

Sneak Peek at Coming Events #6

The Millennium

Introduction:

1. Mankind has long dreamed of a utopia on earth
 - a. A time of perfect peace and harmony
 - b. The world thinks that this can be ushered in by improved education and increased technology
2. Postmillennialists of a century ago thought that the gospel would be preached around the globe
 - a. As more and more people were saved everything would get better and better as missions are saved
 - b. Christ would return and begin the millennium and then later rapture believers etc
 - c. WWI and later, WWII, dashed all hopes for world peace and a utopia
3. The millennium in the Bible speaks of the 1000 yr reign of Christ on the earth

I. Fact of the Millennium

A. God the Father Decreed It – Ps 2:6-7

1. God the Father spoke of the millennium
2. “my king” will rule in Zion

B. The Savior Taught It – Jn 18:36

1. Jesus was asked if he was a king
2. A king has a kingdom
3. “Now” my kingdom is not from hence

C. The Prophets Prophesied It – Isa 2:2

D. John Spoke of the Millennium – Rev 20:1-6

1. John mentions a literal thousand year reign of Christ
2. 1000 yrs is mentioned 4x here

II. Christ Will Rule the World

A. Jeremiah's Prophecy Will Be Fulfilled – Jer 23:5-6

B. Angel's Prediction to Mary Will Come True – Lu 1

C. Israel and Jerusalem Will be Prominent During the Millennial Kingdom

1. Isa 2:1-3

- a) Israel is the central nation during the millennium*
- b) Some are upset that Jerusalem will be the capital of the kingdom and Israel will be the central nation*

2. Isa 60:10-14

- a) God called Israel to be a special nation*
 - b) They received his special revelation*
 - c) Through Israel the Lord Jesus Christ came*
 - d) God deeded the land of Palestine to them*
 - e) During the church age, Israel has been set aside, but during the millennium they will once again enjoy the unique role He has chosen for them*
3. The angel told Mary that Jesus would sit on the throne of his father David
- a) Since David ruled from Jerusalem, then we must conclude that David's most illustrious successor will also rule from Jerusalem*
 - b) Will Jesus leave heaven and live entirely on earth for 1000 yrs?*
 - c) Will Jesus divest himself of his heavenly body and take an earthly body back on for 1000 yrs?*
 - d) Some do not appreciate the Jewishness of the millennial kingdom*
4. Jews from around the world will return to Israel – Isa 11:11-12

D. Promises Made to Abraham Will Be Completely Fulfilled in the Millennium

1. God promised Abraham a land from the Nile to the Euphrates River – Gen 15:18
2. In Abraham all the families of the earth will be blessed
 - a) *This has happened spiritually*
 - b) *This has not happened literally*
3. Deut 28:13
4. Zech 8:23

E. Christ Will Rule With a Rod of Iron – Ps 2:6-12

1. Some believe that all the heathen will be destroyed and only believers will enter the millennium
2. Any rebellion will be quickly put down
3. Everyone will be required to worship God through Jesus
4. No false religions will be permitted

F. Christ's Rule Will Be Universal – Ps 72:8, 11, 17

G. Believers Will Reign with Christ – 1Cor 6:2-3; Rev 3:21

1. Some Believers are Offended at Christ Being a Dictator
 - a) *We have been raised to believe that dictators are evil*
 - b) *Some believers cringe when they hear of Jesus ruling with totalitarian authority*
 - c) *Will He really permit no opposition?*
 - d) *There will be no freedom of religion*
2. Human dictators have always turned out badly
 - a) *They are not wise enough or good enough to be given absolute authority over every area of our lives*
 - b) *Jesus, the sinless, Son of God, possesses all goodness, wisdom and power that qualifies Him to be absolute leader*
 - c) *He will achieve the perfect balance between kindness and firmness*

H. The Result of Christ's Rule will Be Peace

1. Isa 2:4-5

a) Person of Peace – “He”

