

Joy to the World . . . At Last!

Thy Kingdom Come – Part VII

Revelation 20:4-6

Introduction – The Millennial Kingdom

If you were with us in our last study together, we began asking and answering questions related to John's Revelation in chapter 20 about the coming millennial kingdom.

The reason we believe in a coming, literal, physical kingdom and her King is the same reason we believe in the first coming of a literal, physical King. The Bible tells us so.

It does not get any simpler than this. The Bible tells us so.

If we believe the Bible's 109 prophecies related to the first coming of the Lord – and all the details we surveyed made it very clear that He fulfilled these prophecies physically and literally – then we have every reason to believe that all of the 220 remaining prophecies of His second coming will also be literally and physically fulfilled.

The King and His kingdom are coming to planet Earth.

Let us review some of the questions we have answered thus far in our study of Revelation chapter 20.

1. Who exactly is the King?

The prophets clearly declare that the King is the Old Testament Messiah, prophesied and fulfilled in the New Testament person of Jesus Christ. Jesus most often called Himself the Son of Man, His favorite title. This connected Him to the prophet Daniel and corresponded with the Psalmist King David who wrote in that great Messianic Psalm,

. . . [they] surrounded Me . . . and pierced My hands and feet. (Psalm 22:16)

Isaiah also wrote of Jesus' humiliation and suffering on our behalf in His first coming. We read in chapter 53 verses 5-6,

. . . He was pierced . . . for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities . . .

. . . laid on Him [was] the iniquity of us all.

This was the plan. And according to the prophecy of David, among others, Jesus was not abandoned by the Father, but rose from the dead (Psalm 16:10).

This resurrected Messiah is returning again to establish His kingdom, according to the prophecies of Daniel, David, Micah, Zephaniah, Zechariah, and more. In fact, thirty-six Old Testament prophets spoke more of the second coming than the first.

There is a coming kingdom of God on earth, and who is the King? David quotes God the Father in Psalm 2 that the crowned Sovereign will be the Son (capital "S") of God. He writes,

. . . I have installed My King upon Zion [Jerusalem] . . .

I [have given] the nations as [My Son's] inheritance . . .

. . . O kings . . . of the earth

Do homage to the Son, that He not become angry . . .

(Psalm 2:6, 8, 10, 12)

Revelation 19 has already revealed to us the dramatic future event when God the Son, the returning Messiah, will ride from heaven with its hosts as He returns to earth. On His royal garment will be the regal seal and monogram, which reads,

*. . . King of Kings and Lord of Lords.
(Revelation 19:16)*

And the prophet Zechariah says of this coming day,

*. . . [Israel] will look on [Him] whom they have pierced; and they will mourn for Him... [yet the Lord] will pour out on the house of David . . . the Spirit of grace . . .
(Zechariah 12:10)*

Who is the coming King? He is the Messiah of Isaiah and Daniel,

. . . the Son of Man [who] came to seek and to save those who were lost. (Luke 19:10)

The King happens to be, as recorded in Matthew 16:16, none other than Jesus the Messiah,

. . . the Christ, the Son of the living God.

This is who the King is.

2. How long will the kingdom last?

Can we really be sure of how long the kingdom will last? John reveals the answer to us through six uses of the same phrase in the opening verses of Revelation chapter 20. If you were not with us in our last discussion, you should turn to this passage and underline all the references to this time period.

God wants us to know the kingdom will last:

- one thousand years (*verse 2*);
- one thousand years (*verse 3*);
- one thousand years (*verse 4*);
- one thousand years (*verse 5*);
- one thousand years (*verse 6*);
- one thousand years (*verse 7*).

He tells us six times – He is probably serious.

Men, if your wife asked you to take out the trash, you could possibly tell her later that you did not hear her. If she asked twice, you might think she was serious about it. If she asked four times, you would be running out of excuses. However, if she asked you *six* times, you are dead meat – you need counseling, or the city of refuge.

We would have to twist and distort every hermeneutical principal that takes anything seriously

from the word of God related to timing and toss them out if we do not take this time period seriously.

In addition, do we *really* want to tamper with God's references in Revelation to time periods? The book of Revelation says that heaven, following the kingdom and judgments, will last how long? Take a guess – forever!

