

TEXT- Isaiah 65:17-25

INTRO – The book of Revelation describes the tribulation in Revelation 6-19, the second coming of Christ in Revelation 19:11-21, and the millennial kingdom in Revelation 20:4-6. A millennium is a thousand, and the millennial kingdom will last for one thousand years.

The millennial kingdom will be a time of unknown and incredible blessing. Scripture teaches us that only the saints of all the ages will initially be allowed into the millennial kingdom. Those saints or believers who were dead before the millennial kingdom is established will enter with immortal bodies. Those believers who are alive on the earth at the time the kingdom is established will have with mortal bodies. Then during the kingdom, the mortal believers will have children. These new children born during the kingdom will need to make a decision to believe in Christ as their Savior just as their parents did or face an eternity in hell. But while they remain on earth, they can still sin. Those who sin will be punished (Isaiah 66:24;

I. What Is The Millennial Kingdom?

The millennial kingdom is the future reign of Jesus Christ on earth as He sits on David's throne in Jerusalem. Everyone who enters that kingdom will be redeemed by God and therefore righteous. **Isaiah 35:8-10** *And an highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called The way of holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it; but it shall be for those: the wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err therein. 9 No lion shall be there, nor any ravenous beast shall go up thereon, it shall not be found there; but the redeemed shall walk there: 10 And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads: they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.*

The Jews expected this to occur during Christ's first coming.

- **John the Baptist preached about the kingdom.**

Matthew 3:1-3 *In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea, 2 And saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand. 3 For this is he that was spoken of by the prophet Esaias, saying, The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.*

- **Jesus presented the kingdom.**

Matthew 4:17 *From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.*

- **The principles of the kingdom are given Matthew 5-7 The sermon on the mount and the beatitudes.**
- **Daniel spoke of this kingdom.**

God's Word taught there is to be a "physical kingdom" on earth in which

Jesus Christ would have a throne and rule over with King David, **Daniel 7:13-14** *I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him. 14 And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed.*

II. Who Will Dwell In This Kingdom?

Among those redeemed will be two distinct groups of people: those with glorified physical bodies and those with natural, earthly bodies.

- Those who occupy the millennial kingdom with *glorified* bodies can be divided into three subgroups:
 1. the church, whose bodies were either resurrected or changed at the rapture (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; 1 Corinthians 15:21-23, 51-53);
 2. the tribulation martyrs, who are resurrected after Christ returns to earth (Revelation 20:4-6);

(the Old Testament saints, who we assume are resurrected at the same time)

Daniel 12:2 *And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.*

3. Those who occupy the kingdom with *earthly* bodies have survived the tribulation and can be subdivided into two groups:
 - a. believing Gentiles
 - b. believing Jews.

- **Christ will rule the earth from Jerusalem.**

The book of Zechariah is the Revelation of the Old Testament. It provides many prophecies about the end times. Zechariah 14 provides important information about the tribulation and God's millennial kingdom. Verse 9 says the Lord will reign as king over all the earth.

Zechariah 14:9 *And the LORD shall be king over all the earth: in that day shall there be one LORD, and his name one.*

This is a great verse because it states that the Lord will be the one and only king over all the earth. **Joel 3:17** *So shall ye know that I am the LORD your God dwelling in Zion, my holy mountain: then shall Jerusalem be holy, and there shall no strangers pass through her any more.*

- **The Word of God will be taught from Jerusalem.**

Both Micah 4:1-2 and Zechariah 14:16-17 provide even more information; they say that the nations will come to Jerusalem to visit Christ.

Micah 4:1-2 *But in the last days it shall come to pass, that the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills; and people shall flow unto it. 2 And many*

nations shall come, and say, Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for the law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

• **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,**

- **Zechariah 14:16-17** *And it shall come to pass, that every one that is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall even go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to keep the feast of tabernacles. And it shall be, that whoso will not come up of all the families of the earth unto Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, even upon them shall be no rain.*

- **We will reign with Him**

Revelation 20:4 *And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.*

III. It Will Be a Kingdom of Peace

- **A Highway to holiness**

Isaiah 35:8-9 *And an highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called The way of holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it; but it shall be for those: the wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err therein. No lion shall be there, nor any ravenous beast shall go up thereon, it shall not be found there; but the redeemed shall walk there:*

Therefore, what will the earth be like in the millennial kingdom? The earth will be ruled by our God, Jesus Christ. It will be a time of peace, righteousness, and real justice.

- **Animals will be at peace and with people.**

The peace mentioned in Ezekiel 34:23-25 will extend to the animal kingdom. **Isaiah 11:6-9** *The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together: and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice' den. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.*

Peace will also exist between animals and people. Both Isaiah 11:6, 8 prophesy that a little boy will be able to lead these animals and play with snakes without harm.

All the earth will know God.

The reason for this peace is that the entire earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD.

Vegetation will flourish.

The conditions in the millennial kingdom will extend to the vegetation.

Ezekiel 34:26-29 *And I will make them and the places round about my hill a blessing; and I will cause the shower to come down in his season; there shall be showers of blessing. 27 And the tree of the field shall yield her fruit, and the earth shall yield her increase, and they shall be safe in their land, and shall know that I am the LORD, when I have broken the bands of their yoke, and delivered them out of the hand of those that served themselves of them. 28 And they shall no more be a prey to the heathen, neither shall the beast of the land devour them; but they shall dwell safely, and none shall make them afraid. 29 And I will raise up for them a plant of renown, and they shall be no more consumed with hunger in the land, neither bear the shame of the heathen any more.*

Joel 3:18 *And it shall come to pass in that day, that the mountains shall drop down new wine, and the hills shall flow with milk, and all the rivers of Judah shall flow with waters, and a fountain shall come forth of the house of the LORD, and shall water the valley of Shittim.*

Other passages in Isaiah and Jeremiah echo the same promises, adding that there will be plenty of food (Isaiah 30:23-25; 35:1-7; Jeremiah 31:2-14).

- **People will live for hundreds of years.**

Another remarkable condition that will exist is that people will live for hundreds of years, just as they did before the worldwide flood. Isaiah 65:19-20 prophesies,

Isaiah 65:19-20 *And I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and joy in my people: and the voice of weeping shall be no more heard in her, nor the voice of crying. 20 There shall be no more thence an infant of days, nor an old man that hath not filled his days: for the child shall die an hundred years old; but the sinner being an hundred years old shall be accursed.*

Isaiah 65:22 is more precise. It says the lifespan of people will be like that of the trees.

Isaiah 65:22 *They shall not build, and another inhabit; they shall not plant, and another eat: for as the days of a tree are the days of my people, and mine elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands.*

Sickness, deformity, and miscarriages cease.

Isaiah 65:23 *They shall not labour in vain, nor bring forth for trouble; for they are the seed of the blessed of the LORD, and their offspring with them.*

**In that day the deaf shall hear the words of a book,
and out of their gloom and darkness the eyes of the blind shall see.**

Isaiah 29:18 *And in that day shall the deaf hear the words of the book, and the eyes of the blind shall see out of obscurity, and out of darkness.*

In addition, the prophet Isaiah says that death, sorrow, and mourning will cease (Isaiah 25:8; 60:20).

Concl – This kingdom will be much different than the world today. We can look forward to that day with anticipation. You must be saved or you will miss it.