

BOOK OF REVELATION

Part 28 – The Millennial Kingdom, Satan's Final Rebellion, and the Great White Throne of Judgment - Chapter 20

I. INTRODUCTION

REVIEW: We just completed the fourth and final parenthetical passage in the book of Revelation. We saw the judgment of God, through the Ten Kingdoms of the Antichrist, carried out upon the Great Whore and her economic division known as Babylon. The Great Whore, an amalgamation of all the religions of the world (even some who are nominally Christian) left behind after the Rapture deceived the whole world, led them to follow the Antichrist, and became very wealthy. The Great Whore came into existence at the beginning of the Tribulation and is destroyed right after the middle of the Tribulation.

II. EXEGESIS

A. SATAN BOUND – VERSES 1-3

VERSE 1: And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand.

The Scripture does not give us any reason to believe that this angel was an archangel or what we would consider to be a “special”. The Scripture does not give us his identity and it is not paramount to know his identity. Otherwise, the Apostle John would have been given his identity. This was an ordinary angel doing God's bidding. However the task given this angel was not ordinary and he was commissioned by God to carry out his task.

VERSE 2: And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years,

This angel was commissioned to bind Satan with the chain that God gave him. The name Satan in the original language means adversary. Remember Satan had been known before his fall as Lucifer. Lucifer had been the angel over the throne of God and had led the angels in worship of God. Lucifer became filled with pride and attempted to commit a coup d'etat against God. Since then he had constantly opposed God throughout time and even climaxed his opposition in the Tribulation by influencing the Antichrist in the first 3 ½ years of the Tribulation and resurrecting the dead body of Antichrist in the last 3 ½ years of the Tribulation and meeting the Lord Jesus Christ at the Battle of Armageddon with his army. However he lost completely and now will start to pay the consequences for his rebellion that started early in creation.

VERSE 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...”

Now this ordinary angel binds Satan with this chain, from which he cannot escape. Now the angel casts him into the Bottomless Pit, the same Bottomless Pit where the majority angels who rebelled with Satan in the early days of creation had been bound and were released in Revelation 9:

Jude 6: “And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day.”

Revelation 9:2-3 “(2) And he opened the bottomless pit; and there arose a smoke out of the pit, as the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by reason of the smoke of the pit. (3) And there came out of the smoke locusts upon the earth: and unto them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power.

“...till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season.”

Satan is bound for 1000 years in the Bottomless Pit, the time coinciding with the Millennial Kingdom. The word “fulfilled” carries the meaning of “completion or payment of a debt”. Satan will complete his period of imprisonment in the Bottomless Pit without interruption while the Lord Jesus Christ rules during the Millennial Kingdom. This is just a sample of the sentence that Satan will receive for all eternity: banishment in the Lake of Fire.

The words a “little season” carries the meaning of “a short period of time that is fixed”. The word “season” defines the weather and conditions for four periods of time for each year and are three months in duration. Each season is not long in duration and likewise Satan time out of prison is very short. Satan is released one last time and is given the freedom to roam the earth for this short period of time that will be very brief. Exactly how long this period of time is not given, but it will be very short and limited.

B. THE MILLENIAL KINGDOM – VERSES 4-6

VERSE 4: And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.

We see here that the Apostle John is now being shown the Millennial Kingdom after it was fully established. The believers of all the ages, who were in heaven, have returned to the earth following the Lord Jesus Christ. The Lord Jesus Christ sent the Antichrist and the False Prophet directly to the Lake of Fire, bypassing Hell, and then destroys the armies of the Antichrist leaving none of them alive and their bodies were eaten by the birds of creation. Then he will descend upon the Mount of Olives and then proceed to Jerusalem. After entering Jerusalem, there will be a period of time that the Lord Jesus Christ will take to fully establish His Millennial Kingdom. We will pause here and study the details.

CONCURRENT EVENT: THE ESTABLISHMENT AND ORDER OF THE MILLENNIAL KINGDOM AS DESCRIBED IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

ZECHARIAH 14:

BATTLE OF ARMEGEDDON, ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MILLENNIAL KINGDOM OF CHRIST UPON THE EARTH, AND OBSERVANCE OF THE FEAST OF TABERNACLES ANNUALLY.

Zechariah 14:1-19 “(1) Behold, the day of the LORD cometh, and thy spoil shall be divided in the midst of thee. (2) For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished; and half of the city shall go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city. (3) Then shall the LORD go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle.

This portion of the passage is in the 3 1/2 years before and during the Battle of Armageddon when the Lord Jesus Christ returns to the earth with millions of His saints and defeats the army of the Antichrist. Notice in verse 2 the phrase "For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle;" The next phrase in this verse "and the city taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished;" was fulfilled during the middle of the Tribulation when the Satan indwelt the dead body of the Antichrist, and either before or after the Abomination of Desolation, begins the attempted genocide of the nation of Israel first in Jerusalem as described in Revelation 12.

(4) And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south.

Immediately following the defeat and destruction of the army of the Antichrist, and the subsequent imprisonment of Antichrist and the False Prophet alive into the Lake of Fire, the Lord Jesus Christ will return to the earth upon the Mount of Olives and the mountain will split into two halves of with a great valley in between.