This is a really long time. And you are going to take this seriously. I have never met anyone who said, "We who believe in Christ get to live in heaven forever? God probably wasn't serious."

Anyone who studies this book of Revelation and walks away thinking that John was not serious about the kingdom physically existing and literally lasting one thousand years with Christ as its literal King has wax in his ears and blinders on his eyes. Or, more likely, he has his hands pressed against his ears and his eyes tightly shut so that he will neither hear nor see.

There is a coming thousand year reign that theologians refer to as the millennium. The word "millennium" is derived from two Latin words – "mille" and "annum," which when put together mean "one thousand years".ⁱ

Four views of the millennium

There are four different views of the millennium. I will comment on each of them briefly.

• **Preterism**

This is the belief that most of the prophecies of the Old Testament were fulfilled at the fall of Jerusalem in 70 A.D. Preterism has a number of interpretive problems, not the least of which is the simple historical fact that Revelation was written about twenty years *after* the fall of Jerusalem. John the Apostle was not writing history, he was writing prophecy of things yet to come to pass, as we read in Revelation 1:1.

Furthermore, if the judgments of God fell when Jerusalem was destroyed in 70 A.D., when was the mark of the beast required? Where is the record of cosmological disturbances including one hundred pound hailstones pummeling the earth? We would expect that to show up in some historian's notebook. When did the Euphrates dry up? And why was Israel dispersed for the next 2,000 years?

Enough of this view, which requires anything but a literal, common-sense approach to scripture.

- **Postmillennialism**

This is another metaphorical view of the millennium. Postmillennialism is the belief that the kingdom will actually be brought about gradually by evangelism as the world grows more and more civil, organized, and “Christianized”.

In this view, the human race is going to get better and better, and through Christianity the world will finally arrive at a state of peace and prosperity.

We could call postmillennialism the “Optimist’s Club”. The belief is, “Things are going to get better.”

This is the theology of the world system, by the way. They think mankind has the power to make everything better, people more civil, and institutions more caring and compassionate.

This view was primarily developed in the sixteenth century, but fell out of popularity – when? After two world wars, the Great Depression, and a rather obvious record of moral decay and crime.

The world is not getting better, it is getting worse. This is exactly what the apostle Paul said when he wrote,

*... men ... will proceed from bad to worse...
(II Timothy 3:13)*

Man is not basically good and happens to do some bad things every so often; man is basically sinful and happens to do some good things every once in a while.

*The [human] heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked . . .
(Jeremiah 17:9)*

So, two views on the millennium are preterism and postmillennialism. Let us look at two more.

- **Amillennialism**

Another view is Amillennialism, which is the belief that the church has inherited the promises of the kingdom. Christ is simply ruling in our hearts and there will be no literal, physical kingdom on earth.

Those who believe this must interpret prophecy after prophecy spiritually and figuratively instead of literally.

- **Premillennialism**

The final view of the millennium, which I believe the Bible clearly teaches, is premillennialism.

There will be a literal one thousand year reign and Christ will return to earth to launch it.ⁱⁱ

The Millennial Kingdom – Further Revelation

Now let us ask and answer some more questions about the millennial kingdom.

1. **Who will be the subjects in this coming kingdom?**

Daniel 7:27 promises that the *Old Testament saints* will reign in the millennial kingdom. *New Testament believers* are also promised that they will reign with Christ.

So there will be Old Testament believers, New Testament believers, and John mentions a third category of people that will be present. We might wonder about these people since they died during the Tribulation.

Notice Revelation chapter 20 verse 4.

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.

In other words, Jesus Christ keeps His word to those who resisted the agenda of the antichrist, refused to worship him, and chose instead to worship Christ. These *Tribulation martyrs* will be both Jews and Gentiles who accept the gospel of Christ during the Tribulation.

By the way, in verse 4 the phrase “they came to life” cannot refer to some sort of spiritual resurrection, or simply be a reference to the new birth through salvation.

