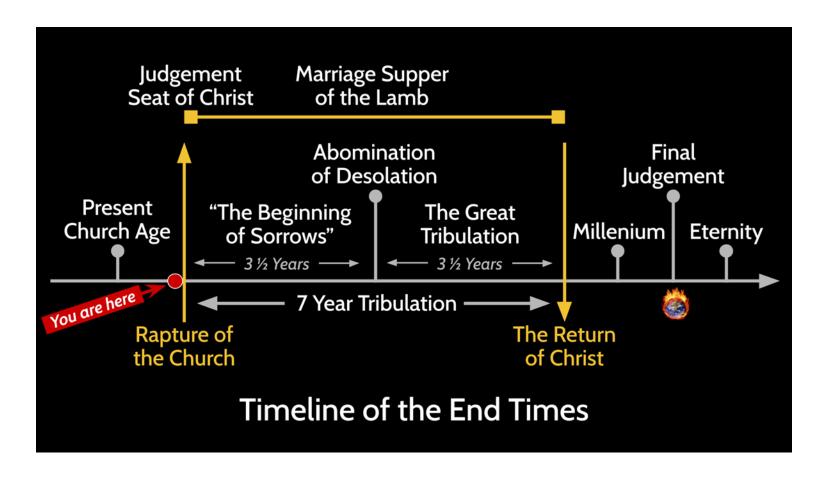
What about the Millenium?

June 6, 2024

<u>Millenium</u> - The future 1000 year period beginning with the establishment of Christ's earthly reign and terminating with the last judgement and destruction of the present universe.



Inaugurating the kingdom.

Upon Christ's return at the 2^{nd} Advent, The Almighty King of Kings will remove the devil as ruler of the world and commence His own reign over the earth.

Entering this new civilization will be believers only, since all living unbelievers are removed in the Baptism of Fire.

(Matt 25:31-46, Rev 11:15-19)

Matt 25:31-46 - "But when the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne.

- 32) "All the nations will be gathered before Him; and He will separate them from one another, as the shepherd separates the sheep from the goats; 33) and He will put the sheep on His right, and the goats on the left. 34) "Then the King will say to those on His right, 'Come, you who are blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.
- 35) 'For I was hungry, and you gave Me something to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave Me something to drink; I was a stranger, and you invited Me in; 36) naked, and you clothed Me; I was sick, and you visited Me; I was in prison, and you came to Me.' 37) "Then the righteous will answer Him, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry, and feed You, or thirsty, and give You something to drink? 38) 'And when did we see You a stranger, and invite You in, or naked, and clothe You? 39) 'When did we see You sick, or in prison, and come

to You?' 40) "The King will answer and say to them, 'Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did it to one of these brothers of Mine, even the least of them, you did it to Me.' 41) "Then He will also say to those on His left, 'Depart from Me, accursed ones, into the eternal fire which has been prepared for the devil and his angels; 42) for I was hungry, and you gave Me nothing to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave Me nothing to drink; 43) I was a stranger, and you did not invite Me in; naked, and you did not clothe Me; sick, and in prison, and you did not visit Me.' 44) "Then they themselves also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry, or thirsty, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not take care of You?' 45) "Then He will answer them, 'Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.' 46) "These will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

Matt 25 commentary:

The words "the nations" $t\grave{\alpha}$ $\check{\epsilon}\theta v\eta$, (ta ethne) should be translated "the Gentiles." These are all people, other than Jews, who have lived through the Tribulation period (Joel 3:2, 12). They will be judged individually, not as national groups. They are described as a mingling of sheep and goats, which the Lord will separate.

The King "on His throne" (v. 31) will extend an invitation to those on His right hand, the sheep, to enter the kingdom God had prepared ... since the Creation of the world. The basis of their entrance is

seen in their actions, for they provided food, drink, clothing, and care for the King (vv. 35-36). The King's statement will prompt the sheep to respond that they do not recall ever having ministered directly to the King (vv. 37-39). The King will answer that they performed these services for the least of these brothers of Mine, and by so doing were ministering to the King (v. 40).