(5) And ye shall flee to the valley of the mountains; for the valley of the mountains shall reach unto Azal: yea, ye shall flee, like as ye fled from before the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah: and the LORD my God shall come, and all the saints with thee. (6) And it shall come to pass in that day, that the light shall not be clear, nor dark: (7) But it shall be one day which shall be known to the LORD, not day, nor night: but it shall come to pass, that at evening time it shall be light. (8) And it shall be in that day, that living waters shall go out from Jerusalem; half of them toward the former sea, and half of them toward the hinder sea: in summer and in winter shall it be.

The survivors of the Tribulation will flee from the mountains upon the arrival of the Lord Jesus Christ and the saints that come with him as expressed in verse 5, "and the Lord my God shall come and the saints with thee." Verses 6 through 8 is the description of how some of the processes on the earth shall be during the Millennial Kingdom. Verses 6 and 7 describe the light upon the earth will either be totally from the glory of the Lord Jesus Christ or from a combination of the sun and the Lord Jesus Christ. Verse 8 describe what is "living water" as coming from Jerusalem where the Lord Jesus Christ will rule.

(9) And the LORD shall be king over all the earth: in that day shall there be one LORD, and his name one. (10) All the land shall be turned as a plain from Geba to Rimmon south of Jerusalem: and it shall be lifted up, and inhabited in her place, from Benjamin's gate unto the place of the first gate, unto the corner gate, and from the tower of Hananeel unto the king's winepresses. (11) And men shall dwell in it, and there shall be no more utter destruction; but Jerusalem shall be safely inhabited.

Now we see the full order of the Millennial Kingdom. The earth will have perfect peace, total safety and total security. The Lord Jesus Christ will rule from Jerusalem.

(12) And this shall be the plague wherewith the LORD will smite all the people that have fought against Jerusalem; Their flesh shall consume away while they stand upon their feet, and their eyes shall consume away in their holes, and their tongue shall consume away in their mouth. (13) And it shall come to pass in that day, that a great tumult from the LORD shall be among them; and they shall lay hold every one on the hand of his neighbour, and his hand shall rise up against the hand of his neighbour. (14) And Judah also shall fight at Jerusalem; and the wealth of all the heathen round about shall be gathered together, gold, and silver, and apparel, in great abundance. (15) And so shall be the plague of the horse, of the mule, of the camel, and of the ass, and of all the beasts that shall be in these tents, as this plague.

Now the view goes back to the Battle of Armageddon and a graphic description of the defeat and destruction of the armies of the Antichrist by the spoken words of the Lord Jesus Christ. Their bodies literally disintegrate as they turn and fight one another. Even the animals shall be consumed in a plague as well. That is why the blood in the valley of Megiddo will be as deep as the horses bridle.

(16) And it shall come to pass, that every one that is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall even go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to keep the feast of tabernacles. (17) And it shall be, that whoso will not come up of all the families of the earth unto Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, even upon them shall be no rain. (18) And if the family of Egypt go not up, and come not, that have no rain; there shall be the plague, wherewith the LORD will smite the heathen that come not up to keep the feast of tabernacles. (19) This shall be the punishment of Egypt, and the punishment of all nations that come not up to keep the feast of tabernacles.

Now we see the view returns to the established state of the Millennial Kingdom. The manner of the worship of the nations of the Lord Jesus Christ is described here. The nation of Israel will be once again under the Theocracy, or rule by God himself being the second person of the Godhead is reigning bodily on earth from Jerusalem.

As a result the nation of Israel, will keep the Feast of Tabernacles as described in Leviticus and Deuteronomy. The nations of the earth will make an annual pilgrimage to Jerusalem to observe the Feast of Tabernacles. Not observing the Feast of Tabernacles will result in rain being withheld and affliction by a plague. Egypt here is representative of the gentile nations of the world. This punishment of plagues will come upon all the nations who do not keep the Feast of Tabernacle. Based upon this scripture it is a very good possibility that all of the Seven Feasts of the Old Testament will be observed. This passage is one evidence that the Lord Jesus Christ shall rule with a rod of iron. His rule will be absolute and no one will be able to rebel. What is the Feast of Tabernacles?

DESCRIPTION OF THE FEAST OF TABERNACLES LEVITICUS 23:33-43

(33) And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, (34) Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, The fifteenth day of this seventh month shall be the feast of tabernacles for seven days unto the LORD. (35) On the first day shall be an holy convocation: ye shall do no servile work therein. (36) Seven days ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD: on the eighth day shall be an holy convocation unto you; and ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD: it is a solemn assembly; and ye shall do no servile work therein. (37) These are the feasts of the LORD, which ye shall proclaim to be holy convocations, to offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD, a burnt offering, and a meat offering, a sacrifice, and drink offerings, every thing upon his day: (38) Beside the sabbaths of the LORD, and beside your gifts, and beside all your vows, and beside all your freewill offerings, which ye give unto the LORD. (39) Also in the fifteenth day of the seventh month, when ye have gathered in the fruit of the land, ye shall keep a feast unto the LORD seven days: on the first day shall be a sabbath, and on the eighth day shall be a sabbath. (40) And ye shall take you on the first day the boughs of goodly trees, branches of palm trees, and the boughs of thick trees, and willows of the brook; and ye shall rejoice before the LORD your God seven days. (41) And ye shall keep it a feast unto the LORD seven days in the year. It shall be a statute for ever in your generations: ye shall celebrate it in the seventh month. (42) Ye shall dwell in booths seven days; all that are Israelites born shall dwell in booths: (43) That your generations may know that I made the children of Israel to dwell in booths, when I brought them out of the land of Egypt: I am the LORD your God.

