

Prophecy Sermon #13

Turn in your Bibles to Revelation 20

Prophecy – eschatology – things to come – future events

Rapture – imminent return of Jesus in the sky

Then the peace treaty with Israel

That begins the 7 year Tribulation Period

Satan’s man – the Antichrist – comes into full power around the 3 ½ -year mark –

Abomination of Desolation and then this world sees Great Tribulation

Jesus returns to the earth – Battle of Armageddon

Judgment of the Jews, Gentiles, and the putting down of Satan

Then the Millennial Kingdom and the answer to our prayers of “Thy Kingdom Come”

In Scripture there is more prophecy concerning the Millennium than of any other time period. The kingdom was the theme of the Old Testament prophets. . . . all of them look forward to the Millennium (1,000), that kingdom which is coming to the earth.

Mille = 1,000

Anum = years – we get our English word “annual”

Premillennial View – Jesus Christ returns to earth before the 1,000 years and rules and reigns forever

The Bible speaks of a glorious period of time to come

There is so much about the Millennium that there is no way to exhaust all that the Bible has to say on this subject. So I’m going to hit the highlights.

This is the last great age of this earth before she is replaced

Jerusalem will be the capital of the world and Jesus will reign and rule from His throne in that city.

I've entitled this message – "The Kingdom Cometh, Part 2"

Revelation 20

Let us stand for the reading of God's holy and prophetic Word

Revelation 20:1-15

Let us pray

You may be seated

The Kingdom Cometh

1. The Purpose of the Millennium - God will restore His theocracy

God's rule – administered by one man – Adam – and in the future by Jesus Christ

2. The Time of the Millennium - Immediately after the Tribulation

Matthew 24:29-30a, “Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken: and they shall see the Son of Man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.”

Matthew 25:31 – “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”

3. The Length of the Millennium - Bible states six times in six successive verses of Revelation 20, verses 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7, that this period of time will last for 1,000 years.

4. The Members of the Millennium who will be here on the earth

First group: All saved people go in – all saved people of all time will enter the 1,000 year Church saints return with Christ

I Thess. 4:17 – so shall we ever be with the Lord
Wherever He goes, we go with Him

Second group: Old Testament saints

These people are people who lived and died before the Church began

They're saved saints – Old Testament saints – they will be resurrected from the dead at the Second Coming of Christ after the Tribulation

Daniel 12:1

Great Tribulation

Then resurrection from the dead

Daniel 12:13

II. The First Resurrection

The word “resurrection” in Greek is *anastasis*, meaning literally “standing again.”

Revelation 20 tells us that there will be a first resurrection. . . . What is the first resurrection? The Bible gives us . . . the first resurrection is like a harvest, which has three general aspects.

The firstfruits. In the Old Testament, when the harvest ripened the priest went into the field and gathered a sheath of first-ripened grain. Then he took that sheath into the temple and waved it before the Lord. It was called a wave offering. He would say something like: “Thank you, Lord, for this sheath of wheat, for we believe it is a promise of the harvest to come.”

In the New Testament, Christ is called the firstfruits. First Corinthians 15:20-23 says, . .

Weren't there people raised from the dead before Christ? And the answer is _____

These people died again –

Resurrection – we are talking about new and glorified bodies – bodies that are immortal and incorruptible

When Jesus arose from the grave, He became the firstfruits. His resurrection demonstrated that a harvest would come.

The general harvest. When Christ comes again, He will rapture the church. This is considered the general ingathering of the harvest.

“the dead in Christ shall rise” along with the living saints (I Thessalonians 4:16, 17).

The gleanings. The third phase of the harvest is the gleaning, which will be the resurrection of the tribulation saints—many of whom will be beheaded for Christ – and also the Old Testament saints

The “first resurrection” does occur in more than one stage,

Revelation 20:4-6

Other than the Lord Jesus, who will rule during the millennium? Not angels, but Saints.

5. The Government of the Millennium – theocracy

God used a man to rule – Adam

Once again, God’s rule will be administered worldwide by the second Adam – Jesus Christ

Jesus will establish and restore the theocracy

I Corinthians refers to Jesus as the last Adam

Jesus will be the King over all the earth

Zechariah 14:9, “And the LORD shall be king over all the earth . . .”