The expression "these brothers" must refer to a third group that is neither sheep nor goats. The only possible group would be Jews, physical brothers of the Lord. In view of the distress in the Tribulation period, it is clear that any believing Jew will have a difficult time surviving (24:15-21). The forces of the world dictator will be doing everything possible to exterminate all Jews (Rev. 12:17). A Gentile going out of his way to assist a Jew in the Tribulation will mean that Gentile has become a believer in Jesus Christ during the Tribulation. By such a stand and action, a believing Gentile will put his life in jeopardy. His works will not save him; but his works will reveal that he is redeemed.

25:41-46. To the goats on His left hand (cf. v. 33) the King will pronounce judgment. They will be told, Depart ... into the eternal fire prepared not for men but for the devil and his angels (cf. "the kingdom prepared," v. 34). The basis of their judgment will be their failure to extend mercy to the remnant of Jewish believers during the Tribulation. Their lack of righteous works will evidence their unconcern (vv. 42-44; vv. 35-36). Such individuals will sympathize with the world dictator and support his cause. They will be

removed from the earth and will be cast into "eternal fire" (v. 41) to undergo eternal punishment (v. 46). With all wickedness removed in the various judgments at the Second Advent, the kingdom will begin on earth with only saved individuals in physical bodies constituting the earthly kingdom as the King's subjects. Glorified saints from Old Testament times and the church, the bride of Christ, will also be present to share in the reign of the King of kings.

Louis A. Barbieri Jr., "Matthew," in The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures, ed. J. F. Walvoord and R. B. Zuck, vol. 2 (Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1985), 80-81.

Baptism of Fire - At the 2nd Advent of Christ, all Tribulation Gentile unbelievers will be removed from the earth and identified with literal fire. They will be confined to Torments for the 1000 years of the millennium, only to await the last judgement (GWT) and their ultimate transfer to the eternal lake of fire. (Matt 3:11, Luke 3:16)

Matt 3:11 - "As for me, I baptize you with water for repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, and I am not fit to remove His sandals; He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

The Lord will begin His reign in fulfillment of the unconditional covenants to Israel. Remember that the Church age has ended at the Rapture of believers which happened before the Millenium started. The focus now shifts back to the Jews.

Regenerate Jews will be regathered and turned to the promised land as citizens of restored client nation Israel, (11:11-16, 14:1-4, Joel 2:16, Zech 10:6-12) and Jesus Christ, the son of David, will ascend David's throne in capital city Jerusalem (Luke 1:32, Acts 2:29-30).

In this kingdom, a Universal Government will be established with Jesus Christ as the Ruler. The whole world will be under His rule. He will rule with righteous jurisprudence.

<u>Jurisprudence</u> - "the study, knowledge, or science of law." (Jewish Prophecy fulfilled) (<u>Isa 9:6-7</u>, <u>11:4</u>, <u>Rev 2:27</u>).

Isa 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; And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace. 7) There will be no end to the increase of His 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.

Will we be there?

In the Millenium, resurrected believers from all previous dispensations will share in the blessings of the kingdom alongside millennial citizens.

The zeal of the LORD of hosts will accomplish this.

Resurrected Church Age believers will have already received their resurrection bodies. Old testament saints will receive their resurrection body when they return at the 2nd advent with Christ. Some believers will co-reign with Christ in the millennium kingdom. Believers will still live in the Millennial kingdom with no resurrection body. They will still be in their earthly bodies.

At the end of the 1000 years those believers will get their resurrection body.

Where did old testaments saints go when they died?

When will they get their resurrection bodies?

The Old Testament believers went to a place of comfort and rest called "Paradise" when they died. The Old Testament taught life after death and that everyone who departed from this life went to a place of conscious existence. The general term for this place was School, which could be translated "the grave" or "the place of the dead." The wicked were there (Psalm 9:17; 31:17; 49:14; Isaiah 5:14), and so were the righteous (Genesis 37:35; Job 14:13; Psalm 6:5; 16:10; 88:3; Isaiah 38:10).