Summary of the Feast of Tabernacles:

- Observed between the 15th and the 22nd day of the seventh month of the Jewish year. The seventh month of the Jewish calendar year as outlined in the Old Testament occurs in approximately September to October of our year.
- Celebrated following the harvesting of the annual crop.
- The first and eighth day were sabbath days – no work.
- Sacrifices were made daily during this feast to the Lord.
- The Jews were to construct a booth to dwell in during this seven day period.
- The 1828 Noah Webster dictionary defines booth as “A house or shed built of boards, **boughs** of trees, or other slight materials, for a temporary residence”.
- This feast is mentioned again in Deuteronomy 16:13-17.

- This feast was instituted originally to remind the children of Israel about how the Lord preserved them in their wanderings in the wilderness.

The whole world will observe the Feast of Tabernacles to remind the redeemed of all the ages about their “wanderings” while they were in the world and especially the children of Israel of their “wanderings” from the time of the destruction of the Jerusalem in 70 A.D. and their scattering from the land of Israel that will occur when Anti-Christ will attempt to commit genocide against the children of Israel in the middle of the Tribulation.

ZECHARIAH 12:9-10: THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL ACCEPTING CHRIST AS THEIR MESSIAH WITH SORROW AND TEARS

Zechariah 12:9-14 "(9) And it shall come to pass in that day, that I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem. (10) And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn.

The view that the prophet Zechariah is given is the same view shown to the prophet Ezekiel that we just studied. The nation of Israel will know the Messiah is the Lord Jesus Christ because they will recognize the wounds of the nails in His hands and feet, the wound in His side. Remember, they are wounds, not scars.

(11) In that day shall there be a great mourning in Jerusalem, as the mourning of Hadadrimmon in the valley of Megiddon. (12) And the land shall mourn, every family apart; the family of the house of David apart, and their wives apart; the family of the house of Nathan apart, and their wives apart; (13) The family of the house of Levi apart, and their wives apart; the family of Shimei apart, and their wives apart; (14) All the families that remain, every family apart, and their wives apart.”

All the nation of Israel will mourn over their past rejection of their Messiah and will have apparently a period of mourning over their sins as a nation.

EZEKIEL 39:25-29 CHILDREN OF ISRAEL RETURNED TO THEIR LAND

Ezekiel 39:25-29 (25) Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Now will I bring again the captivity of Jacob, and have mercy upon the whole house of Israel, and will be jealous for my holy name; (26) After that they have borne their shame, and all their trespasses whereby they have trespassed against me, when they dwelt safely in their land, and none made them afraid.

Remember, the nation of Israel initially rejected their Messiah and were dispersed for nearly 2000 years among the four corners of the Earth. They had accept the Antichrist as their Messiah in the first 3 1/2 years of the Tribulation, only to be shown that he was the ultimate impostor. In the latter part of the Tribulation, partially due to the continuing

influence of the 144,000 Jewish male witnesses, they finally came to accept the Lord Jesus Christ as their Messiah.

(27) When I have brought them again from the people, and gathered them out of their enemies' lands, and am sanctified in them in the sight of many nations; (28) Then shall they know that I am the LORD their God, which caused them to be led into captivity among the heathen: but I have gathered them unto their own land, and have left none of them any more there. (29) Neither will I hide my face any more from them: for I have poured out my spirit upon the house of Israel, saith the Lord GOD.

Now after the return of the Lord Jesus Christ to the Mount of Olives, following the Battle of Armageddon, full fellowship between the nation of Israel and their Messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ, is now established in the beginning of the Millennial Kingdom. They will never have to leave their land EVER again and will never endure separation anymore.

DEUTERONOMY 28:12-13

ISRAEL TO BECOME THE HEAD OF THE NATIONS

Deuteronomy 28:12-13 “(12) The LORD shall open unto thee his good treasure, the heaven to give the rain unto thy land in his season, and to bless all the work of thine hand: and thou shalt lend unto many nations, and thou shalt not borrow. (13) And the LORD shall make thee the head, and not the tail; and thou shalt be above only, and thou shalt not be beneath; if that thou hearken unto the commandments of the LORD thy God, which I command thee this day, to observe and to do them:

The children of Israel for most of their existence either been a nation that had many nations that were more powerful, often under attack, have been partially or totally occupied by foreign powers, and for almost 2000 years did not exist as a national entity and were refugees from their homeland throughout the world. However in the Millennial Kingdom they will be back in their homeland, which God promised them and will become the "head nation" of all the nations on earth. Remember, the land of the nation of Israel is where the Lord Jesus Christ will rule from and where the annual Feast of Tabernacles will be observed by all the peoples of the earth.