Jesus will administer God’s rule over the entire earth. The earth will have different nations and some people will be sub kings over these nations

Revelation 19 – the King of kings, the Lord of lords

Jesus is the ultimate King, the ultimate Lord, in this government on earth

Psalm 72:7, 10-11, 17

These nations and their kings will bow down to the King and they will bring gifts to the Messiah.

Zechariah 14:16 – describes what some things will be like on earth

Zechariah 14:16-19

Every nation is to keep the Feast of Tabernacles and every year they are to come to Jerusalem and worship the Lord

Any nation that refuses will be shut off from rain until they repent and do what they are supposed to do.

His government will be characterized with absolute righteousness, peace, and justice.

Isaiah 9:6-

Government refers to the Second Coming

Vs. 7 – notice two characteristics – peace and justice

Isaiah 11—

Vs. 1-5

II Timothy 2:12

We will hold positions in His government – we will reign with Christ

Revelation 20:4

We will hold positions – we will be sinlessly perfect. Once we are resurrected, we are sinlessly perfect. We cannot sin.

At the Beginning of the Millennium, Everyone Will Be Rejoicing

1. No longer plagued by sin
2. They are with Him and like Him

We cannot be bribed

Absolute righteousness and justice

Can you imagine a government where every politician is perfect? Lord, hasten that day!

How desperately we need that!

Righteousness will be the descriptive term characterizing the rule of the Messiah as a whole. Christ will be a king reigning in righteousness (Isa. 32:1).

Instruments of warfare will be transformed into agricultural implements. No more war. Not one military skirmish on the face of the earth anywhere for 1,000 years.

Men will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks (Isaiah 2:4)

Peaceful

As a consequence of righteousness, the Millennium will be an era of peace. (Isa. 19:23-25) . . . (Zech. 8:4-5) Indeed, the whole earth will be at peace

The removal of the curse during the Millennium

All of nature is under the curse – Genesis 3 – nature was radically altered.

God said, “Cursed is the ground” – by the sweat of the brow, thorns and thistles

#11 – radically reduced the fertility level in the soil of the earth

#12 – Curse came upon the animal realm

Before the curse – all animals were tame and vegetarian in diet

Animal natures were changed – became wild

Many became flesh-eating

Romans 8:18-25 – the whole creation

The natural realm is out of joint with God.

In the light of that – Matthew 19:28

Nature is going to be restored; nature is going to experience Genesis

The curse will be removed from nature

With that in mind, turn to Acts 3:19-21; 3:12

When will this come? When Jesus comes back in – the Second Coming

God, through the Old Testament prophets, spoke/revealed information

About this 1,000-year period

When Jesus came the first time, Jesus exercised His power on earth as demonstration that He was the Messiah and what He will do in the Second Coming.

Which miracle

Isaiah 11:6-9 – The curse will be removed from the animal kingdom

Miracle wild and tame – no one had ever ridden – change the nature of animals – Jesus rode that donkey

Isaiah declared that the desert would blossom abundantly (Isaiah 35:1-2)

The earth will be increasingly productive throughout the Millennium as wilderness and desert places become useful (Isa. 35:1-7). . . . (Amos 9:13-14) . . . (Ps. 72:12-13).

Throughout the Old Testament, all diseases and deformities will be healed/also listed

Blind – see; lame – walk; deaf – hear; dumb – speak

Jesus has the power; Jesus has the authority to lift the curse off the world

Longevity of life – mortal bodies

Isaiah

A man at 100 – classified as a child

Life of a man is like a tree

Abundance of food during the Millennium

Productivity of animal life – Ezekiel – fish

Hebrews 6:5

The Golden Age is coming; there are better days ahead; and this earth is going to experience total transformation!

The Guarantee was His First Coming!

I have the power necessary to transform nature (and He's demonstrated it).

Revelation 20 tells us first of all of the forceful restraint of Satan and then the future reign of the Savior.

Let us stand for closing invitation

If we are saved, we will witness this regeneration/restitution

God's creation is beautiful now, but we haven't seen anything yet.

We have a glorious future before us.

We have the rapture to come

We will come back with Him to reign

Theocratic rule with Jesus

All because of what God through Jesus Christ has done for us

Paid the penalty on the cross with His Son's blood and was buried and resurrected. He will give eternal life to all who will believe.

If you leave this life without Jesus, you will miss the Millennium and be found next week at the Great White Throne Judgment.

It is urgent that you trust Him now as Savior before it is too late.

Hymn 125 – "Joy to the World!"