The New Testament equivalent of Scheol is Hades. Luke 16:19-31 shows that, prior to Christ's resurrection, Hades (described as the place of the dead in Greek) was divided into two realms: a place of comfort where Lazarus was (Abraham's bosom/Paradise) and a place of (torments) where the rich man was (hell). Lazarus's place of comfort is elsewhere called "paradise" (Luke 23:43). The place

of torments is called "Gehenna" in the Greek in Mark 9:45.

Between paradise and hell (the two districts of Hades) there was "a great chasm" (Luke 16:26). The fact that no one could cross this chasm indicates that, after death, one's fate is sealed.

Today, when an unbeliever dies, he follows the Old Testament unbelievers to the torments side of Hades. At the final judgment, Hades will be emptied before the Great White Throne, where its occupants will be judged prior to entering the lake of fire. (Revelation 20:13-15). This is at the end of the Millenium.

On the other hand, when a believer dies today, he is "present with the Lord" in heaven (2 Corinthians 5:6-9). There, he joins the Old Testament saints who have been enjoying their reward for thousands of years. A resurrection awaits everyone—either a resurrection to eternal life (believers) or a resurrection at the end of the Millenium (unbelievers), to "shame and everlasting contempt" (Daniel 12:2, 12:13, Acts 24:15, John 5:28-29). Christ being the first fruits, (very first and currently the only resurrected person) After Him, The Bible clearly states that New Testament

(Church age) believers who have died will be resurrected next at the event we call the rapture of the church (1 Thessalonians 4:16-17), followed by the living believers. Old Testament saints will be resurrected at the end of the Tribulation when Jesus returns to earth to set up His millennial kingdom. (Dan. 12:13, Matt 24:3, Rev. 20:4)

What about the Millennium?

Lesson 3

Vengeance and blessing

Isaiah chapter 34 describes the wrath of God toward Israel's enemy nations. Isaiah used Edom as an example of God's judgment against the world. The Edomites were descendants of Esau, Jacob's older brother. Their father Isaac told Esau he would live in an infertile area (Gen. 27:39-40). Because Edom became a perpetual enemy of Israel, she was an appropriate example of what the Lord will do to all nations that fight against His people.

The reference to the Edomites was of complete destruction, but the ultimate judgement would come in the future at the Tribulation.

In God's judgment of wrath against the armies of all nations the dead bodies will rot on the ground. Also, the stars ... will be dissolved. Catastrophic events in the sky will accompany the Messiah's return to the earth to establish His millennial reign.

<u>Isa 34:4</u> - And all the host of heaven will wear away, And the sky will be rolled up like a scroll; All their hosts will also wither away As a leaf withers from the vine, or as one withers from the fig tree.

However, Isaiah 34:4 may refer to the judgment of the sixth seal in the Tribulation.

Rev. 6:12-13 - I looked when He broke the sixth seal, and there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth made of hair, and the whole moon became like blood; 13) and the stars of the sky fell to the earth, as a fig tree casts its unripe figs when shaken by a great wind.

Rev 6:15-17 - Then the kings of the earth and the great men and the commanders and the rich and the strong and every slave and free man hid themselves in the caves and among the rocks of the mountains; 16) and they said to the mountains and to the rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the presence of Him who sits on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb; 17) for the great day of their wrath has come, and who is able to stand?"

This was to be the most dramatic judgment thus far in this time of great distress before the Second Coming.

Chapter 35 describes a day of blessing for Israel that will take place in the future in the Millenium kingdom when the Jews return to belief in the Messiah.

The description in chapter 35 of the land and the people is a highlight of the first half of the book of Isaiah. The promised blessing is the desired millennial state for which the nation has longed for since God first promised it to Abraham.

Mankind constantly longs for a Utopia in which peace and fertility prevail. Ironically, many of the world's nations are against Israel

and desire to remove her from existence. This condition of peace will not come, however, till after God's judgment on the world in the Tribulation. During the Tribulation there will be a peace agreement with Israel by the Anti-Christ but just 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ years into the said agreement, the Anti-Christ will do everything he can to remove Israel from the earth. The real peace will come in the Millenium when God blesses Israel as He had promised to Abraham.