MATTHEW 25: 31-46

THE LORD JESUS CHRIST JUDGING THE NATIONS

Matthew 25:31-46 “(31) 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.

This passage refers to a judgment that will happen shortly after the Lord Jesus Christ returns to the earth upon the Mount of Olives and takes his throne in Jerusalem. This judgment is not to be confused with the Judgment Seat of Christ, which takes place in heaven during the Tribulation or the Great White Throne of Judgment which will take place following the Millennial Kingdom, which we will study at the end of Chapter 20.

This is the judgment of the survivors of the Tribulation that are not killed in the judgments of the Tribulation or the Battle of Armageddon. This judgment will take place shortly before the full order of the Millennial Kingdom is established. This is consistent with the change of previous dispensations. Between the Age of the Law and the Age of Grace there was a period of time that elements of both ages were present.

(34) Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: (35) For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: (36) Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me. (37) Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink? (38) When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee? (39) Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? (40) And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.

Notice that the "sheep" are on the right hand of the Lord Jesus Christ. The right hand is the hand of approval and is used throughout scripture to show approval. Only the Tribulation Saints who are still in their earthly bodies will enter the Millennial Kingdom, as "flesh and blood" mankind. The saints of the Old Testament had already been taken from Paradise, in the heart of the earth (next to Hell and separated by a barrier) into the Third Heaven by the Lord Jesus Christ on the day he arose from the dead (John 20:11-18). The saints of the Church Age were taken up in the Rapture, and received their glorified bodies (Phillipians 3:20-21). The Tribulation Saint who dies in the Tribulation will at some point during the Tribulation will receive their glorified bodies and join the Old Testament and Church Age saints in Heaven. They all will return with the Lord Jesus Christ following him on white horses as described in Revelation 19.

(41) Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels: (42) For I was an hungred, and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink: (43) I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not. (44) Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee? (45) Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me. (46) And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal."

Notice the "goats" are on the left side of the Lord Jesus Christ. The left side is the side of rejection. These that those who rejected the Lord Jesus Christ during the Tribulation and before the Tribulation that have survived the Tribulation, will be sent to Hell right here to await their final judgment at the Great White Throne of Judgment.

EZEKIEL 43:1-12

ENTRY OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST INTO THE NEW TEMPLE

Ezekiel 43:1-12 “(1) Afterward he brought me to the gate, even the gate that looketh toward the east: (2) And, behold, the glory of the God of Israel came from the way of the east: and his voice was like a noise of many waters: and the earth shined with his glory. (3) And it was according to the appearance of the vision which I saw, even according to the vision that I saw when I came to destroy the city: and the visions were like the vision that I saw by the river Chebar; and I fell upon my face.

Here the Messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ, is coming from the east, after He has descended upon the Mount of Olives, to enter the new temple. Notice the description of the Messiah, “like a noise of many waters” is almost the same as given to the Lord Jesus Christ earlier in the book of the Revelation.

Revelation 1:15 “And his feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace; and his voice as the sound of many waters.

This most probably is not the same temple that the Jews rebuild after signing the peace treaty with Antichrist just seven years earlier. The Lord Jesus Christ would not be able to use a temple defiled by Antichrist.

(4) And the glory of the LORD came into the house by the way of the gate whose prospect is toward the east. (5) So the spirit took me up, and brought me into the inner court; and, behold, the glory of the LORD filled the house. (6) And I heard him speaking unto me out of the house; and the man stood by me. (7) And he said unto me, Son of man, the place of my throne, and the place of the soles of my feet, where I will dwell in the midst of the children of Israel for ever, and my holy name, shall the house of Israel no more defile, neither they, nor their kings, by their whoredom, nor by the carcasses of their kings in their high places. (8) In their setting of their threshold by my thresholds, and their post by my posts, and the wall between me and them, they have even defiled my holy name by their abominations that they have committed: wherefore I have consumed them in mine anger. (9) Now let them put away their whoredom, and the carcasses of their kings, far from me, and I will dwell in the midst of them for ever.

The glory of the Lord Jesus Christ fills the new temple and reminds the children of Israel that His temple will never be defiled by idolatry or other sins. Israel is reminded of its past sins and to never commit idolatry ever again. Remember, in the Millennial Kingdom, the sin nature is still present in those who physically survive the Tribulation and enter the Millennial Kingdom. They will be saints but still possess a sin nature and could still sin. The difference during the Millennial Kingdom is that punishment for sin will be immediate as well as absolute.

(10) Thou son of man, shew the house to the house of Israel, that they may be ashamed of their iniquities: and let them measure the pattern. (11) And if they be ashamed of all that they have done, shew them the form of the house, and the fashion thereof, and the goings out thereof, and the comings in thereof, and all the forms thereof, and all the ordinances thereof, and all the forms thereof, and all the laws thereof: and write it in their sight, that they may keep the whole

form thereof, and all the ordinances thereof, and do them.

The new temple will serve to remind the nation of Israel, of the idolatry and iniquity of the past and the fellowship they could have had with their God, if they had followed Him in the past.