The Greek word is “ezeson” (εζησαν), and any time it is used in the context of someone who had physically died, it always refers to a literal physical, bodily resurrection.ⁱⁱⁱ

Finally, there are the living mortals who survive the Tribulation – several million of them – while most of the population of the world is killed in the upheaval of all the cataclysmic and demonic attacks on earth’s population.

Let me summarize the subjects of the kingdom this way:

Subjects of the Kingdom	
Immortals <i>Glorified bodies</i>	Mortals <i>Natural bodies</i>
OT believers NT believers Tribulation martyrs	Tribulation believers Population growth

Two categories of people during the millennial kingdom

There will be two categories of people occupying the earth during the millennial kingdom. There will be those with glorified bodies and those with earthly bodies. To use the language of the apostle Paul, we will call these who co-reign with Christ the “immortals” and the “mortals” – or the human race that ultimately populates the earth.

- **Immortals**

The glorified bodies or immortal saints who will reign with Christ from Jerusalem and throughout the whole earth will include three categories, according to a number of passages that we can compare.

- **First, immortals will include believers from the Old Testament who are resurrected and given glorified bodies.**

We read this in Daniel’s prophecy in chapters 7 and 12.

This will include both Jewish and Gentile followers of God by faith in His plan of atonement.

For example, Ruth would be included, even though she was Gentile. She chose to follow the God of Naomi and came to Bethlehem where she met Boaz and was redeemed by him.

Ruth would be included in this immortal company as well as her mother-in-law – a former Gentile prostitute named Rahab who lived in Jericho, but abandoned her foreign gods and followed the true and living God after the walls of her city miraculously came tumblin’ – what? Down. Rahab also chose to follow the God of Abraham.

- **Secondly, immortal saints with glorified bodies will include New Testament believers who were raptured or resurrected at the close of the church age.**

These saints will be clothed, Paul wrote,

... with immortality. (I Corinthians 15:53)

The church today is also composed of Jew and Gentile. In fact, the first church created by the Spirit of God was primarily Jewish, and it all got started in what city? In the city of Jerusalem!

Like the Old Testament prophets before them, the twelve apostles of the New Testament church were Jews. In fact, the great ambassador to the Gentile world was a converted Jewish rabbi named Paul.

Paul reminded the Corinthian believers, composed of Jewish and Gentile converts, that the church would one day be among those who actually judged or . . .

... ruled the world (I Corinthians 6:2)

- **The third group of immortals are martyred, resurrected Tribulation saints.**

John specifically mentions this group in Revelation 20 verse 4. Both Jews and Gentiles are also included in this.

So these are the immortals – the reigning, glorified believers ruling with their Messiah in the coming kingdom of Christ.

- **Mortals**

On the other side of the column is the second category of kingdom subjects. These are the mortals who are still in their natural, non-glorified, earthly bodies with which they were born.

These people have not died. They will become the population of the world over which the immortals will reign.

At the close of the Tribulation period, the believers who have survived will be allowed to enter the kingdom of Christ.

Matthew chapter 25 informs us that when the Son of Man comes in His glory back to earth, He will judge all who are still alive. Those who did not believe the gospel will ultimately be sent to the place of torment (Matthew 25:46). However, those who believed the gospel of the one true and living God, presented throughout the Tribulation period, will be given the wonderful news that they have inherited the kingdom of God (Matthew 25:34).

By the way, if the church is not raptured at the beginning of the Tribulation but instead endures and merely goes up to meet Christ when He returns and immediately comes back with Him, as posttribulationists believe, there is a problem.

The kingdom will be immediately populated with earthly mortal people who believed the gospel during the Tribulation and, according to Matthew 25 and the prophetic description of the world's population, will physically enter the kingdom era without having died. They will still have their physical bodies and, in addition, will be healed of all their diseases (Isaiah 33:24) and given the ability to live for a very long time. However, they will still die (Isaiah 65:20) and will need to be given their eternal glorified body.

According to the prophets, throughout the one thousand year kingdom, these mortals will marry, have children, flourish, and enjoy all the kingdom benefits. Their children will have children, and so forth, until the earth is literally populated with billions of people once again.

These children will have to accept the gospel of Christ as they grow up, by the way. God has no grandchildren of faith. They will be sinners in need of salvation. Just because their parents are confirmed believers and allowed into the kingdom does not mean the next generations to follow will be. They must also believe if they hope to be allowed into the next phase of God's plan – the new heaven and the new earth.

