people will come, even the inhabitants of many cities; and the inhabitants of one will go to another saying, ‘Let us go at once to entreat the favour of the Lord, and to seek the favour of the Lord of hosts’... so many peoples and mighty nations will come to seek the Lord of Hosts in Jerusalem and to entreat the favour of the Lord.” (Zechariah 8:21&22) Jesus will “Speak peace

to the nations and His dominion will be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth.” (Zechariah 9:10)

When Jesus returns to the earth after the wrath of God those “who are left of 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 Tabernacles. And it shall be that whichever of the families of the earth does not go up to Jerusalem to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, there will be no rain on them. And if the family of Egypt does not go up or enter, then no rain will fall on them, it will be the plague with which the Lord smites the nations who do not go up to celebrate the Feast of Booths. In that day there will be on the bells of the horses, ‘Holy to the Lord’. And the cooking pots of the Lord’s house will be like the bowls before the altar and every cooking pot in Jerusalem and in Judah will be holy to the Lord of hosts; and all who sacrifice will come and take of them and boil in them.” (Zechariah 14:16-21)

“The mountain of the Lord’s house shall be established on the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it. And many peoples shall go and say, ‘Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; and He will teach us of His ways, and we will walk in His paths’: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. And He will judge between the nations, and will decide concerning many peoples; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.” (Isaiah 2:2-4)

“Many nations will come and say, ‘Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the temple of the God of Jacob. He will teach us his ways, so that we may walk in his paths.’” The law will go out from Zion, the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He will judge between many peoples and will settle disputes for

strong nations far and wide. They will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore. Everyone will sit under their own vine and under their own fig tree, and no one will make them afraid, for the Lord Almighty has spoken... (Micah 4:2-5)

The Lord will gather the lame and will assemble the exiles and those "I have brought to grief." He will make the lame my remnant, those driven away by a strong nation. The Lord will rule over them in Mount Zion from that day and forever.

The watchtower of the flock, the stronghold of daughter Zion, the former dominion will be restored to them and kingship will come to the daughter Jerusalem. (cf. Micah 4:6-8)

In that day, Ezekiel prophesied, "Living waters will flow out of Jerusalem, half of them toward the eastern sea and the other half toward the western sea." (Zechariah 14:8) Water will flow from under the threshold of the house, the temple, towards the east from the house that faces east, and water will flow down from under, from the south side, trickling down. These waters will go down to the Dead Sea, to the Arabah and the waters will become fresh and everything will live where the river goes. "Fishermen will stand beside it from Engedi to Eneglaim" with all kinds of fish "like fish of the Great Sea." "And by the river, on its bank... will be all kinds of trees for food. Their leaves will not wither and their fruit will not fall. They will bear every month because their waters flow from the sanctuary, and their fruit will be for food and their leaves for healing." (cf. Ezekiel 47:1-12)

Speaking of this time Zechariah also prophesied, "And it will come about in that day that living waters will flow out of Jerusalem, half of them toward the eastern sea, and the other half towards the western sea.... And the Lord will be King over all

the earth; in that day the Lord will be the only one, and His Name the only one.... and there will be no more curse, for Jerusalem will dwell in security.” (cf.Zechariah 14:8-11)

'I will return to Zion and will dwell in the midst of Jerusalem. Then Jerusalem will be called the City of Truth, and the mountain of the LORD of hosts will be called the Holy Mountain. "Old men and old women will again sit in the streets of Jerusalem, each man with his staff in his hand because of age. And the streets of the city will be filled with boys and girls playing in its streets. Thus says the LORD of hosts, 'If it is too difficult in the sight of the remnant of this people in those days, will it also be too difficult in My sight?" (Zechariah 8:3-8)

“Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion, Shout for joy, O daughter of Jerusalem. Behold your King is coming to you.... He will speak peace to the nations, and His dominion will be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth.” (Zechariah 9:9&10)

““Never again will there be in it an infant who lives but a few days, or an old man who does not live out his years; the one who dies at a hundred will be thought a mere child; the one who fails to reach a hundred will be considered accursed. They will build houses and dwell in them; they will plant vineyards and eat their fruit. No longer will they build houses and others live in them, or plant and others eat. For as the days of a tree, so will be the days of My people; My chosen ones will long enjoy the work of their hands. They will not labour in vain, nor will they bear children doomed to misfortune; for they will be a people blessed by the Lord, they and their descendants with them. Before they call I will answer; while they are still speaking I will hear. The wolf and the lamb will feed together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox, and dust will be the serpent’s food. They will neither harm nor destroy on all My holy mountain.” (Isaiah 65:20-25)

“The wolf will dwell with the lamb and the leopard will lie down with the kid, and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together. And a little boy will lead them. Also the cow and the bear will graze, their young will lie down together; and the lion will eat straw like the ox. And the nursing child will play by the hole of the cobra and the weaned child will put his hand on the viper’s den... for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.” (Isaiah 11:6-9)