(12) This is the law of the house; Upon the top of the mountain the whole limit thereof round about shall be most holy. Behold, this is the law of the house.

The new temple and the land around it will be the most holy land upon the earth during the Millennial Kingdom. Again, the saints who survive the Tribulation and enter the Millennial Kingdom will still be in their physical bodies and can still sin. Holiness will be the law of the new temple.

ISAIAH 2:1-4 and MICAH 4:1-4 ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MILLENNIAL KINGDOM, SERVING GOD, AND PEACE UPON THE EARTH.

Isaiah 2:2-4 (2) And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the LORD'S house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it. (3) And many people 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. (4) And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

Micah 4:1-4 (1) But in the last days it shall come to pass, that the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills; and people shall flow unto it. (2) And many nations shall come, and say, Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for the law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. (3) And he shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. (4) But they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree; and none shall make them afraid: for the mouth of the LORD of hosts hath spoken it.

Worship of the Lord Jesus Christ shall be established upon the earth. The only exalted place upon the earth, will be Mount Zion, no doubt caused when the Lord Jesus Christ returns and descends upon the Mount of Olives. All the rest of the mountains of the earth will have been flattened by the Seventh Vial Judgment. All the paths or roads from all the nations shall meet there. All the peoples of the nations will go to Mount Zion to worship the Lord Jesus Christ. The teaching of the Lord Jesus Christ will go out from Mount Zion as well.

All weapons on the earth will be converted into farming implements and harvesting tools. The word "plowshare" according to the Noah Webster 1828 Dictionary means "The part of a plow which cuts the ground at the bottom of the furrow, and raises the slice to the mold-board, which turns it over." The word "pruninghooks" according to the Noah Webster 1828 Dictionary means "An instrument used in **pruning** trees. It is of various forms". How these weapons will be turned into harvesting and plowing tools, one has to simply imagine. It will even go so far that they will no longer be able to develop weapons to wage war. The inhabitants of the earth will have their own fig tree and grape vines to eat from, which is a sign of plenty. There will be plenty to eat upon the earth and no one will do without. Nations will no longer be able to wage war one upon the other. The rule of the Lord Jesus Christ will provide all on earth security, safety, and plenty.

ISAIAH 11: CRUSE REMOVED FROM THE EARTH AND RETURN OF ISRAEL AT THE BEGINNING OF THE MILLENNIAL KINGDOM.

Isaiah 11:1-16 (1) And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots: (2) And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD;

This part of the passage refers to the first coming of the Lord Jesus Christ and His life with His mother and step-father, if you please, in Nazareth.

(3) And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the LORD: and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears: (4) But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked. (5) And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins.

His judgment and rule of mankind shall not be on what He can see or hear. He shall judge mankind based upon total righteousness. Remember, Revelation 1 describes His eyes "as a flame of fire". In other words, He shall be able to discern their thoughts and intentions. The Bible, because it is the "words of God" has the same infinite ability.

His judgments will be carried out with the words He speaks. He will not need an army or even law enforcement officers to carry out His perfect and just will. With the words He speaks the following will occur: (1) He will judge the poor with fairness and equity. (2) He will slay the wicked with the very words He speaks. This part of the passage is a reference to the Battle of Armageddon in Revelation 19. (3) The expression "girdle of his loins and faithfulness the girdle of his reigns" means that the righteous, or the saints of all the ages, will be a part of His rule. They will be administrator and assistants in His kingdom. This is a reward of being a saint in the Lord Jesus Christ.

(6) The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. (7) And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together: and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. (8) And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice' den. (9) They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.

The curse of the earth, instituted in Genesis 3 by God following the fall of mankind, will be rescinded during the Millennial Kingdom. The following will be characterized by that lifting of the curse: (1) Animals will no longer be carnivorous. Leopards or lions, as cats of prey, today pursue other animals to kill them for food or sometimes even sport. In the millennial kingdom they will lie down together. (2) Carnivorous animals will become herbivorous. Animals in nature will no longer pursue other animals as prey but will graze like a cow. (3) Snakes will no longer be aggressive or venomous. A child still nursing will play with the nest of a snake and a child past nursing will be able to play with a nest of snakes. Children will be able to play near a snake den and or snakes and not be harmed.

(10) And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek: and his rest shall be glorious. (11) And it shall come to pass in that day, that the Lord shall set his hand again the second time to recover the remnant of his people, which shall be left, from Assyria, and from Egypt, and from Pathros, and from Cush, and from Elam, and from Shinar, and from Hamath, and from the islands of the sea. (12) And he shall set up an ensign for the nations, and shall assemble the outcasts of Israel, and gather together the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth.

The word "ensign", according to the 1828 Noah Webster Dictionary means "(1) The flag or banner of a military band; a banner of colors; a standard; a figured cloth or piece of silk, attached to a staff, and usually with figures, colors or arms thereon, borne by an at the head of a company, troop or other band. (2) Any signal to assemble or to give notice. (3) A badge; a mark of distinction, rank or office; as ensigns of power or virtue...". An ensign will be displayed in the land of Israel and will be sign for the children of Israel to return from the four corners of the earth.