God's vengeance on the world in the Tribulation will be followed by Millennial blessing on His covenant people, Israel. The 2^{nd} coming of Christ ushers in the Millennium and God's blessing for Israel.

The Lord's day of blessing

Even the deserts will be transformed into a real, not imaginary Eden like environment, (Isa 35:1-2) as the earth enjoys 1000 years of perfect environment:

<u>Isa 35:1-2</u> -The wilderness and the desert will be glad, And the Arabah (dry) will rejoice and blossom; Like the crocus

2) 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.

In the Millennium the parched land will become rich agricultural land (Isa. 32:15). The dry areas of the nation will become fertile (figuratively expressed as "being glad") and will blossom. God will bring about changes in the climate that will result in more rain in those areas. Lebanon ... Carmel, and Sharon, which were becoming barren (Isa. 33:9), will once again become fruitful areas of agriculture. People in those areas will see the Lord's glory, that is, they will see the fruitfulness that comes because of righteousness; they will see Him who will be dwelling in their midst as King.

The crocus flower has been known throughout recorded history, mainly as the source of saffron. Saffron is obtained from the dried stigma of Crocus sativus, an autumn-blooming species. It is valued as a spice and dyestuff, and is one of the most expensive spices in the world. Iran is the center of saffron production. It is a very expensive spice and takes 75,000 plants to make 1 pound of saffron and is valued at \$10,000. Per lb. It has been around 3500 years.



The mention of the glory of Lebanon, the excellency of Carmel and Sharon further emphasizes the idea of abundance and beauty. Lebanon was known for its majestic cedar trees, Carmel for its fertile land, and Sharon for its lush pastures. One of the things we can see in the crocus is the sprouts. When we see them in the dry land, we can remember they are signs of the return of Christ, renewal from the sin contaminated world and the promise of the coming kingdom of God. The Crocus will be abundant in the millennium kingdom and represents the lush, fertile and beautiful in Isa 35:1-2. This is part of the restored, promised land God made for the Jews.

Religion and false doctrine eradicated

Isa 29:19-20 - The afflicted also will increase their gladness in the LORD, And the needy of mankind will rejoice in the Holy One of Israel. 20) For the ruthless will come to an end and the scorner will be finished, Indeed all who are intent on doing evil will be cut off:

<u>Hosea 2:17</u> - "For I will remove the names of the Baals from her mouth, So that they will be mentioned by their names no more.

The attitude of the people of Jerusalem and Judah will completely change. They will no longer ... be ashamed (Isa 2:11-12) or brought low.

<u>Isa 2:11-12</u> - The proud look of man will be abased and the loftiness of man will be humbled, and the LORD alone will be exalted in that day. (A Day of Reckoning had Come-Tribulation)

12) For the LORD of hosts will have a day of reckoning against everyone who is proud and lofty and against everyone who is lifted up, that he may be abased.

In spite of the terrible blow facing the nation of Israel because of its sin, some people would survive. Isaiah's initial audience might have thought he was speaking of those who would survive the Exile. However, in the light of Matthew 24:21, he was referring to the people who will survive the difficulties in the Great Tribulation just before the Lord Jesus Christ returns to set up His kingdom.

<u>Matt 24:21</u> - "For then there will be a great tribulation, such as has not occurred since the beginning of the world until now, nor ever will."

In spite of the coming severe judgment, divine blessing would eventually come.

Matt 24:29-30 - "But immediately after the tribulation of those days THE SUN WILL BE DARKENED, AND THE MOON

WILL NOT GIVE ITS LIGHT, AND THE STARS WILL FALL from the sky, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken.

30) "And then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the SON OF MAN COMING ON THE CLOUDS OF THE SKY with power and great glory.

That happens after the Tribulation, now all who survive the Tribulation will have seen Jesus Christ return for His second time on earth (2^{nd} Advent).

