

The Reign of the Saints

By Rich Jacobs, MD

*Then I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was given to them. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony of Jesus and because of the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received the mark on their forehead and on their hand; **and they came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.** Revelation 20:4*

1. The Immediate Post Tribulation, Post Plagues World

- a. The defeat of Antichrist and his Beast Empire of nations at Armageddon
 - i. The remnant of Israel is saved, God's two witnesses are resurrected, Jerusalem experiences a devastating earthquake (**Revelation 11**)
 - ii. The 7th Trumpet sounds, which announces the beginning of Christ's earthly reign and the Millennium begins. (**Zechariah 12:9-11; Hosea 6:1-3; Romans 11:25-29; Revelation 11:7-15**)

*Then the seventh angel sounded; and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "**The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ; and He will reign forever and ever.**" Revelation 11: 15*

- c. When Christ's throne is established on earth, the nations surviving the Trumpet Judgements that are led by Satan-Antichrist become enraged and mount a military campaign against the Lord and His people in Jerusalem. (**Revelation 11:18; Zechariah 12:2-4, 9; Psalm 2; Isaiah 17:13; 29:7; 34:2; Jeremiah 10:10-25**)

*And I saw the beast and the kings of the earth and their armies assembled **to make war against Him** who sat on the horse and against His army. Revelation 19:19*

- c. The Lord defeats Antichrist, his false prophet, the ungodly rebel nations, and Satan. The false prophet and Antichrist are thrown in the Lake of Fire and Satan is imprisoned in the abyss.

*And **the beast was seized, and with him the false prophet** who performed the signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who had received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image; **these two were thrown alive into the lake of fire** which burns with brimstone . . . And he **laid hold of the dragon, the serpent of old, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years; and he threw him into the abyss** . . . Revelation 19:20; 20:2, 3*

- d. The Lord judges and condemns the people who accepted Satan as their god and Antichrist as their savior.

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*And the smoke of their torment goes up forever and ever; they have no rest day and night, **those who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name.** Revelation 14:11*

2. The Lord judges the remaining nations of the world according to their deeds during Antichrist's reign.

a. Plague survivors are parsed into "sheep" and "goats" (Sheep and Goats Judgment)

*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. Matthew 25:31-33*

b. The "sheep citizens" inherit life in Christ's earthly kingdom during the Millennium

*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 . . .'" Matthew 25:34*

c. The "goats" will inherit eternal perdition

*"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. . .'" Matthew 25:41*

3. The Earthly Rule of Christ

a. There will be a literal earthly reign of Christ from Jerusalem in Israel.

*Thus says the LORD, '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.' Zechariah 8:3*

*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. Zechariah 14:9*

b. Law and Righteousness restored and enforced by Christ's earthly rule

*And she gave birth to a son, a male child, who is **to rule all the nations with a rod of iron** . . . Revelation 12:5 (Also, see Psalm 2:9; Romans 15:12; Revelation 2:27; 19:15)*

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- c. The earthly reign of Christ will also be one of unprecedented peace and prosperity in the world.

*And He will judge between many peoples and render decisions for mighty, distant nations. **Then they will hammer their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation will not lift up sword against nation, and never again will they train for war.** Micah 4:3*

*And the wolf will dwell with the lamb, and the leopard will lie down with the young goat, 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. The nursing child will play by the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child will put his hand on the viper's den. **They will not hurt or destroy in all My holy mountain, For the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD As the waters cover the sea.** Isaiah 11:6-9*

- d. Divine feasts and holidays enacted for the nations. For example, see below. The Lord Himself will establish international laws.

*Then it will come about that **any who are left of all 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 Booths.** And it will 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.** 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. **This will be the punishment of Egypt, and the punishment of all the nations who do not go up to celebrate the Feast of Booths.** Zechariah 14:16-19*

4. The Priestly Role of Israel

- a. All of the remnant of Israel will be saved and will be united with the Messiah, Jesus Christ. It seems likely that Israel's repentance and acceptance of Christ opens the door to the Millennium. Israel will be counted among the saints.

*I will **pour out on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the Spirit of grace and of supplication,** so that they will look on Me whom they have pierced; and they will mourn for Him, as one mourns for an only son, and they will weep bitterly over Him like the bitter weeping over a firstborn. Zechariah 12:10*

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. . . that a partial hardening has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in; **and so all Israel will be saved** . . . Romans 11:25, 26

Come, **let us return to the LORD**. For He has torn us, but He will heal us; He has wounded us, but He will bandage us. He will revive us after two days; **He will raise us up on the third day, that we may live before Him**. So let us know, let us press on to know the LORD. His going forth is as certain as the dawn; And He will come to us like the rain, Like the spring rain watering the earth. Hosea 6:1-3

- b. The remnant of Israel will be restored to their land, their sins will be removed, and they will be filled with the Holy Spirit.