- (1) This is the key to peace
- (2) World peace is wrapped up in a person
- (3) "He" in this verse refers to Jesus Christ
- (4) Lasting peace will not come through the efforts of the United Nations
- (5) The world today rejects Jesus Christ and that is why there is no peace
- (6) There is no world peace or individual soul peace apart from Jesus Christ
- (7) All efforts to bring peace to this world, apart from Christ are doomed to failure

b) Process of Peace

- (1) "He shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people"
- (2) This speaks of the purifying that will occur before peace comes
- (3) Christ will clean house when He comes back to reign
- (4) He will bring righteousness to the world
- (5) Judging and rebuking are necessary prerequisites to peace
- (6) There can be no peace apart from righteousness

c) Product of Peace

- (1) Implements of war - implements of war will be turned into farming implements
- (2) Involvement in war - nations will no longer be at war with each other
- (3) Instruction for war - there will be no more military academies - people will not learn about war any more

2. Micah 4:4 and Isa 65:21-23

a) There will be no more wars and weapons will be melted down and turned into farming equipment

b) The weak won't be exploited by the strong

c) The lazy and shiftless will not get by without working

I. The Result of Christ's Rule will Be Righteousness

1. Isa 11:3-4

2. Ps 72:1-4, 6, 12-14

III. The Natural World Will Be Transformed

- During the millennium, the earth will be a far different, more beautiful place than it is today
- Desert areas are too hot / dry - Jungle areas are wet / humid
- Alaska and Siberia are too cold
- Earthquakes, volcanoes, hurricanes, and tornadoes kill and injure thousands every year
- Droughts and pestilence cause food shortages / starvation
- Plague / disease bring premature death to many thousands
- If a person is healthy and lives in the right country in the right part of the world, then he thinks that the world is a pretty good place
- Everyone realizes that our world has much about it that is far from beautiful
- In the millennium, the curse on the earth will be lifted

A. Changes in Climate

1. Isa 30:23-26
 - a) *Starvation will cease as food is produced abundantly*
 - b) *Food will be properly administered and distributed*
 - c) *Areas that never produced much food will begin to produce abundantly in the millennium*
2. Isa 35:6-7 - Parched, unusable ground will be productive
3. Ezek 47:12
4. During the millennium the earth will become what God originally intended
 - a) *Adam and Eve enjoyed ideal conditions*
 - b) *They enjoyed peace and rest that we never know*
 - c) *They enjoyed fellowship with God that we don't have*
5. When sin came into the world then man became estranged from God and strife grew
 - a) *Govts came into existence to control men*
 - b) *Sinful men took over some of the govts and they became corrupt*
 - c) *Suffering, hardship, disease, famine, injustice were seen*

B. Changes in the Animal World

1. There will be a new harmony among the animals – Isa 11:6-8
 - a) *Premillennialists take these verses to mean exactly what they say*
 - b) *I am not sure how the Amillennialists, who believe that we are already in the millennium, explain these verses*
 - c) *They probably saw that these verses are symbolic of the harmony that comes to those who trust Christ as Savior*
 - d) *Taking these verses symbolically or figuratively take away the beauty of the passages and violate the context*
2. Taking these verses literally requires us to believe that the entire order will be changed
 - a) *Cats will not longer eat mice*
 - b) *Birds will no longer eat worms or insects*

C. Changes in Health and Longevity – Isa 35:5-6

1. Babies will be born with healthy bodies and live to maturity
2. Any who have handicaps will be made well
3. Death will be the exception rather than the rule
4. One who is 100 yrs old will be considered young

IV. Worship During the Millennium

A. The Unholy Trinity Will Be Out of the Picture

1. Antichrist will be cast into the lake of fire – Rev 19:20
2. Satan will be bound for 1000 yrs in the bottomless pit – Rev 20:1-7
3. What would the world be like with Satan bound for 1000 yrs and not causing trouble

B. Jewish Sacrifices Will Be Reinstated

1. Some see a problem with believers turning to Jewish sacrifices
2. The Jewish sacrifices have been done away in the Lord Jesus Christ
3. In the OT, the sacrifices pointed forward to Christ's death on the cross
4. In the church age, the Lord's Supper points back to the cross.
5. Perhaps, in the millennium, the sacrifices will point back to what Christ did on the cross

C. The Holy Spirit Will Be Poured Out on All People – Joel 2:28-29

1. This was partially fulfilled on the day of Pentecost
2. Those who say that this all happened on the day of Pentecost often ignore vs 31 which says that the sun will be turned into darkness and the moon into blood...