

The Millennium

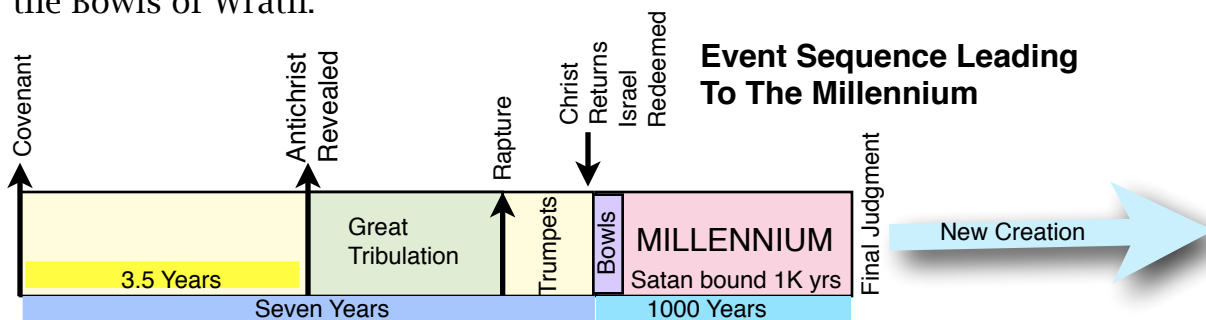
By Rich Jacobs, M.D.

*And I saw an angel coming down out of heaven, having the key to the Abyss and holding in his hand a great chain. He seized the dragon, that ancient serpent, who is the devil, or Satan, and bound him for a **thousand years**. He threw him into the Abyss, and locked and sealed it over him, to keep him from deceiving the nations anymore until the **thousand years** were ended. After that, he must be set free for a short time. I saw thrones on which were seated those who had been given authority to judge. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony for Jesus and because of the word of God. They had not worshiped the beast or his image and had not received his mark on their foreheads or their hands. They came to life and reigned with Christ a **thousand years**. (The rest of the dead did not come to life until the **thousand years** were ended.) This is the first resurrection. Blessed and holy are those who have part in the first resurrection. The second death has no power over them, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with him for a **thousand years**. When the **thousand years** are over, Satan will be released from his prison. **Revelation 20:1-7, NIV***

The “Millennium” refers to a future time when Christ will exercise undisputed reign over the earth for a thousand years. Although **Revelation 20** is the only chapter in the Bible to mention this literal thousand year period, theologians believe that many other scriptures refer to events in the Millennium and provide additional insight into it. This lesson explores what some of these scriptures may say about the Millennium.

Starting Points from Revelation 20

- The Millennium begins after the Great Tribulation, Trumpet Judgements, and the Bowls of Wrath.



- Satan is bound during the Millennium and cannot tempt or deceive people.
- Christ reigns over all the nations in the world as King and as High Priest.
- The resurrected and raptured saints and the “tribulation martyrs” rule and reign with Christ during the Millennium.
- The Millennium ends when Satan is released and the nations are again deceived to rebel against God. When they are defeated, Satan and all rebels are condemned in the final judgment (“Great White Judgment Throne”). New Heaven and New Earth is established which will not fall into sin

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- Other “Millennium” concepts: (1) The Millennium is the New Creation, (2) The present “Church Age” is the Millennium -- both assert there is no literal 1000 year period when Christ reigns physically on earth from Jerusalem
- This lesson interprets scripture to say there will be a literal 1000 year Millennium during which Christ will reign over the world. There are far too many scripture verses to review in a single lesson; a complete book would be required for this. For the sake of this lesson, let’s just look at some of what is revealed in only one book of the Bible - Isaiah: **Isaiah 2:2-4; Isaiah 4:2-6; Isaiah 9:2-7; Isaiah 10:20-23; Isaiah 11:1-12, 16; Isaiah 12:9-13; Isaiah 25:6-9; Isaiah 35:5-10; Isaiah 44:21-24; Isaiah 49:19-23; Isaiah 59:20, 21**

OUTLINE OF MILLENNIUM MAIN POINTS FROM OTHER SCRIPTURES

1. The Millennium begins when Christ and his army (“host”) defeat Satan, the demons, Antichrist, and his international empire. (**Zechariah 14:3, 4**)
 - a. Christ’s army consists of all His holy angels and all the resurrected and raptured saints. (**Zechariah 14:5; Jude 14; 1 Thessalonians 4:14; 2 Thessalonians 1:7**)
 - b. All the enemies of Israel, the Church, and the Lord are defeated in one place and time by the Lord -- outside Jerusalem. (**Isaiah 29:5-7**)
 - c. The final battle is Armageddon, which takes place as the final seventh Bowl Judgment, during the 30 days following the last 7 years of time.
 - i. Armageddon leads to great slaughter of the nations (**Isaiah 17:12-14; 24:19, 20; Revelation 19:11-18**)
 - ii. Armageddon leads to great desolation of the earth and the land of Israel (**Isaiah 24:1; Jeremiah 12:11; 33:10; Lamentation 1:4; 5:18; Ezekiel 15:8**)
 - iii. Armageddon defeats the armies of Antichrist and leads to Satan being imprisoned for 1000 years (**Revelation 20:2, 3**)
 - iv. The carnage and corpses from the great Armageddon battle will remain as a memorial to the wickedness of the nations and to God’s wrath into the Millennium (**Isaiah 66:24**)
2. Christ comes to earth to redeem the beleaguered remnant of Israel, after they realize they crucified their Messiah and Lord. (**Zechariah 12:9, 10; Ezekiel 20:33-44**)
 - a. The day of God’s wrath is the day of Israel’s redemption (**Isaiah 30: 25, 26; 42:13; 63:1-4**)
 - b. The redemption of Israel is always tied to the redemption and restoration of their land, which is also “God’s land” (**Isaiah 35:1-10; 32:15-18; 36:7-10; 62:4**)