Therefore thus says the Lord GOD, "**Now I will restore the fortunes of Jacob and have mercy on the whole house of Israel; and I will be jealous for My holy name. They will forget their disgrace and all their treachery which they perpetrated against Me, when they live securely on their own land with no one to make them afraid. . . I will not hide My face from them any longer, for I will have poured out My Spirit on the house of Israel,**" declares the Lord GOD. Ezekiel 39:25, 26, 29

- c. The Lord Jesus Christ will live among the restored remnant of Israel in the rebuilt Temple, in Jerusalem.

He said to me, "Son of man, this is the place of My throne and the place of the soles of My feet, where **I will dwell among the sons of Israel forever**." Ezekiel 43:7

- d. Resurrected King David reigns over the nation of Israel, as Christ reigns over all the nations of the earth.

Then I will set over them one shepherd, My servant David, and he will feed them; he will feed them himself and be their shepherd. And I, the LORD, will be their God, and **My servant David will be prince among them; I the LORD have spoken**. Ezekiel 34:23, 24

My servant David will be king over them . . . Ezekiel 37:24

Afterward the sons of Israel will return and seek the LORD their God and **David their king**; and they will come trembling to the LORD and to His goodness in the last days. Hosea 3:5

- e. Ministry before the Lord. Ezekiel 40-43, describes a Temple like none other in history. This is the Millennium Temple, the place where Israel

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serves as priests before the Lord. The priesthood that Ezekiel describes brings sacrifices, not for atonement for sin, but as a memorial to the wages of sin and the sacrifice of Christ.

*He said to me, "This is the chamber which faces toward the south, intended for the priests who keep charge of the temple; but the chamber which faces toward the north is for the priests who keep charge of the altar. **These are the sons of Zadok, who from the sons of Levi come near to the LORD to minister to Him.**" Ezekiel 40:45, 46*

f. Teachers of the "sheep citizens" of the Millennium

*Many nations will come and say, "Come and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD and **to the house of the God of Jacob, that He may teach us about His ways and that we may walk in His paths.**" For from Zion will go forth the law, even the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. Micah 4:2*

g. Because of Israel's favored status with the Lord, there will be no anti-Semitism.

*Thus says the LORD of hosts, 'It will yet be that peoples will come, even the inhabitants of many cities. The inhabitants of one will go to another, saying, "Let us go at once to entreat the favor of the LORD, and to seek the LORD of hosts; I will also go." So many peoples and mighty nations will come to seek the LORD of hosts in Jerusalem and to entreat the favor of the LORD.' "Thus says the LORD of hosts, **In those days ten men from all the nations will grasp the garment of a Jew, saying, "Let us go with you, for we have heard that God is with you."**" Zechariah 8:20-23*

5. The Role of the Church of Christ

a. Will be earthly rulers and judge with Christ during the Millennium

*He does not withdraw His eyes from the righteous; **but with kings on the throne He has seated them forever, and they are exalted.** Job 36:7*

*But **the saints of the Highest One will receive the kingdom** and possess the kingdom forever, for all ages to come. Daniel 7:18*

*Then **I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was given to them.** And I saw the **souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony of Jesus** and because of the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received the mark on their forehead and on their hand; and **they came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.** Revelation 20:4*

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He who overcomes, I will grant to him to sit down with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne. Revelation 3:21

- b. Active in judgment and justice (and in grace)

*Or do you not know that **the saints will judge the world?** If the world is judged by you, are you not competent to constitute the smallest law courts? Do you not know that **we will judge angels?** How much more matters of this life?*

- c. Regarded to be nobility by the nations

*As for the **saints who are in the earth, they are the majestic ones** in whom is all my delight. Psalm 16:3*

- “majestic ones” comes from the Hebrew word “addir” (אָדִיר), which BDB says means “**kings of nations, noble ones, chieftains**”.

- d. Will have a priestly role while ruling and judging, helping the nations find God in Christ

*. . . you also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house for **a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices** acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. 1 Peter 2:9*

*And they sang a new song, saying, “Worthy are You to take the book and to break its seals; for You were slain, and purchased for God with Your blood men **from every tribe and tongue and people and nation. You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to our God; and they will reign upon the earth.**” Revelation 5:9, 10*

- e. A ministry of teaching, advising, and serving

*The righteous will inherit the land and dwell in it forever. The mouth of the righteous **utters wisdom**, And his tongue **speaks justice**. The law of his God is in his heart; his steps do not slip. Psalm 37:29-31*