The surviving Jews will realize that Christ is the Messiah and has protected them and will worship (stand in awe of) Him. People who are wayward and who complain will change and will accept instruction directly from Christ. No longer will blindness prevail; then they will know God's ways.

Nature will no longer be cursed

Disease and affliction and starvation are unknown since God will make crops prosper and the works of man will be removed from the curse. Disease will be gone, because the crops will be abundant and not contaminated with herbicides, chemicals, etc. Food from those crops will be provided by God and starvation will not be in the Millenium kingdom. Man will build things with his own hands and be

able to take joy in the products he creates. Animals will not be predators. The pain of childbirth will be removed and populations will increase.

<u>Isa 11:6-8</u> - 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.

7) Also, the cow and the bear will graze, Their young will lie down together, And the lion will eat straw like the ox. 8) The nursing child will play by the hole of the cobra, And the weaned child will put his hand on the viper's den.

Isaiah described the righteous kingdom which the Messiah would set up. The curse will be lifted, peace and harmony will be present, and wild animals will again be tame and harmless to domesticated animals and humans. The wolf ... leopard ... lion, and bear are mentioned as examples of wild animals that will dwell safely with farm animals (the lamb ... goat ... calf.... cow, and ox). A little child will be safe with lions, bears, cobras, and vipers

Many Bible students interpret these verses nonliterally, because they suppose such changes in the animal world are not possible. However, because the Messiah is "God with us" and He will be dwelling with His people, it need not be difficult to envision these changes in nature. Though the curse of sin will be removed to some

extent, it will not be totally removed until the end of the millennial kingdom when finally, death will be abolished. (Rev. 20:14).

Rom 8:18-22 - For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us. 19) For the anxious longing of the creation waits eagerly for the revealing of the sons of God.

20) For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it, in hope 21) that the creation itself also will be set free from its slavery to corruption into the freedom of the glory of the children of God. 22) For we know that the whole creation groans and suffers the pains of childbirth together until then.

Blind and deaf healed

<u>Isa 35:5-6</u> - Then the eyes of the blind will be opened And the ears of the deaf will be unstopped. 6) Then the lame will leap like a deer, And the tongue of the mute will shout for joy. For waters will break forth in the wilderness And streams in the Arabah (dry desert).

Changes will occur in the people and the land. Because of God's healing power. those who are blind will see, those who are deaf will hear, those who are lame will leap, and those who cannot talk will shout. The Messiah will bring this about.

The land will change from dryness to a well-watered condition.

(Isa 35:1-2; 41:18; 43:19-20; 44:3-4). Water will be plentiful, helping grass ... reeds, and papyrus ... grow, all of which require much water. With the Lord living among His people and with righteousness being practiced by them, the Lord will provide physical healing and agricultural abundance and growth.

<u>Isa 41:18</u> - "I will open rivers on the bare heights And springs in the midst of the valleys; I will make the wilderness a pool of water and the dry land fountains of water.

In many places in the Middle East water is scarce, so this figure is most apt. God will also cause trees (seven kinds are mentioned) to grow in the desert whereas normally most of those trees grow only in fertile areas. In the Millennium the climate of the land of Israel will be changed so that the land will be well-watered and fertile. People will know that God, the Holy One of Israel, has done this.

<u>Isa 44:3-4</u> - 'For I will pour out water on the thirsty land And streams on the dry ground; I will pour out My Spirit on your offspring and My blessing on your descendants;

4) And they will spring up among the grass like poplars by streams of water.'

The Lord will revive Israel physically and spiritually. He will pour water on the ... land, making it well watered and He will pour His Holy Spirit on their descendants. This outpouring of the Spirit will

occur when the people have returned in belief to the land just after the Messiah's second coming to establish the Millennium. Redeemed Israel will prosper like grass and poplar trees, and they will want to be known as righteous individuals, unashamed of Him and their nation. They will Know it was God pouring out His blessings on them, not because they were spiritual and had done what God expected, but because God said He would bless them.

