

LIFE IN THE NEW WORLD

A STUDY OF CHAPTER 3

BIG CHANGES ON THE WAY

Back to Earth

1 Thessalonians 4:14—We believe that Jesus died and rose again and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him.

One of the most surprising discoveries we encounter when we study the Millennium is that believers will not spend eternity in _____, but on Earth!

If you are a believer in Christ, you will live in heaven from the time of your death or the Rapture until the _____ of Christ.

Satan Gone

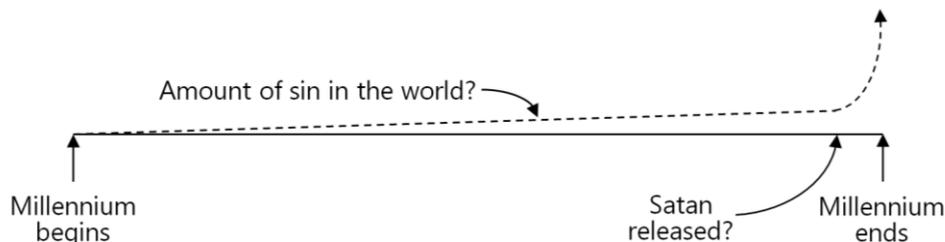
1000 Years—Save for the presence of Christ, the absence of Satan will contribute to the glory of the Millennium more than any other aspect of it. Imagine the thrill you and other resurrected believers will experience as you return from heaven to live in a world with no devil in it! (p. 36)

In the Millennium, Satan will not be present to tempt and deceive mortal human beings.

Society Permeated by Righteousness

Satan's absence from Earth will result in a _____ of sin, but not the total elimination of sin.

1000 Years—Nevertheless, although Satan will not be present during most of the Millennium to entice them to do evil, every mortal—including ones who are converted to Christ—will still possess a sin nature that predisposes them to rebel against God, just as mortals possess today (p. 36).



Partial Phase-out of the Curse

When Adam and Eve sinned by eating from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil, God punished them by pronouncing a _____ upon all creation: “. . . Cursed is the ground because of you; . . .” (Genesis 3: 17-19).

Romans 8:22 reveals that the Curse extends to the entire physical universe: We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time.

In the Millennium God will _____ roll back the Curse, but not totally.

1000 Years—The Bible declares that, in the Millennium, God will begin to lift His curse upon the natural world, but He will eliminate it in two successive stages, rather than all at once. The first stage will take place during the Millennium, and the second stage in the eternal state that follows it. In the Millennium, God will lift elements of the curse only in the land of Israel, and in the eternal state, He will lift the curse entirely from the whole earth, and thus the apostle John declares in Revelation 22:3 that, once the eternal state arrives, “No longer will there be any curse.” All traces of sin and its consequences will be removed forever (p. 38).

Right now: Curse in effect 100%
The Millennium: Curse lifted partially
Eternal state (new heavens and Earth): Curse lifted entirely

The reason why God will lift the Curse only partially in the Millennium is because one of God’s primary purposes for the Millennium is to _____ in the eyes of the nations.

Premillennialists often refer to the Millennium as “the time of Israel’s _____.”

Do not confuse Christ’s worldwide rule in the Millennium with His elimination of the Curse, because the first is _____, but the second is not.

1000 Years—Because Christ’s kingdom will encompass the entire earth, many students of prophecy assume that all the millennial blessings foretold in Scripture will extend globally as well, but this interpretive leap is unsupported in Scripture. In reality, Scripture makes it clear that, although Christ will reign over all nations, He will reserve His greatest blessings for His covenant people (p. 40).

Ezekiel 36:33-36—³³“This is what the Sovereign LORD says: On the day I cleanse you from all your sins, I will resettle your towns, and the ruins will be rebuilt. ³⁴The desolate land will be cultivated instead of lying desolate in the sight of all who pass through it. ³⁵They will say, ‘*This land that was laid waste has become like the garden of Eden; the cities that were lying in ruins, desolate and destroyed, are now fortified and inhabited.*’ ³⁶Then the nations around you that remain will know that I the LORD have rebuilt what was destroyed and have replanted what was desolate. I the LORD have spoken, and I will do it.”

A Stunning Makeover

Some transformations will extend to the entire globe, including a marked increase in _____.

Isaiah 30:26—The moon will shine like the sun, and the sunlight will be seven times brighter, like the light of seven full days, when the LORD binds up the bruises of his people and heals the wounds he inflicted.

This could mean that, in the Millennium, _____ will be continuous, but we cannot be certain of this.

Taken in context (vv. 19-26), even this millennial blessing could apply only in Israel.

Israel Glorified

The nation of Israel will exemplify and encourage _____ living for the rest of the world.

Jeremiah 31:33-34—³³“This is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after that time,” declares the LORD. “I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. ³⁴No longer will a man teach his neighbor, or a man his brother, saying, ‘Know the LORD,’ because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest,” declares the LORD. “For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more.”

