# The Book of Revelation

# <u>Week 8</u>

Chapters 19 to 22

Chapters 19 and 20. The Return of Jesus and the defeat of the antichrist. Chapter 19. The Marriage Supper of the Lamb. Chapter 20. Millennium. Chapter 20. The final rebellion Chapter 21. Bride Of Christ. Chapters 21 and 22. Judgement Day. Chapters 21 and 22. The New Jerusalem Finally other end time verses, throughout the Bible

The day of the Lord is often used in Old Testament scripture to refer to the tribulation period, or the Millennium, or the actual day of his arrival on earth. In this session we want to focus on the actual day of his arrival on earth, and the events that follow. The wrath of God has been poured out. The population of earth has been decimated.

The War Of Armageddon.

### Revelation 19 verses 11 to 16.

I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and wages war. His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns. He has a name written on him that no one knows but he himself. He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God. The armies of heaven were following him, riding on white horses and dressed in fine linen, white and clean. Coming out of his mouth is a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations. "He will rule them with an iron sceptre". He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty. On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written:

KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

When Jesus returns, he will bring with him the armies of heaven, all of them riding white horses, a symbol of purity and power. The enemy is the antichrist, and the kings of the earth and their armies, who have gathered together to make war.

#### The supper of God.

There are two feasts mentioned in Revelation. One is the Supper of the Lamb with believers, and the other supper, is the feast for the birds of the air.

Revelation 19 verses 17 to 18, tell us that as Jesus returns, John also saw an angel standing in the sun, and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the birds that fly in the

midst of heaven, "Come and gather together for the supper of the great God, that you may eat the flesh of kings, the flesh of captains, the flesh of mighty men, the flesh of horses and of those who sit on them, and the flesh of all *people*, free and slave, both small and great." And all the birds were filled with their flesh.

Evidently, this supper is a clean up operation after the battle of Armageddon. Ezekiel chapter 39 also describes the aftermath of the war of Armageddon, once the Antichrist armies are destroyed. God says this. I will give you to birds of prey of every sort, and to the beasts of the field, to be devoured.

## The Antichrist and the False Prophet sent to the lake of fire.

Revelation 19 verse 20 tell us that the antichrist and the prophet are captured and thrown alive into the lake of fire. Then it says that the rest were killed by the sword which comes out of the mouth of the one who sits on the white horse. The words that Jesus speaks as he returns will slay all those who have gathered together in opposition to Him and to Israel.

# Satan is locked up and then released after 1000 years.

Revelation 20 verses 1 to 3 tell us that after the antichrist and false prophet are dealt with, an angel from heaven unlocks the bottomless pit, the abyss, and with a heavy chain, he binds up the devil and throws him into the abyss, which he then shuts and locks.

The devil can no longer deceive the nations until the 1000 years have ended. After that, the devil will be released for a short time, to deceive the nations, and gather them for one final battle.

Despite the absolute peace and justice of the Millennium rule, all nations being subject to Jesus, the release of Satan will trigger a final deception which will cause the nations to surround Jerusalem on every side. This is one final test of men's hearts.

You may wonder how Satan could deceive the nations after 1000 years of absence, during which time the knowledge of God will cover the earth. It could be that the various cultures of the world will still have evidence of their past cultures and false religions, and when Satan is released, he could inspire people to dig into their past, rediscover their false religions, and claim that Jesus is an oppressor.

Those born during the Millennium period would have no memory of the destruction and oppression caused by their false religion 1000 years previously, and so could be persuaded that the grass is greener on the side of their false god. It will be Satan's final deception.

# The final War.

For a moment, we will jump past the Millennium and see how the story ends for Satan. Revelation 20 verses 7 to 11 tell us the story

Now when the thousand years have expired, Satan will be released from his prison, and will go out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle, whose number *is* as the sand of the sea. They went up on the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city.

And fire came down from God out of heaven and devoured them. The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where<sup>1</sup> the beast and the false prophet *are*. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

Notice that unlike the war of Armageddon, Jesus does not even have to confront the devil's forces this time. There is no confrontation, and no war. Once the enemy armies surround Jerusalem, they are easy targets for a sudden but devastating supernatural jet of fire that falls from Heaven, burning the armies to a crisp. This marks the end of an age, for after this Satan is never again able to influence God's creation.

# **Judgement Day**

A good indicator of whether you have an eternal perspective, is whether you are excited about the prospect of Jesus return in your generation. When Jesus returns, the church is brought face to face with judgement day. Revelation 22 verses 12 says "See I am coming soon, and my reward is with me, to repay everyone according to the deeds he has done".

## The first Resurrection. Revelation 20 verses 4 to 6.

And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Then *I saw* the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshipped the beast or his image, and had not received *his* mark on their foreheads or on their hands. And they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years. But the rest of the dead did not live again until the thousand years were finished. This *is* the first resurrection. Blessed and holy *is* he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years.

