



Paradise Regained

The Millennial Reign of Jesus Christ



Its Inhabitants

- All resurrected and glorified believers.
- Jewish
 - Is. 60:21-- "Then all your people *will be* righteous; They will possess the land forever, The branch of My planting, The work of My hands, That I may be glorified.
 - Rom. 11:26— and so all Israel will be saved; just as it is written, "THE DELIVERER WILL COME FROM ZION, HE WILL REMOVE UNGODLINESS FROM JACOB."
- Gentile
 - 1 Cor. 6:10 – nor thieves, nor *the* covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, will inherit the kingdom of God.
 - Rev. 5:9-10 – "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."

Who are these rebels?

- True believers
- Unbelievers who survived the Tribulation and are allowed into the Millennium
- Children born during the 1000 years
 - Is. 65:20 – "No longer will there be in it an infant *who lives but a few days*, Or an old man who does not live out his days; For the youth will die at the age of one hundred And the one who does not reach the age of one hundred Will be *thought* accursed.
 - To whom?
 - Not to glorified believers
 - Luke 20:34-35 – Jesus said to them, "The sons of this age marry and are given in marriage, but those who are considered worthy to attain to that age and the resurrection from the dead, neither marry nor are given in marriage.
 - To redeemed survivors of the Tribulation

Its Character

- Satan will be bound.
 - Rev. 20:1-3
- This present earth will be renewed.
 - How do we know that the millennium will occur on the earth?
 - 1) Rev. 5:10—they will reign upon the earth
 - 2) Rev. 19:11-16—Christ returns to the earth
 - 3) Rev. 20:9 – after the 1000 years, the last battle occurs on the earth.
 - 4) Many OT texts show that this was the expectation of the OT saints (Ps. 2:8; Dan. 7:14; Ezek. 36-37)

Its Character

- A Renewed Earth
 - Matt. 19:28 – "the regeneration"
 - Acts 3:19 – "times of refreshing"
 - Acts 3:21 – "the restoration of all things"

A Renewed Earth
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Is. 11:7-9— 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. ■ Is. 35:1-2— The wilderness and the desert will be glad, And the Arabah will rejoice and blossom; Like the crocus It will blossom profusely And rejoice with rejoicing and shout of joy. The glory of Lebanon will be given to it, The majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They will see the glory of the LORD, The majesty of our God.

A Renewed Earth
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Amos 9:13-14— "Behold, days are coming," declares the LORD, "When the plowman will overtake the reaper And the treader of grapes him who sows seed; When the mountains will drip sweet wine And all the hills will be dissolved. "Also I will restore the captivity of My people Israel, And they will rebuild the ruined cities and live <i>in them</i>; They will also plant vineyards and drink their wine, And make gardens and eat their fruit.

Its Character
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Jesus will reign as King. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Is. 9:6-7— For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; And the government will rest on His shoulders; ... There will be no end to the increase of <i>His</i> government or of peace, On the throne of David and over his kingdom, To establish it and to uphold it with justice and righteousness From then on and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will accomplish this. - Is. 11:1-10

Its Character
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Jesus will reign as King. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dan. 7:14— "And to Him was given dominion, Glory and a kingdom, That all the peoples, nations and <i>men of every</i> language Might serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion Which will not pass away; And His kingdom is one Which will not be destroyed. - Luke 1:32-33— "He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David; and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and His kingdom will have no end."

Its Character
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Jesus will mediate his rule through his saints. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Through the OT saints <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Dan. 7:27— 'Then the sovereignty, the dominion and the greatness of <i>all</i> the kingdoms under the whole heaven will be given to the people of the saints of the Highest One: His kingdom <i>will be</i> an everlasting kingdom, and all the dominions will serve and obey Him.' - Through the apostles <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Matt. 19:28— And Jesus said to them, "Truly I say to you, that you who have followed Me, in the regeneration when the Son of Man will sit on His glorious throne, you also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

Its Character
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Jesus will mediate his rule through the saints. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Through NT believers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 1 Cor. 6:2— Or do you not know that the saints will judge the world? If the world is judged by you, are you not competent <i>to constitute</i> the smallest law courts? ■ 2 Tim. 2:12— If we endure, we will also reign with Him. ■ Rev. 2:26— 'He who overcomes, and he who keeps My deeds until the end, TO HIM I WILL GIVE AUTHORITY OVER THE NATIONS;

	Its Character
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Jesus will mediate his rule through the saints. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Through NT believers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Rev. 3:21— '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. ■ Rev. 5:10— "You have made them <i>to be</i> a kingdom and priests to our God; and they will reign upon the earth." ■ Rev. 20:6— Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years.