What about the Millennium? Lesson 4

Violence will be alleviated

<u>Isa 60:18</u> - "Violence will not be heard again in your land, Nor devastation or destruction within your borders; But you will call your walls salvation, and your gates praise.

Not only will your walls keep you safe from foes, but "salvation" will serve as the walls, converting foes into friends, and so ensuring your perfect safety.

<u>Gates</u> - The Lord's saving work keeps Zion secure, and our harmonious, appreciative relationship with him provides gates to exclude every harmful thing. They will not have enemies, but brothers and sisters in Christ to enter their gates, and therefore, only praise for Christ will be present.

Israelites had always considered the training of their children a high priority. Many wanted them to be true to the Lord and not guided by the pagan world around them. Righteousness will prevail (Isa 33:5; 46:13; 58:8; 62:1-2) and Jerusalemites will no longer fear, for the Lord will protect her from tyranny.

Here are some points about the Millennial kingdom

- 1. In the Millennium, the children will be taught by the Lord Himself and will enjoy His true peace. There will be no churches led by man that can be corrupted.
- 2. In the Millennium, no nation will be allowed to defeat Israel because the Lord has so decreed. Nations rise and fall on the basis of His word. In the past He allowed the destroyer (Babylon) and others to overcome His people, but this will never happen again once we reach the Millenium. Peace and safety are the heritage of those who trust in the LORD.
- 3. God promised that the day is coming when He will never rebuke Israel again. Even if the world could be punished again as in the Flood, God's love and compassion will never cease.

Isa 54:13-14 - All your sons will be taught of the LORD;

And the well-being of your sons will be great. 14) "In righteousness you will be established; You will be far from oppression, for you will not fear; And from terror, for it will not come near you.

The covenant of peace (also mentioned in **Ezek**. **34:25** below; refers to this promise which God had just made. God will give His people lasting peace.

Ezekial 34:25 - "I will make a covenant of peace with them and eliminate harmful beasts from the land so that they may live securely in the wilderness and sleep in the woods. 26) "I will make them and the places around My hill a blessing. And I will cause showers to come down in their season; they will be showers of blessing. 27) "Also, the tree of the field will yield its fruit and the earth will yield its increase, and they will be secure on their land. Then they will know that I am the LORD, when I have broken the bars of their yoke and have delivered them from the hand of those who enslaved them. 28) "They will no longer be a prey to the nations, and the beasts of the earth will not devour them; but they will live securely, and no one will make them afraid.

- 4. God will eliminate harmful beasts from the land.

 Isaiah 11:6 The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them.
- 5. God will establish the area around His hill (Mount Zion) a blessing. An area of safety for the Jews.
- 6. God will cause showers to come down as a blessing. This has to do with the abundance of rainwater; bodies of water in the desert that will make the land populate in lush greenery.

- Zech 14:8 On that day living water will flow out from Jerusalem, half of it east to the Dead Sea and half of it west to the Mediterranean Sea, in summer and in winter.
- 7. The tree of the field will be full of fruit as their food needs will be met with abundance.
- 8. They will finally be secure in their land, because God will protect them from all enemies. They will not have enemies trying to kill them, unlike in any other time in history.
- 9. The Jews and the whole world will know Jesus Christ is Lord over the entire world. He will be the government over the whole world and His justice will be swift and fair.
- 10. God will have removed them from bondage.
- 11. The animals will not attack or kill them. The animals will become plant eaters and be docile to other animals and people.
- 12. NO one will make them afraid. Terror will not come near them.

God's care and protection will result in peace for His people. God will make a covenant of peace with them, unlike that of the Anti-Christ. The peace that Israel has always longed for will be experienced. The uncertainties associated with desolate places, wild animals, other nations, and unpredictable weather will be alleviated. The land will enjoy peace and prosperity. Trees will bear fruit and the ground will yield its crops, and the people will be secure in their land, living in safety.

God's "covenant of peace" looks forward to the blessings Israel will experience in the Millennium. This covenant will establish Israel in her land permanently with David as her shepherd.