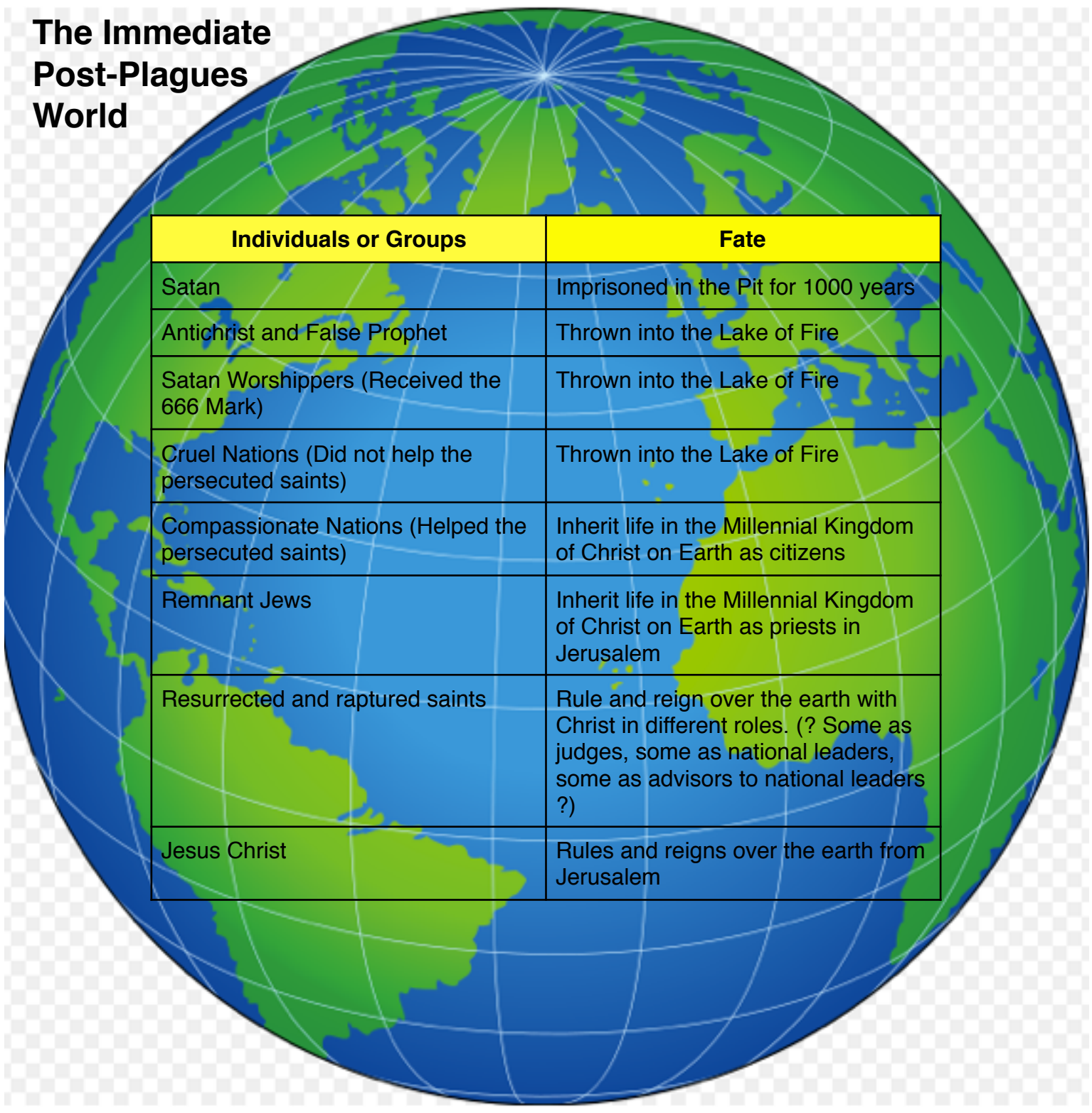
- f. Rule and judgement established through humble service to the nations

*It is not this way among you, but **whoever wishes to become great among you shall be your servant**, and whoever wishes to be first among you shall be your slave . . . Matthew 20:26, 27*

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The Immediate Post-Plagues World



Individuals or Groups	Fate
Satan	Imprisoned in the Pit for 1000 years
Antichrist and False Prophet	Thrown into the Lake of Fire
Satan Worshipers (Received the 666 Mark)	Thrown into the Lake of Fire
Cruel Nations (Did not help the persecuted saints)	Thrown into the Lake of Fire
Compassionate Nations (Helped the persecuted saints)	Inherit life in the Millennial Kingdom of Christ on Earth as citizens
Remnant Jews	Inherit life in the Millennial Kingdom of Christ on Earth as priests in Jerusalem
Resurrected and raptured saints	Rule and reign over the earth with Christ in different roles. (? Some as judges, some as national leaders, some as advisors to national leaders ?)
Jesus Christ	Rules and reigns over the earth from Jerusalem