In that day they will “Give thanks to the Lord” calling on His Name saying, “Make known His deeds among the peoples, proclaim that His Name is exalted. Praise the Lord in song, for He has done excellent things; let this be known throughout the earth. Cry aloud and shout for joy, O, inhabitant of Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.” (Isaiah 12:4-6)

Ruling With A Rod Of Iron

In the Millennium Jesus will rule with a rod of iron, ruling strictly, but Jesus will also give authority over the nations to His overcomer sons also: “To him who overcomes, and he who keeps My deeds until the end, to him I will give authority over the nations and he shall rule them with a rod of iron, as the vessels of the potter are broken to pieces.” (Revelation 2:26) Just as it has been declared of Jesus, “I will surely give the nations as thine inheritance, and the ends of the earth as Thy possession. Thou shalt rule them with a rod of iron, Thou shalt shatter them like earthenware,” (Psalm 2:8&9 and Revelation 12:5) so it will be that His church reigns with Him.

The church, which is the body of Christ, will rule with Him and Jesus indicated this as a reward for those who have been faithful: “Well done, good slave, because you have been faithful in in a

very little thing, be in authority over ten cities.” (Luke 19:17) To another, Jesus says, “You are over five cities.” (v.19)

Paul speaks of this future role of the church; “Do you not know that the saints will judge the world? And if you are to judge the world, are you not competent to judge trivial cases? Do you not know that we will judge angels? How much more the things of this life!” (1 Corinthians 6:2&3)

The salvation of the church has a purpose in the ages to come for Paul says, “And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with Him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, in order that in the coming ages He might display the surpassing riches of His grace, demonstrated by His kindness to us in Christ Jesus. For it is by grace you have been saved through faith, and this not from yourselves; it is the gift of God.” (Ephesians 2:7)

Paul explained, God is illuminating for all, the stewardship - or administration - of the mystery, which for ages past was hidden in God, who created all things. His purpose being that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, according to the eternal purpose that He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord. (cf.Ephesians 3:9&10) This stewardship, now started, will continue into the Millennium.

Natural Israel’s Restoration

“I do not want you to be ignorant of this mystery, brothers, so that you will not be conceited: A hardening in part has come to Israel, until the full number of the Gentiles has come in. And so all Israel will be saved, as it is written: “The Deliverer will come from Zion, He will remove godlessness from Jacob. And this is My covenant with them when I take away their sins.” (Romans 11:25-27)

“Regarding the gospel, they are enemies on your account; but regarding election, they are loved on account of the patriarchs. For God’s gifts and His call are irrevocable. Just as you who formerly disobeyed God have now received mercy through their disobedience, so they too have now disobeyed, in order that they too may now receive mercy through the mercy shown to you.” (v. 28-30)

Those of Israel who are born of the Spirit in this age become part of the church, the body of Christ, but those of natural Israel who are not saved, yet are chosen, will go through the time when God pours out His wrath. Those of natural Israel will populate the earth in the Millennium and will be grafted back into the olive tree and be given a new hearts, coming into the reality of the New Covenant the church has already come into.

Speaking of natural Israel, Paul says, “If they do not persist in unbelief, they will be grafted in, for God is able to graft them in again. For if you were cut from a wild olive tree, and contrary to nature were grafted into one that is cultivated, how much more readily will these, the natural branches, be grafted into their own olive tree!” (Romans 11:23&24)

Jeremiah prophesied, “Behold, I will restore the fortunes of the tents of Jacob and have compassion on his dwelling places; And the city will be rebuilt on its ruin, and the palace will stand on its rightful place. From them will proceed thanksgiving and the voice of those who celebrate; And I will multiply them and they will not be diminished; I will also honour them and they will not be insignificant. Their children also will be as formerly, and their congregation shall be established before Me; And I will punish all their oppressors. Their leader shall be one of them, And their ruler shall come forth from their midst; And I will bring him near and he shall approach Me; For who would dare to risk his life to

approach Me?' declares the LORD. 'You shall be My people, And I will be your God.'" (Jeremiah 30:18-22)

““At that time,” declares the Lord, “I will be the God of all the families of Israel, and they shall be My people.” Thus says the Lord, “The people who survived the sword found grace in the wilderness... I have loved you with an everlasting love... Again I will build you and you will be rebuilt, O virgin of Israel! Again you will take up your tambourines, And go forth to the dances of the merry-makers. “Again you will plant vineyards on the hills of Samaria; The planters will plant and will enjoy them. “For there will be a day when watchmen on the hills of Ephraim call out, ‘Arise, and let us go up to Zion, to the Lord our God.’” For thus says the Lord, “Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and shout among the chief of the nations; Proclaim, give praise and say, ‘O Lord, save Your people, the remnant of Israel.’ Behold, I am bringing them from the north country, and I will gather them from the remote parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, The woman with child and she who is in labor with child, together; A great company, they will return here. “With weeping they will come, and by supplication I will lead them; I will make them walk by streams of waters. On a straight path in which they will not stumble; for I am a Father to Israel, and Ephraim is My firstborn.”