To summarize, the first resurrection takes place when Jesus returns. This is where the martyred saints come to life again, and according to other scriptures, so do all the saints who have died previously. They all come back to live on earth during the Millennium.

# The Second Resurrection. Revelation 20 verses 11 to 14.

These verses describe the second resurrection, which is Judgement Day. From the text it is clear that this event is after the judgement of Satan, which in turn is at the end of the Millennium.

Assuming that there is one judgement day in the future, then this is the event which Jesus described in Matthew 25 verses 31 to 46. In Matthew, Jesus talks about judging the nations who will be gathered before him, and who will be separated like sheep and goats. It would make sense that this refers to the nations on earth at the end of the Millennium. In Revelation 20, the judgement day appears to focus on only the dead, who did not pass into Heaven.

But if we put these two accounts of judgement day together, then it shows that the final judgement will deal with both the dead, who died without Christ, and those from the nations at the end of the Millennium.

## The Marriage supper of the Lamb.

Revelation 19 verses 7 to 9, tell us that at the point of Jesus's return, John hears this song in Heaven. "Let us be glad and rejoice, and honour him, for the time has come for the marriage banquet of the Lamb, and His bride has prepared herself. She is permitted to wear the cleanest and whitest and finest of linens. And the angel dictated this sentence to me.

"Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding feast of the Lamb". And he added, "God himself has stated this".

## When Is The Marriage Supper Of The Lamb?

Given that the city, the new Jerusalem, comes down from God after the MIllennium, after the creation of the new heaven and the new earth, and given that this city is described as being "made ready, as a bride adorned for her husband", then one interpretation is that the marriage supper takes place when the new Jerusalem settles on earth, after the Millennium period. In this case, those who get saved in the Millennium period will also be present at this wedding feast, since it will happen after the final judgement day.

The other interpretation is that the marriage supper happens before the Millennium, at the return of Jesus. Revelation 19 verse 7 says at this point John hears the voice of a great multitude say these words.

Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready. And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints. In this case, the people to be saved in the Millennium will not be included in this wedding feast.

If this is not the timing of the wedding supper, then it is possible that when they say, "the marriage of the Lamb has come", they are simply looking forward with great expectation to the event.

And although a whole Millennia has to pass until the New Jerusalem descends like a bride adorned for her husband, God is not impatient. A thousand years is like a day for Him!

## The Millennium. A Thousand Times Better.

In the second session, we concluded that the pre-millennial position was the best evidenced interpretation of the bible regarding the Millennium.

So why wouldn't people take the pre-millennial interpretation? Could it be that the idea of Jesus returning to earth to live among us, is so fantastic that people cannot bring themselves to believe it. Our fallen human nature looks at the past, sees the drudgery of history, and doesn't know how to embrace a glorious future.

Another reason that the pre-millennial view is not easily received is that, in the average church, there is no teaching about the Millennium. And while the church is completely un-informed, the beginning of this future era is speeding towards us.

Could it be that unless we are prepared for this future glory, we will not be there to enjoy it? Could it be that unless we are informed about the reward, we will not be willing to make the sacrifices necessary to get there?

As we talk about why the future Millennium must be a reality, and as we talk about who will be present, and what this period will be like, our aim is to convince you that the future Millennium is not only going to be a literal thousand year period, but also that it will be a thousand times better than anything you have known on earth.

## Why Must There Be a Future Millennium?

**Revelation chapter 20 verse 4** says of the tribulation martyrs, "And they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years". You may argue that this could be a heavenly reign. But Revelation 5 says the song of the 24 elders who are at the time seated in Heaven. The last line of their song says, "And we shall reign on earth".

So here is the question. Are the elders singing nonsense? Or can we accept that indeed the saints of heaven will reign with Jesus for a thousand years on earth?

**Isaiah 9 verses 6 to 7** say this. For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given, and the government will be upon his shoulders. And his name will be called Wonderful, Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end. Upon the throne of David and over his kingdom, to order it and establish it with judgement and justice from that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.

Who is that child? It is Jesus. But Jesus did not sit on David's throne 2000 years ago. This promise is yet unfulfilled. It can only come to pass with a future Millennium rule. Notice that Jesus is zealous to see this earthly rule come to pass.

He is single minded and devoted to seeing this prophecy be fulfilled, so that Israel can receive her future glory, and so that the saints can be rewarded.

**Luke 1 verse 31 and 32** say, "And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a son, and shall call his name Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the highest, and the Lord God will give him the throne of his father David. And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.

How did we miss this? We hear it every Christmas. Perhaps we think that David's throne is in heaven? Or perhaps we imagine that the patriarchs of the nation of Israel, now in heaven, are the subjects of this rule?

When the bible talks about David's throne, it cannot mean the physical seat which King David once sat on. Rather it means the royal succession to the throne. The angel Gabriel is saying that God will give to Jesus, royal succession to rule over the kingdom of Israel.

This promise was not fulfilled when Jesus was on earth 2000 years ago. There has to be a future fulfilment of this promise, and all these scriptures together point to this fulfilment being a physical reign over Israel and the earth.