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- c. After 3 days of fasting and mourning, when Israel fully repents of their sin, Christ returns to them as they return to God. (**Isaiah 49:4-13; 16 (*!*)**; **Hosea 6:2**)
 - d. The remnant of Israel is restored to their land and to Jerusalem forever when their sins are forgiven. (**Ezekiel 20:33-44; 34:13, Isaiah 11:11-15**)
 - e. The Millennium is the time when Christ will be the uncontested King and High Priest of all the earth. His capital city will be Jerusalem. (**Zechariah 6:11-15; Isaiah 40:1-5**)
 - f. The resurrected and raptured saints will rule with Christ during the 1000 years of the Millennium. (**1 Corinthians 4:8; Philippians 2:10,11; 1 Timothy 2:12; Revelation 11:15, 17; 20:1-7**)
 - g. The great wedding feast or banquet is held in Jerusalem for the Lord's people (**Isaiah 25:6**)
 - h. Angels will be judged by Christ and His Church at the beginning of the Millennium. (**1 Corinthians 6:3**)
 - i. Nations will be judged by Christ and His Church at the beginning of the Millennium. (**1 Corinthians 6:2; Matthew 25:32-46**)
 - j. Lawlessness and law breakers will not be permitted to succeed during the Millennium; there will be instant justice. (**Psalm 2:6-12; Isaiah 32:1-5; 42:4; Romans 15:12; Revelation 2:27; 12:5; 19:15**)
 - k. The nations of the world will be blessed by Christ and through Israel (**Isaiah 2:2-4; 9:1-7; 11:1-12; 42: Ezekiel 35:29**)
 - l. All of creation will be blessed because of the Lord's wise administration (**Isaiah 11:1-9; 35:1-10; Ezekiel 34: 26, 27; Romans 8:19**)
 - m. There will be no hunger or poverty, no hoarding or extreme wealth. (**Isaiah 41:17-20**)
 - n. A highway will run from Egypt to Assyria, called the "Highway of Holiness" (**Isaiah 11:16**)
 - o. The mighty Nile River will be changed into many small streams (**Isaiah 11:15**)
3. The Millennium will mark the time when all Israel (the remnant) will be saved. (**Isaiah 11:11,12; 12:1-6; 30: 19-21; 41:8-10; 43:25; 44:1-8; 21-23; 45:17; Romans 11:11, 12; 25-29**)
- a. The Millennium is the time when the remnant of Israel will be first among the nations - a kingdom of priests. (**Zechariah 14:21, 22; Ezekiel 37:21-28; Isaiah 4:2-4**)
 - b. Israel will administer a sacrificial system that is a memorial to the sins of the nations. They will serve in a rebuilt Temple, which is in Jerusalem. (See **Ezekiel 40-48**)
 - c. Resurrected David will be the King of the nation of the remnant of Israel. (**Ezekiel 34:23, 24; 37:24**)

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- d. The nations will seek out Jews for instruction in godliness and grace. (**Zechariah 8:21-23**)
 - e. All nations will be required to celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles as a memorial to the time of Israel's sojourning among them, (**Zechariah 14:16-19**)
 - f. Egypt and Assyria will be saved and will also be called "the people of God" and there will be a highway that connects them. (**Isaiah 19:16-25**)
 - g. Israel will gain her material support from the wealth of the nations. (**Isaiah 49:19-23; 60:1-12,14-16**)
5. Jerusalem will be a "preview" of the New Creation. (**Zechariah 14:11**)
- a. The saints (raptured & resurrected) will live with the Lord, which begins with a great wedding feast or banquet. (**Isaiah 25:6, 9, 10; 26:1-4, 19**)
 - b. Nothing unclean will be allowed to enter Jerusalem (**Isaiah 52:1**)
 - c. The Lord will dwell in Jerusalem and will be the light of the city -- there will be no need for the sun or the moon for light (**Isaiah 24:23; 60:18-22; Zechariah 2:10-12; 8:3; 9:9**)
 - d. Long life and blessing will be in the city (**Isaiah 65:20**)
 - e. (When we are saved, our spirit is redeemed within us -- a "glimpse" of the New Creation -- as a down-payment for our future redemption, at the time of the resurrection. In the same way, Jerusalem is "redeemed", the inhabitation of the Lord and the redeemed Saints, and is a "glimpse" of the New Creation for the Millennium World.)
6. The Millennium ends when Satan is released from his prison and deceives the nations. (**Isaiah 65:27; 2 Peter 3:10-13; Revelation 21:1-22:21**)
- a. The Lord defeats and imprisons Satan permanently (**Isaiah 24:21, 22**)
 - b. The wicked are resurrected and judged at the Great White Judgement Throne
 - c. The current universe is destroyed by fire, with all the elements melting away.
 - d. A New Heavens and New Earth is created in which there will be no more sin and the righteous may dwell securely with the Lord eternally.