However, God in His grace will make it very easy to understand the nature of the gospel through the development of the millennial temple system which we will talk about.

So far we have answered a number of questions. Let us take a pop quiz. The first question on this quiz will be a simple question!

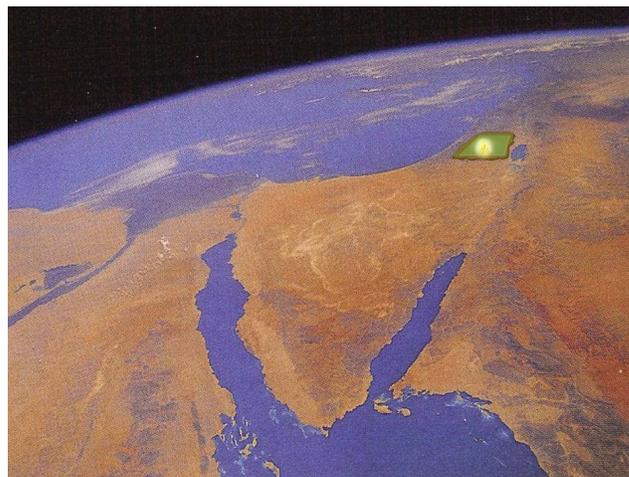
- Who is the King? Christ.
- How long is the kingdom going to last? One thousand years.
- Is the Bible really clear about the length of the kingdom? Yes.
- What are the two categories of subjects in the kingdom? Immortals and mortals.
- Who are in the category of immortals who will reign with Christ?
 - Old Testament believers
 - New Testament believers
 - Tribulation martyrs

- Who are in the category of mortals who will enter the kingdom? Tribulation believers who go on to populate the earth.

Excellent, you got an "A+" because you can read so well!

Now let us ask and answer another question.

2. **Where is the actual location of Christ's throne? Worded another way, where is the capital city of Christ's kingdom?**



The short answer is Jerusalem – the city of God. It is also called the mountain of God.

David wrote,

Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised, in the city of our God, His holy mountain.

Beautiful in elevation, the joy of the whole earth, is Mount Zion in the far north, the city of the great King.

(Psalm 48:1-2)

David refers to God's mountain, to the beauty of the city's elevation, and to universal joy.

Go all the way back to Abraham and see that he was looking for a city, constructed supernaturally . . .

. . . whose architect and builder is God. (Hebrews 11:10).

So there is something different about Jerusalem. It will be elevated, magnificent, divinely conceived and designed, and built by God's own creative power.

This leads to another question.

3. **What will Jerusalem, the kingdom's capital city, look like?**

John Walvoord's classic work on the millennial kingdom refers to the prophecies that allow us to understand that topographical changes are going to

take place that will literally reshape the surface of the earth.^{iv}

Zechariah records for us in chapter 14 verse 10 that,

All the land will be changed into a plain . . . south of Jerusalem; but Jerusalem will rise and remain on its site from Benjamin's Gate as far as the place of the First Gate to the Corner Gate, and from the Tower of Hananel to the king's wine presses.

In other words, this is Jerusalem proper; inside the city walls.

Then Zechariah adds in verse 11,

People will live in it, and there will no longer be a curse, for Jerusalem will dwell in security [or peace].

In other words, the city will be inhabited on its ancient site and there will be peace in Jerusalem at last.

The prayer request of the Jewish nation for centuries has been, "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem." Peace will genuinely and finally come to pass in the millennial kingdom as Christ rules on planet Earth.

Our world does not have security or peace. One author said that whenever he hears of someone being arrested for disturbing the peace, he wonders where in the world they found it. Where did they find peace to disturb?

Peace will one day come – when the Prince of Peace comes.



The prophet Isaiah informs us that,

. . . the Lord will make the wilderness regions of Zion like Eden, and her desert like the garden of the Lord; joy and gladness shall be found in her, thanksgiving and the sound of melody. (Isaiah 51:3)

Now, all the topographical changes around the globe are specifically formulated to create a high mountain or plateau upon which Jerusalem will sit and command with a commanding view for many miles.