“Hear the word of the Lord, O nations, and declare in the coastlands afar off and say, ‘He who scattered Israel will gather him and keep him as a shepherd keeps his flock.’ For the Lord has ransomed Jacob and redeemed him from the hand of him who was stronger than he. They will come and shout for joy on the height of Zion, and they will be radiant over the bounty of the Lord, over the grain and the new wine and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; And their life will be like a watered garden, and they will never languish again. Then the virgin will rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old,

together, for I will turn their mourning into joy and will comfort them and give them joy for their sorrow. I will fill the soul of the priests with abundance, and My people will be satisfied with My goodness, declares the Lord.” (Jeremiah 31:1-14)

“Once again they will speak this word in the land of Judah and in its cities when I restore their fortunes, ‘The Lord bless you, O abode of righteousness, O holy hill!’ Judah and all its cities will dwell together in it, the farmer and they who go about with flocks. For I satisfy the weary ones and refresh everyone who languishes.”

“‘Behold, days are coming,’ declares the Lord, ‘when I will sow the house of Israel and the house of Judah with the seed of man and with the seed of beast. As I have watched over them to pluck up, to break down, to overthrow, to destroy and to bring disaster, so I will watch over them to build and to plant,’ declares the Lord. In those days they will not say again, ‘The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge.’ But everyone will die for his own iniquity; each man who eats the sour grapes, his teeth will be set on edge.”

“‘Behold, days are coming,’ declares the Lord, ‘when I will make a New Covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah, not like the covenant which I made with their fathers in the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, although I was a husband to them,’ declares the Lord. ‘But this is the covenant which I will make with the house of Israel after those days,’ declares the Lord, ‘I will put My law within them and on their heart I will write it; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. They will not teach again, each man his neighbour and each man his brother, saying, “Know the Lord,” for they will all know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them,’ declares the Lord, “or I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more.”

“Behold, days are coming,’ declares the Lord, ‘when the city will be rebuilt for the Lord from the Tower of Hananel to the Corner Gate. The measuring line will go out farther straight ahead to the hill Gareb; then it will turn to Goah. And the whole valley of the dead bodies and of the ashes, and all the fields as far as the brook Kidron, to the corner of the Horse Gate toward the east, shall be holy to the Lord; it will not be plucked up or overthrown anymore forever.’” (cf. Jeremiah 31:23-40)

Jeremiah speaks of Jesus, “In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch of David to spring forth; and He shall execute justice and righteousness on the earth. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will dwell in safety; and this is the name by which she will be called: the Lord is our righteousness.’ For thus says the Lord, ‘David shall never lack a man to sit on the throne of the house of Israel; and the Levitical priests shall never lack a man before Me to offer burnt offerings, to burn grain offerings and to prepare sacrifices continually.’” (Jeremiah 33: 14-18)

Another Age To Come

So it is we see in scripture the role of the church, the body of Christ, ruling and reigning with Jesus, having been given immortal bodies and brought into oneness with Him. We see natural Israel, those who have not been saved in this age, restored and brought into the New Covenant, being given new hearts and new spirits as the church in this age have. And we see the rest of the nations being ruled, no longer having Satan to tempt them, standing only in the reality that is in their own hearts, and looking to the Lord to walk in His statutes.

The Millennium Concludes With Satan's Release

Despite the Lord reigning from Jerusalem the hearts of men are again exposed for, "When the thousand years are completed, Satan will be released from his prison, 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. 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. 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." (Revelation 20:7-10)

Judgment at the Throne of God - The Second Resurrection

All who have ever lived are now to be raised in the second resurrection: "Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat upon it, from whose presence earth and heaven fled away, and no place was found for them. And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and books were opened; and another book was opened, which is the book of life; and the dead were judged from the things which were written in the books, according to their deeds. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead which were in them; and they were judged, every one of them according to their deeds. Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire." (Revelation 20:11-15)

The Millennium Is Over - A New Heaven and New Earth Lie Ahead

This final period of the Lord's Millennial rule will vindicate the equity of God's judgement's and the intent of men's hearts will have been fully exposed. A new heaven and new earth lie ahead. "The heavens will pass away with a roar and the elements will be destroyed with intense heat, and the earth and its works will be burned up." (2 Peter 3:10)

The next age has arrived, the Millennium is over. New heavens and new earth lie ahead in God's plan and purpose: "And I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth passed away... (Revelation 21:1) That is the next story.

Colin Winfield - 2016