Injustice forgotten

Here Isaiah recorded five things about the coming Messiah

<u>Isaiah 9:6</u> - For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; and the government will rest on His shoulders; and His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.

- 1. He was to be born a child. This Child, a Son, was to be born into the nation of Israel as one of the covenant people.
- <u>Isaiah 9:7</u> There will be no end to the increase of His 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.
- 2. He will rule over God's people and the world. The government will be on His shoulders figuratively refers to the kingly robe to be worn by the Messiah. As King, He will

- be responsible for governing the nation. In Isaiah's day Judah's leaders were incompetent in governing the people. But the Messiah will govern properly.
- 3. Zechariah 14:9 And the LORD will be King over all the earth; in that day the LORD will be the only one, and His name the only one.
- 4. He will have four descriptive names that will reveal His character.
 - A. Wonderful Counselor the people will gladly listen to Him as the authoritative One. In the kingdom many people will be anxious to hear the Messiah teach God's ways.

Isaiah 2:3 - And many peoples will come and say,

"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."

For the law will go forth from Zion and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

B. Mighty God - Some have suggested that this simply means "a godlike person" or hero. But Isaiah meant more than that, for he had already spoken of the Messiah doing what no other person had been able to do. Isaiah understood that the Messiah was to be God in some sense of the term.

- C. Everlasting Father - Many people are puzzled by this title because the Messiah, God's Son, is distinguished in the Trinity from God the Father. How can the Son be the Father? Several things must be noted in this regard. First, the Messiah, being the second Person of the Trinity, is in His essence, God. Therefore, He has all the attributes of God including eternality. Since God is One (even though He exists in three Persons), the Messiah is God. Second, the title "Everlasting Father" is an idiom used to describe the Messiah's relationship to time, not His relationship to the other Members of the Trinity. He is said to be everlasting, just as God (the Father) is called "the Ancient of Days" in (Dan. 7:9). The Messiah will be a "fatherly" Ruler. Third, perhaps Isaiah had in mind the promise to David (2 Sam 7:16) about the "foreverness" of the kingdom which God promised would come through David's line. The Messiah, a Descendant of David, will fulfill this promise for which the nation had been waiting.
- 2 Sam. 7:16 "Your house and your kingdom shall endure before me forever; your throne shall be established forever."
- D. Prince of Peace the One who will bring in and maintain the time of millennial peace when the nation of Israel has been properly restored to faith in the Lord.

Together, these four titles give a beautiful picture of the coming Messiah's character.

- 4. The Messiah, seated on David's throne, will have an eternal rule of peace and justice. His rule will have no end; it will go on forever. Following the kingdom on earth, He will rule for eternity. He will maintain righteousness, as His rule will conform to God's holy character and demands.
- 5. This will all be accomplished by the zeal of the LORD Almighty. The coming of the millennial kingdom depends on God, not Israel. The Messiah will rule because God promised it and will zealously see that the kingdom comes. Without His sovereign intervention there would be no kingdom for Israel.

Apparently, Isaiah assumed that the messianic Child, Jesus Christ, would establish His reign in one Advent, that when the Child grew up, He would rule in triumph. Like the other prophets, Isaiah was not aware of the great time gap between Messiah's two Advents.

In his first advent, Christ came in the weakness of infancy to become the Suffering Servant of those who were hopelessly lost; in his second advent, he will come as the sovereign King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

The Earth full of the knowledge of the Lord

<u>Isa 11:9</u> -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.

The reason such tranquility is possible is that all the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD (Jer. 31:34; Hab. 2:14). This means more than people knowing intellectually about the Lord. The idea is that people everywhere will live according to God's principles and Word. Animals will be affected, as well. This will occur in the Millennium when the Messiah will be reigning.

Jer 31:34 - "They will not teach again, each man his neighbor and each man his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they will all know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them," declares the LORD, "for I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more."

Hab 2:14 - "For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.

Jerusalem will have prominence in the world and Judah and Israel will be regathered to the land in belief and will be living according to the New Covenant.