(13) The envy also of Ephraim shall depart, and the adversaries of Judah shall be cut off: Ephraim shall not envy Judah, and Judah shall not vex Ephraim. (14) But they shall fly upon the shoulders of the Philistines toward the west; they shall spoil them of the east together: they shall lay their hand upon Edom and Moab; and the children of Ammon shall obey them. (15) And the LORD shall utterly destroy the tongue of the Egyptian sea; and with his mighty wind shall he shake his hand over the river, and shall smite it in the seven streams, and make men go over dryshod. (16) And there shall be an highway for the remnant of his people, which shall be left, from Assyria; like as it was to Israel in the day that he came up out of the land of Egypt.

The children of Israel will no longer have any enemies and no longer be persecuted. The references of “Ephraim” and “Judah” are references to the kingdoms of Israel and the kingdom of Judah that existed after the reign of King Solomon. The children of Israel will never be a divided kingdom again and the tribes will no longer fight or war with each other.

The nations of the earth will assist in returning the children of Israel to their homeland for the final time. They will never be dispersed from that land ever again. The head of the Nile River will become dry ground for the children of Israel to come across upon to return.

ISAIAH 65:17-24

LENGTH OF LIFE IN THE MILLENNIAL KINGDOM

Isaiah 65:17-24 For, behold, I create new heavens and a new earth: and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind.

This is a glimpse ahead to the New Heaven and the New Earth that the Apostle John will describe to us in detail in Revelation 21 and 22.

(18) But be ye glad and rejoice for ever in that which I create: for, behold, I create Jerusalem a rejoicing, and her people a joy. (19) And I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and joy in my people: and the voice of weeping shall be no more heard in her, nor the voice of crying.

The view of Isaiah now goes back chronologically to the beginning of the Millennial Kingdom. The people of Israel will never express sorrow as a nation due to distress, persecution, or even homelessness.

(20) There shall be no more thence an infant of days, nor an old man that hath not filled his days: for the child shall die an hundred years old; but the sinner being an hundred years old shall be accursed.

Some Bible scholars believe based upon the language of this passage that the Millennial Kingdom inhabitant that is born to the Tribulation saints who enter the Millennial Kingdom that they will have 100 years to choose to accept or reject the Lord Jesus Christ as Saviour. What the passage is conveying here is that the human lifespan will be much longer than it is today. A child will still be in their youth at 100 years of age. Life will be full and complete during the Millennial Kingdom. But mankind will still have a choice to accept or reject the Lord Jesus Christ as Saviour. The sinner when he dies will still go to Hell and then the Lake of Fire for all eternity.

(21) And they shall build houses, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and eat the fruit of them. (22) They shall not build, and another inhabit; they shall not plant, and another eat: for as the days of a tree are the days of my people, and mine elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands. (23) They shall not labour in vain, nor bring forth for trouble; for they are the seed of the blessed of the LORD, and their offspring with them.

During the Millennial Kingdom, everyone will have food to eat and starvation will cease to exist. Everyone will have a place to live as well. However mankind will still work but will always receive the reward for his labor. No one will steal another man's labor. Everyone will benefit from the fruits of his labor and no one will steal what they have worked for.

(24) And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear. (24) The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, and the lion shall eat straw like the bullock: and dust shall be the serpent's meat. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain, saith the LORD.

The Lord Jesus Christ will hear and answer the prayers of his people almost instantly. All animals will become herbivorous in nature and lose their nature for violence.

EZEKIEL 40-48

THE DESCRIPTION OF THE TEMPLE, THE GLORY OF GOD DWELLING THERE, AND INHERITENCE OF THE NATION OF ISRAEL

These passages describe in details the new temple in Jerusalem and the inheritance of the tribes of Israel. The prophet Ezekiel sees in great detail the new temple, courtyard, the Lord Jesus Christ entering the new temple. The following chapters in Ezekiel describes these events in great detail. The scope of that study is beyond the scope of our study here in Revelation.

- Ezekiel 40: Description of the new temple in Jerusalem: The Inner and Outer courtyard, the north and south gates.**
- Ezekiel 41: The inner parts of the temple.**
- Ezekiel 42: The chambers of the temple.**
- Ezekiel 43:1-12: The glory of the Messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ entering the new temple**
- Ezekiel 43:13-24: The description of the altar in the new temple.**
- Ezekiel 44: The gate of the Messiah and the rules for the Levitical priests.**
- Ezekiel 45: The holy district and courtyard of the Messiah.**
- Ezekiel 46: Observance of the feast and offerings in the new temple.**
- Ezekiel 47: Living waters flowing from the new temple.**
- Ezekiel 48: Inheritance of the tribes of the children of Israel and the gates of Jerusalem.**

CHRONOLOGICAL SUMMARY: MILLENNIAL KINGDOM EVENTS

Summary of the events in the most likely chronological order described in the Old Testament and The book of Revelation concerning the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ and the establishment of the Millennial Kingdom:

- **The Lord Jesus Christ will descend to the earth upon the Mount of Olives.**
- **The Lord Jesus will then proceed from the Mount of Olives to enter the new or refurbished temple in Jerusalem by the east gate.**
- **The Lord Jesus Christ will rule from Jerusalem from inside the grounds of the temple.**
- **His rule will be absolute and justice will be swift and immediate.**
- **The Lord Jesus Christ will then conduct the Judgment of the Nations.**
 - **Satan will be bound in the Bottomless Pit, that had been the prison of the majority of the fallen angels until Trumpet judgment five. He will be there for 1000 years.**
 - **The nation of Israel will have a period of mourning for their past and present sins as a nation and will accept their Messiah and be restored in fellowship with their God.**
 - **It is uncertain how long these events will be but it took take a small period of time to judge the nations and to prepare the temple for the entry of the Lord Jesus Christ.**
- **The saints of God will be administrators in His Kingdom.**
- **The nation of Israel will observe the feasts of the Old Testament.**
- **Institution of the Feast of Tabernacles to be observed in the Jewish seventh month of the year for eight days. Refusal to participate will mean drought and pestilence.**
- **Nations will turn their weapons in farming implements and harvesting tools.**
- **Nations will lose the ability to start or conduct wars.**
- **The conditions on earth will be different during the Millennial Kingdom:**
 - **Much of the curse upon the earth from the creation will be lifted.**
 - **Animals will become herbivorous, snakes will not be venomous and become herbivorous, and children will play with all animals harmlessly.**
 - **Rain will continue to fall upon the earth as it does today, except there will be no severe weather, unless possibly used as judgment for not observing the Feast of Tabernacles.**
- **Life spans will increase considerably, very possibly similar to life spans before the flood.**
- **The rule of the Lord Jesus Christ will last 1000 years, thus the name the Millennial Kingdom.**

END OF CONCURRENT EVENT

VERSE 5: But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection.

The rest of the dead here is a reference to all the unsaved dead since the beginning of time. Their souls are still in hell awaiting the Great White Throne of Judgment we will study later in this chapter. The first resurrection here refers to the saved who have died in the Lord Jesus Christ during the Tribulation being resurrected at the beginning of the Millennial Kingdom and receiving their glorified bodies.

VERSE 6: Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.

The saved of all the ages are those that had part in the first resurrection. The first resurrection occurred in several parts: (1) The Old Testament saint were taken from Paradise into the Third Heaven on the day of the Resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ from the dead. (2) The Church Age saints were taken up in the Rapture before the Tribulation began. (3) The Tribulation Saint, who died during the Tribulation from the various judgments or persecution, will have their glorified body given to them during or at the end of the Tribulation. All the above will have glorified bodies like unto the body the Lord Jesus Christ had following His resurrection.

Philippians 3:20-21 “(20) For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: (21) Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.”

The saint will not be married to their spouse that they had while on earth. Marriage is an institution for physical life on earth. The saints of all the ages will be the bride of Christ. This does not mean we will not know our spouses, we will simply not have the husband-wife relationship.

Matthew 22:30 “For in the resurrection they neither marry, nor are given in marriage, but are as the angels of God in heaven.”

The saints will have two roles in the administration of the kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ: (1) Administrators of the kingdom under the authority of the Lord Jesus Christ. God has chosen to use the saints to administer His kingdom. (2) Priest of the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ between God and man.

C. SATAN LOOSED AND HIS FINAL DEFEAT – VERSES 7-10

VERSE 7: And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison,

Following the Millennial Kingdom, Satan will be released from his prison in the bottomless pit. We are curious and ask, "Why?" It is all part of the perfect plan of God to give mankind who has lived during the Millennial Kingdom time to make their final choice: Accept Christ as Saviour or follow Satan.

VERSE 8: And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea.

There will be quite a number of people who have been born on the earth during the Millennial Kingdom. All will have been obedient to the Lord Jesus Christ because His rule will be absolute, but many will have not chosen to obey the Lord willingly. Now they have a choice to obey or disobey and with Satan back on the earth, they will be deceived and be willing to be deceived thinking Satan can offer them a better plan.

VERSE 9: And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them.

Satan, and his army of followers, surround the saints in Israel and in Jerusalem, in order to destroy them. God sends down fire out of the third heaven to devour them and they are destroyed, all except for Satan. Their souls are sent to hell for a short period of time. We will see why in Verse 11.

VERSE 10: And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

Being that Satan has already been judged, Satan is now sent to his FINAL DOOM. Satan is cast in the Lake of Fire, bypassing Hell where the lost of all the ages are held. The Anti-Christ and the False Prophet have already been in the Lake of Fire for 1000 years.

D. THE GREAT WHITE THRONE OF JUDGMENT – VERSES 11-15.

VERSE 11: And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them.

At this point in time, the earth, the first heaven (the earth's atmosphere), and the second heaven (the universe and all of its stars) are destroyed. This is expressed in the phrase "the earth and heaven fled away".

This is supported by the passage in 2 Peter 3, where the Apostle Peter describes the destruction of the earth by fire following the Millennial Kingdom, and the final attempted rebellion by Satan after he is released from the Bottomless Pit against God and His Saints.