In Ezekiel's vision in chapter 40 verse 2, God takes him,

. . . into the land of Israel and sets [him] on a very high mountain and on it to the south there was a structure like a city.

Janet Willis is the author of an intriguing study on the kingdom as well as the New Jerusalem. I have enjoyed her research and her paintings on this subject. Her husband, Scott Willis, has preached at our church in the recent past.

Janet is a creative artist who has painted numerous pictures based on the coming kingdom and the New Jerusalem. She agreed to allow me to use her paintings to help provoke our imaginations with the grandeur of the physical, literal reign of Christ during the millennium. My manuscript entitled, "Joy to the World . . . At Last!" is free to download on Colonial.org or wisdomonline.org, and Janet has allowed these pictures to be included.

If her paintings do anything, they allow us to imagine a small sliver of the glory of our future with Christ.

Now this issue immediately raises a pretty healthy debate among evangelical Bible scholars.

Many scholars believe this capital city of God will actually hover above the earthly Jerusalem during the millennial kingdom and we, the immortals, will travel between it and our places of responsibility on planet Earth.

Other scholars believe this divinely created capital city of the millennial kingdom – New Jerusalem – is planted upon the raised plateau. This

is what we see pictured. We the immortals will dwell in this city and travel about the planet serving Christ.

Either way, it is a “win, win” situation, right?

Every immortal will have at least two homes, not one. One residence will be inside the city of God and the other residence will be wherever God has determined that they will serve and rule as a co-regent with Christ. All will have a place of residence inside the city of God – Jesus called it the “Father’s house” in John 14.

John Walvoord once suggested that this city would actually be built in the form of a pyramid with the throne of God at the top and the river of life wending its way from the throne down the various levels of the city.^v

This is the form Janet has taken with her artistic renderings. She has done this for good reason.

It is interesting that from the beginning of the Old Testament, the ancients were given the truth of God’s coming kingdom and this magnificent city. When man rebelled, we discover they pandered toward a pyramid structure to signify their union with the heavens – the stars and planets.

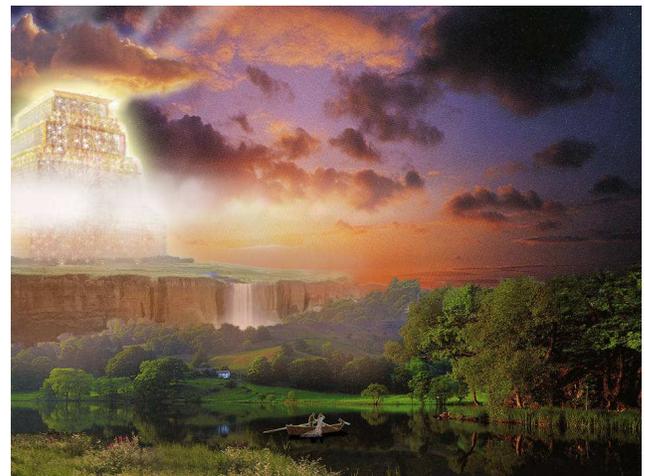
When Nimrod rebelled against God, he built a city and a tower – a pyramid – the top of which represented the heavens (Genesis 11). This was literally the creation of the zodiac, as we have studied in the past. Even pagan historians of the zodiac refer all the way back to Babel and its infamous ziggurat or pyramid tower.

The creator God, whose throne is at the top of the eternal city, is replaced in these human counterfeit towers with pictures of the stars and constellations. It is the classic fulfillment of Romans 1, which talks of the fact that mankind denies the Creator’s rule and replaces Him with creation – symbols of planets and stars, the sun and moon.



If we traveled around the world, we would find step pyramids built by ancient civilizations for their pagan worship. These same cultures also have their own versions of a great flood and animal sacrifices to appease the gods.

This merely proves that the law of God has not only been written on the heart of mankind, but the gospel preached to Adam, Abraham, Moses, Noah, and more is bound up in the cultures of our world that have chosen over the generations to create their own worship that elevates nature and the stars, sun, and moon. With their ancient pyramids they mimicked the city of God they had heard about from their forefathers. Even Abraham was waiting for the city of God.