-  ¹ See, a king will reign in righteousness and rulers will rule with justice (Isaiah 32:1).
This refers to _____, Who will reign over Israel as its Messiah, and over the world as King of Kings, with redeemed Jews ruling Israel under Him.
-  ² Each man will be like a shelter from the wind and a refuge from the storm, like streams of water in the desert and the shadow of a great rock in a thirsty land (Isaiah 32:2).
Every Jew in Israel will be a spiritually _____ follow Christ who effectively encourages and guides others to follow Jesus, too.
-  ³ Then the eyes of those who see will no longer be closed, and the ears of those who hear will listen. ⁴ The mind of the rash will know and understand, and the stammering tongue will be fluent and clear. ⁵ No longer will the fool be called noble nor the scoundrel be highly respected (Isaiah 32:3-5).
Every Jew in Israel will perceive God’s truth, and societal values in Israel will favor _____.

1000 Years—God will bring amazing transformations to the Holy Land during the Millennium that will cause Israel to become the envy of the entire world (p. 42).

Utopian conditions in Israel in the Millennium:

- Abundant _____ production.
Ezekiel 34:29 –“I will provide for them a land renowned for its crops, and they will no longer be victims of famine in the land or bear the scorn of the nations.”
Amos 9:13—“The days are coming,” declares the LORD, “when the reaper will be overtaken by the plowman and the "planter by the one treading grapes. New wine will drip from the mountains and flow from all the hills.
This may result from a modification of Israel’s climate that causes year-round growing seasons.
- _____ regions of Israel will become lush with vegetation. (Isaiah 35:1-2, 7; 51:3; Ezekiel 34:26-27, 29; 36:35; Joel 3:18; Zechariah 89:12).
- An end of predatory behavior among _____.

Isaiah 65:25—The wolf and the lamb will feed together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox, but dust will be the serpent's food. They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain," says the LORD.

- The average _____ in Israel will be greatly extended (Isaiah 65:18-22).

" . . . he who dies at a hundred will be considered accursed" (Isaiah 65:20).

Isaiah 65:22—"No longer will they build houses and others live in them, or plant and others eat. For as the days of a tree, so will be the days of my people; my chosen ones will long enjoy the works of their hands."

- _____ will disappear in Israel. Isaiah 33:24—No one living in Zion will say, "I am ill"; . . .

Note: Because all of these millennial promises apply exclusively to Israel, we may presume that living conditions in the rest of the world will be similar to those of today.

A New Ethic for Business and Commerce

1000 Years—Everyday life will continue in the future messianic kingdom that you will inhabit. Farmers will grow crops and raise livestock, factories will produce goods, banks will manage deposits and invest capital, schools will educate students, and governments will pass laws and administer state affairs (p. 45).

Although life will go on in the Millennium, Satan's absence, and the fact that a greater extent of the world's people will be believers in Christ (at least in the earlier years), will mean that the activities of everyday life will not be corrupted by _____ and evil nearly as much as today.

The reduction in crime during the Millennium will free enormous _____ assets that are now allocated for crime prevention and punishment to be used for more productive purposes.

Peace, Not War

1000 Years—The *New York Times* reported in 2003 that only 268 years of the past 3,400 years of recorded human history have been entirely free of military conflict, meaning more than 90 percent of recorded history has been marked by warfare (p. 47).

There will be no _____ anywhere on the globe until Satan is released at the very end of the Millennium.

Isaiah 2:4—He will judge between the nations and will settle disputes for many peoples. They will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore.

The elimination of war will result in huge _____ on the part of governments.

1000 Years—Warfare’s termination will make it possible for the entire \$2.5 trillion in worldwide annual military-related spending to be saved, or redirected toward nobler purposes, year after year, and over the entire course of the Millennium. Altogether, the savings could equal at least \$1 quadrillion, or \$10¹⁵ trillion, which, when written out, is 10 followed by fifteen zeroes! (p. 48)

Tares among the Wheat

Christ will permit only born-again mortal human beings who survive the Tribulation to enter the Millennium, meaning that, at the Millennium’s outset, all mortals living on Earth will be _____ in Christ.

These mortals will bear children throughout the Millennium, and some of these children will not believe on Christ for salvation, and will thus remain unsaved.

The world’s unbelieving population will steadily _____ throughout the Millennium until, when Satan is released, a vast number of unbelievers will exist, and will be led by him to rebel against Christ.

Psalm 2:1-6—¹ Why do the nations conspire and the peoples plot in vain? ² The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers gather together against the LORD and against his Anointed One. ³ “Let us break their chains,” they say, “and throw off their fetters.” ⁴ The One enthroned in heaven laughs; the Lord scoffs at them. ⁵ Then he rebukes them in his anger and terrifies them in his wrath, saying, ⁶ “I have installed my King on Zion, my holy hill.”

Revelation 20:7-9—⁷ When the thousand years are over, Satan will be released from his prison ⁸ and will go out to deceive the nations in the four corners of the earth—Gog and Magog—to gather them for battle. In number they are like the sand on the seashore. ⁹ They marched across the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of God’s people, the city he loves. But fire came down from heaven and devoured them.

1000 Years—Although realizing that unbelievers will live on earth during the Millennium may surprise and dismay us, the fact that they will provides an important insight into one of the Millennium’s purposes in God’s end-time program. Their presence demonstrates that the earth will still not be entirely free from the presence of sin. This reality, combined with the fact that human beings will still experience physical death during the Millennium, makes it clear that the Millennium will serve as a parenthesis between this present world and the new earth that will be created after it (pp. 52-53).



Before the next session read Chapter 4—*Christ’s Government in the Millennium*