	Its Character
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Jerusalem will be the focal point of God's presence. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Is. 24:23— Then the moon will be abashed and the sun ashamed, For the LORD of hosts will reign on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem, And <i>His</i> glory will be before His elders. - Jer. 3:17— "At that time they will call Jerusalem 'The Throne of the LORD,' and all the nations will be gathered to it, to Jerusalem, for the name of the LORD. - Ezek. 43:7— He said to me, "Son of man, <i>this is</i> the place of My throne and the place of the soles of My feet, where I will dwell among the sons of Israel forever. - Micah 4:7— "I will make the lame a remnant And the outcasts a strong nation, And the LORD will reign over them in Mount Zion From now on and forever. - Zech. 8:3— "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 <i>will be called</i> the Holy Mountain.'

	Its Worship
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Ezek. 37:27-28 – "My dwelling place also will be with them; and I will be their God, and they will be My people. "And the nations will know that I am the LORD who sanctifies Israel, when My sanctuary is in their midst forever."" ■ That is a summary statement. ■ Chapters 40-48 are an expansion. ■ They predict: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A Millennial Temple - Animal Sacrifices (?)

	A Millennial Temple
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Is. 2:2-4— Now it will come about that In the last days The mountain of the house of the LORD Will be established as the chief of the mountains, And will be raised above the hills; And all the nations will stream to it. And many peoples will come and say, "<u>Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, To the house of the God of Jacob; That He may teach us concerning His ways And that we may walk in His paths.</u>" For the law will go forth from Zion And the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. - Haggai 2:9— 'The latter glory of this house will be greater than the former,' says the LORD of hosts.

	One of Israel's Previous Temples?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Not Solomon's – details don't match (cf. 1 Kings 6-7) ■ Not Zerubabel's – Glory Cloud was never there; it is in this temple (43:5). ■ Not the heavenly Jerusalem—Ezekiel taken to Israel to see it (40:2) ■ Not eternal temple—the Lord and the Lamb are its temple (Rev. 21:22).

	Purpose of a Millennial Temple?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ A focal point for the presence of God ■ Ezek. 37:28 – "And the nations will know that I am the LORD who sanctifies Israel, when My sanctuary is in their midst forever.""

Animal Sacrifices?

- Ezek. 43:18ff
- Cf. Heb. 10:12 – but He, having offered one sacrifice for sins for all time, SAT DOWN AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD.
- Two possible explanations:
 - 1) Memorials of Christ's sacrifice.
 - 2) Representative of worship

Its Blessings

- Alva McClain's book, *The Greatness of the Kingdom*

1) Spiritual Blessings

- Spiritual salvation (Is. 12:1-6; 61:10)
- Grace (Zech. 12:10; Ps. 84:11)
- Repentance (Jer. 31:19)
- Regeneration (Ezek. 36:24-38)
- Sanctification (Zeph. 3:11-13)
- Joy (Is. 61:2-3; Jer. 31:12)

2) Ethical Blessings

- A readjustment of social values (Is. 40:4)
- An objective standard (Is. 2:3; Mal. 4:4)
- An accurate appraisal of moral worth (Is. 32:5)
- Truth exalted (Is. 42:3; Zech. 8:3)
- Personal retribution for sin (Jer. 31:29-30)
- Open demonstration of God's moral economy (Zeph. 1:12)

3) Social Blessings

- All warfare abolished (Hos. 2:18; Micah 4:3-4)
- Complete social justice (Is. 65:21-22; Amos 9:11, 14)
- Every legitimate interest of human life will receive its place (Ps. 126:1-2; Zech. 8:4-5)

4) Political Blessings

- An international authority (Is. 2:2-4)
- A world capital (Is. 2:3; 60:10, 13, 17; Ezek. 43:1-7)
- Israel's pariah status removed (Zech. 8:13)
- The adjudicating and righting of political wrongs (Is. 2:4; Ps. 72:4)
- One common language (Zeph. 3:9)

5) Physical Blessings	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Climate change (Is. 30:23-26) ■ Waste areas become fruitful (Joel 2:21-24; Is. 35:6-7; 41:18) ■ Increased fertility & productiveness (Is. 32:13-15; 35:1-2; Amos 9:13) ■ Changes in the animal world <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Safety of man (Hos. 2:18; Ezek. 34:25) - Peace between animals (Is. 11:6-8) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 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. - No carnivores (Is. 11:7)

5) Physical Blessings	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Disappearance of physical disease and deformity (Is. 33:24; 35:5-6) ■ Freedom from ordinary hazards (Ezek. 34:23-31; Is. 65:23)