Frankly, we can barely imagine the dwelling place of the immortals. We read,

. . . [this is the] Father’s house [in which] are many dwelling places. (John 14:2)

As the King descends we will see this city descending as well as Jerusalem’s topography changing and rising to showcase the glory of God and the throne of His Son (Isaiah 2 and Psalm 48).

Isaiah says that all the earth around it will return to conditions like that of the Garden of Eden, as we read,

. . . the [wilderness] will be turned into a fruitful field . . . (Isaiah 29:17)

It will be unbelievably beautiful.

Let me ask and answer another question, briefly.

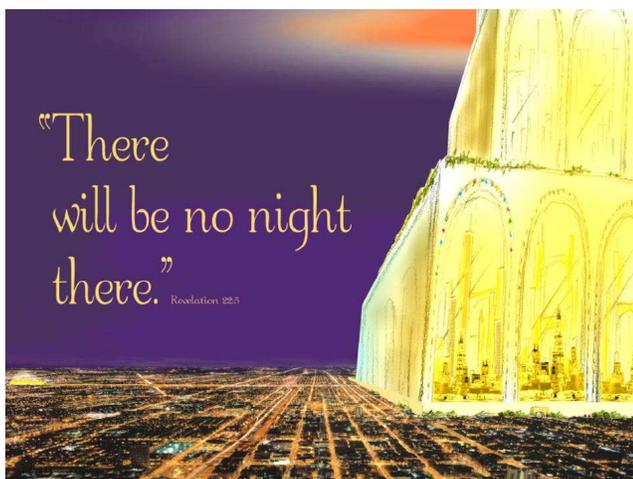
4. What will our worship system be like for us, as immortals, and for the mortals we rule?

Our communion as immortals will be face to face with Christ. We will be priests, John writes in Revelation 20 verse 6, which speaks of physical, intimate communion with Christ.

For the mortals of the kingdom, there will be a brand new system of worship which was revealed in Ezekiel's prophecy.

Ezekiel informs us of the millennial temple also located on this raised plateau . . . a region totaling thirty-seven square miles which includes dwelling places for the priests, fields for crops, the capital city, and the millennial temple right in the middle of it.^{vi}

The temple will be the central piece in the worship of God throughout the millennial kingdom.



Now in this particular sketch we can see a portion of this thirty-seven square mile region, which includes our dwelling place inside the City of God and also, to the left, we can see a little golden building, representing the millennial temple.

Just this view alone is stunning as we consider the scale of the golden city. The measurement in Revelation 21:16 is more than likely a cubed measurement. This would indicate that the golden city is stretching about eleven miles into the sky. The particular view in this picture contrasting the golden city to the normal dwelling places of the priests and

temple workers who live nearby staggers the imagination.

The prophet Isaiah mentions that in the city of Jerusalem there will be a unique feature to the area. At night, the cloud canopy over the city will have the appearance of fire. In other words in this city, both in the kingdom and throughout the new heaven and new earth, the curtain of glory and light will never be pulled closed. (Isaiah 4:5-6)

We can see this in the picture of Jerusalem at night in the kingdom.

Ezekiel also informs us that the temple worship will reinstate animal sacrifices and blend in certain aspects of the church age.

Animal sacrifices will be reinstated as memorials to the sacrificial death of our great King. This will be done to teach and re-teach for a thousand years the entire story of redemption to Israel and the nations of the earth.

One author provoked my thinking when he said, "How needful these sacrifices will be; when dwelling in the blaze of Messiah's glory, to have ever before them some memorial of the cross, some tangible record of the humbled Jesus, some visible demonstration of His sin-bearing work, by which they have been forgiven, saved and loved – they owe all their blessedness . . . to His grace."^{vii}

The millennial kingdom will require teaching – the exposition of scripture – that mortals be taught the word of God. Christian, biblical language sites will explode around the world as kingdom mortals attempt to reach their world with the gospel of Christ.

Mortals born into the kingdom will need to be saved. The plan of salvation will be the same then as it was in the New Testament and in the Old Testament.

- The Old Testament believer looked ahead to the cross and to their atoning Savior;
- The New Testament believer looks back to the cross;
- The millennial believer will also look back to the cross.