2 Peter 3:7-13 (7) But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men. (8) But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. (9) The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. (10) But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.

(11) Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness, (12) Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat? (13) Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.

All that at this point in time that remains in existence is the third heaven: the abode of God. A new heaven and new earth will be created which we will study in Chapter 21.

VERSE 12: And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.

This is the Great White Throne of Judgment. This is where the lost of all the ages since creation will be judged for rejecting the Lord Jesus Christ as Saviour. The redeemed of the Old Testament, the Church Age, and the Tribulation Saint who died in the Tribulation from either the judgments or being martyred, have already faced their judgment at the Judgment Seat of Christ, not for their salvation, but for their works after salvation. The redeemed of the Tribulation will be judged at the Judgment of the Nations at the end of the Tribulation and welcomed to the ranks of the redeemed. The lost who survived the Tribulation will have been sent to Hell for the duration of the Millennial Kingdom. A judgment for the Millennial Kingdom saints will not be necessary being the Lord Jesus Christ ruled in person for that period of time.

The Book of Life is where the names of all the saints of all the ages will be recorded. Only those not written in the Book of Life are judged here. The saints of all the ages will witness this judgment and it will be the saddest of times for the saints. How many will be seen judged for rejecting the Lord Jesus Christ as Saviour

Exodus 32:32-33 “(32) Yet now, if thou wilt forgive their sin; and if not, blot me, I pray thee, out of thy book which thou hast written. (33) And the LORD said unto Moses, Whosoever hath sinned against me, him will I blot out of my book.

Psalm 69:28 “Let them be blotted out of the book of the living, and not be written with the righteous.”

Psalm 139:16 “Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being unperfect; and in thy book all my members were written, which in continuance were fashioned, when as yet there was none of them.”

Revelation 22:7 “Behold, I come quickly: blessed is he that keepeth the sayings of the prophecy of this book.”

VERSE 13: And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works.

The souls of the lost dead will be delivered out of hell and reunited with their bodies to stand before the Great White Throne of Judgment. God will restore their bodies back to the state before they died no matter how their earthly bodies were disposed of after they died. God removes their bodies from the earth before he destroys it with fire, no matter how long decayed or dissolved their body remains are, and remake their body for this judgment.

VERSE 14: And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.

This is a bizarre scene to imagine in one's own mind. Hell, which was in the center of the earth is cast into the Lake of Fire upon the destruction of the earth by fire in Verse 11. Notice the passage also says that Death is cast into the Lake of Fire as well. According to Noah Webster's 1828 Dictionary the word death means "9. *In theology, perpetual separation from God, and eternal torments; called the second death. Rev 2. 10. Separation or alienation of the soul from God; a being under the dominion of sin, and destitute of grace or divine life; called spiritual death.*" Death in terms of our physical life means that life ceases. However the life of the soul goes on and does not end at physical death. The soul at death is separated from the physical body and goes to either be with the Lord in Heaven if that soul has accepted Christ as Saviour or goes to Hell if that soul rejects Christ as Saviour.

Notice the last sentence in that verse, "This is the second death". The lost who have rejected the Lord Jesus Christ have been sent to Hell and separated from their physical bodies and from the presence of God. This is the first death. Then all the lost dead meet in front of God's throne, which is the Great White Throne of judgment to be judged for their sins for one and final time. Then they are banished to the Lake of Fire for all eternity. They sadly, do not cease to exist, but they are in torment for all eternity for their choice to reject Christ as Saviour.

This is their second and final separation from a loving God and this is why it is called "the second death". This is perhaps one of the most heartbreaking passages in all of the Holy Scriptures. The believer, witnessing this scene from before God's throne will shed many tears at witnessing these lost souls, many of them friends and even family, being cast into the Lake of Fire.

VERSE 15: And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

This verse clarifies the reason that the lost were cast in the Lake of Fire and gives their sentence a tone of unrevokable and undeniable finality. They go to the Lake of Fire not accepting the Lord Jesus Christ as Saviour. And this is for all eternity. The lost do not get a reprieve nor is their punishment for a limited period of time. Remember, death is a separation. The worst part of all is separation from a God who loved him and wanted these lost souls to accept Him as Saviour but they rejected Him. HOW SAD!!

III. APPLICATIONS

- **God's promises, just like the Millennial Kingdom lasting 1000 years, are just as literal and not figurative.**
- **The Millennial Kingdom is the honeymoon and a major reward of the saint for serving God. However, God gives rewards even now and often daily for serving Him. However, better rewards for the saint are yet to come. The Millennial Kingdom is just the beginning of those rewards.**
- **Sadly, there will be those who reject the Lord Jesus Christ as Saviour during the Millennial Kingdom but they will have no choice but to acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord. This same group will show their true feeling shortly after the Millennial Kingdom ends. When we give the gospel there will be those who reject as well. Many who reject will appear to be good and even Godly people but will still reject Him. Remember just continue to give the gospel message and be a witness to them.**
- **The Great White Throne of Judgment will be a sorrowful time for the saint and a frightening time for the lost. We should endeavour to be faithful to our Lord and to our witness to help as many as possible avoid this judgment.**