The fact that the just shall live by faith will not change.

We would think that everyone in the world would believe. However, as we will discover in our next study, at the end of the millennial kingdom, Satan is released and will find millions of unbelievers who will willingly follow him to march against Jerusalem.

Let us ask one more question.

5. What will we do throughout the kingdom; what will we do as immortal co-regents?

Now I am guessing, but I think I am right when I say that I do not think we will be able to stop smiling!

Frankly, we forget that before we get to the final and new heaven and earth, we will already be enjoying the benefits of immortality.

If I am teaching the Bible in some school or before some assembly one day in the kingdom, I will not need these glasses.

We will have our new bodies – perfected in holiness. This means there will be no more sin nature for immortals to struggle with; the body of death will be removed from us who are already in the kingdom and forever beyond that.

We are not told what our co-regency will look like in real terms. Will it be:

- an educational leadership of some sort as the immortals strategically enlighten the growing millions of mortals?
- a cabinet position or political rule in a city, county, or state?
- an agricultural post of high-level decision making in order that the resources of the earth are managed properly?
- the highest levels of financial stewardship and monetary oversight for the nations of the world as their economies flourish and grow at amazing rates?
- leadership in the worship of God through His ordained methods, whatever they may involve, throughout the world?
- the highest seats of judicial authority as the national issues are determined and wise counsel handed down in this land of perfect justice?
- chief positions in musical academies for the creation and composition of works to be performed in the presence of Christ the King or seasons of celebrating attributes?

All of the above are not only possible, they are merely the beginning of millions of options, I believe. For we who inhabit the kingdom of our Lord will each have a royal position of leadership, authority, dignity, effectiveness, fruit, joy, wisdom, balance, and more joy as we get to serve for Him and with Him throughout this one thousand year reign.

What absolute, unbelievable, lasting, deep joy there will be. Over and over again, Isaiah referred to the kingdom with this attribute – joy. This is joy that would overflow everything in the kingdom.

Isaiah 51:3 is a text I have already referred to, but did not finish reading. Isaiah writes,

Indeed, the Lord will comfort Zion; He will comfort all her waste places. And her wilderness He will make like Eden, and her desert like the garden of the Lord; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and sound of a melody.

Isaac Watts attempted to capture the joy of the kingdom as it was so often described by the prophet Isaiah. Unfortunately the hymn he composed about the joy of the kingdom ended up being relegated to the Christmas season. One brief phrase in his composition, “Let every heart prepare Him room,” probably relegated it to Christmas. I do not think he would have imagined the church using this hymn for the first coming of Christ instead of His second coming.

Listen to some of the lyrics of Isaac Watt’s hymn.

Joy to the world! The Lord is come;

Let earth receive her King;

Let every heart prepare Him room,

*And heaven and nature sing . . . and heaven
and nature sing.*

Joy to the earth! The Savior reigns;

Let men their songs employ;

*While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
plains,*

*Repeat the sounding joy . . . repeat the
sounding joy.*

He rules the world with truth and grace,

And makes the nations prove,

The glories of His righteousness,

*And wonders of His love . . . and wonders of
His love.^{viii}*

What a great hymn for the coming kingdom. Truly, it is joy to the world . . . at last! Finally . . . joy to the whole world!

And the world will make melody, Isaiah said. We will sing of the glories of His righteousness and the wonders of His love.

This manuscript is from a sermon preached on 1/24/2010 by Stephen Davey.

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ⁱ Sam Gordon, Worthy is the Lamb: Revelation (Ambassador, 2000), p. 404.

ⁱⁱ John MacArthur, Because the Time is Near (Moody Press, 2007), p. 296.

ⁱⁱⁱ John MacArthur, Revelation: Volume 2 (Moody Press, 2000), p. 238.

^{iv} John F. Walvoord, The Millennial Kingdom (Zondervan, 1959), p. 321.

^v Ibid., p. 334.

^{vi} Janet Willis, "The New Jerusalem" (Unpublished notes), p. 30.

^{vii} Walvoord, p. 314.

^{viii} Text: Isaac Watts; Music: George F. Handel