## Who will be there?

There are 5 groups of people who will be present on earth in the Millennium. They are,

- 1. The believers who are already in Heaven.
- 2. The martyred saints.
- 3. The survivors of the nations who came against Israel.
- 4. The raptured saints.
- 5. The Jews who fled into the desert to escape the antichrist.

For each group listed above, we will provide scriptures that prove they will be present on earth in the Millennium.

## 1. The Believers Who Are Already In Heaven.

**1 Thessalonians 3 verse 13** says "... He may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His saints". This tells us that when Jesus returns, He will bring the saints with Him.

**Revelation 5 verse 9** says, "You are worthy to take the scroll, and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased for God persons from every tribe and language and people and nation. You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on earth".

This tells us that the saints in heaven are going to reign with Jesus on earth, when he returns.

## 2. The Martyred Saints.

**Revelation 20 verse 4** says "I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus ..... And they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.

### 3. The Survivors of The Tribulation Period.

The judgement events of the tribulation period will decimate the population of earth. There is no scriptural evidence to suggest that every single person will die during the tribulation. We know, for instance that the antichrist armies will congregate in the Valley of Armageddon on the day that Jesus returns.

They will be killed by the word coming out of Jesus's mouth. But if the antichrist armies have managed to survive until the final day of the tribulation period, it is therefore possible that other people could also survive until Jesus's return. What will happen to these people?

If they are believers who endure to the end, they will be raptured. If they are not believers, the only conclusion is that they will remain on earth and witness the beginning of the Millennium.

Do we have scriptural evidence for this?

The prophecy in Zechariah chapter 14 is widely accepted to refer to the future messianic kingdom.

**Zechariah chapter 14** starts with this. Behold the day of the Lord is coming.... for I will gather all the nations to battle against Jerusalem. This would refer to the sixth bowl of Revelation 16, in which the antichrist deceives the nations to gather with him against Jerusalem.

**It continues in verse 3.** Then the Lord will go forth and fight against these nations ... and in that day his feet will stand on the Mount of Olives... This would represent the battle of Armageddon, in Revelation 19.

**Again it continues in verse 9.** And the Lord shall be King over all the earth. This would refer to the Millennium reign of Jesus, mentioned in Revelation 20.

**Then we come to Zechariah 14 verse 16**, which says "And it shall come to pass that everyone who is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall go up from year to year to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, and to keep the feast of Tabernacles".

Clearly, not everyone will die in the Tribulation Period. Some will survive, and they will congregate annually in Jerusalem to celebrate and worship.

## 4. The Raptured Saints.

**1 Thessalonians 4 verse 17** says "Then we who are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord".

Here is the question. When the remaining church is raptured at Jesus's return, and He begins his Millennium rule, how can we forever be with him, if we have been taken to Heaven?

Paul says in 2 Timothy 2 verse 12, "If we endure, we shall also reign with Him".

## 5. The Jews Who Escaped To The Desert.

**Revelation 12 verse 6** says "Then the woman fled into the wilderness to a place prepared for her by God, where she might be taken care of for 1260 days". We know that the trigger for Jews fleeing to the desert is the abomination that causes desolation set up by the antichrist.

This is halfway through Daniel's 7 year period. Therefore the maths tell us that this group of Jews will be safely cared for up until the end of the 7 year period. This means that they will also witness the start of the Millennium reign of Christ.

So, to conclude, scripture seems to indicate that Jesus will reign with his saints over the remnant of Israel, and over the remnant of the nations.

#### What Will The Millennium Be Like?

#### Satan Will Be Bound.

Revelation 20 verses 1 and 2 say that the devil is bound by a great chain, and imprisoned in the bottomless pit, and the important detail, is that during this time of one thousand years,

he cannot deceive the nations. We can understand this to mean that during this time, he cannot deceive individuals either.

The ramifications of this are far reaching. No accusing thoughts, no doubts, no fears, no conspiracies, no anxieties, to name a few. It would probably be wrong to suggest that there will be no sin at all, as unregenerate man will still have a sin nature.

But it is probably correct to say that without the devil's influence, sin will be minimized. Have you ever stopped to think how beautiful life would be if the devil was absent? Man will be able walk unhindered with his God.

## Jesus Physically Crowned As King In Jerusalem.

Apart from Satan's absence, the most amazing change on earth will be the presence of Jesus physically on earth as the King of kings. **Psalm 24** describes the moment Jesus enters Jerusalem to begin his reign. Lift up your heads o you gates. The gates of Jerusalem are told to look up, for the King of kings is coming in the clouds. Who is this king of glory?

The world has never seen such a king, one who radiates such love and authority, one who is so humble and yet so bold. No man has ever been so fit to rule, as the sacrificed lamb, who is also the victorious lion.

The majority of the world is happy with the idea of a baby born in a manger, Christians believe he died on a cross and was raised to life on the third day. Why should we also not believe the full story, that Jesus is coming back to reign over the world?

## A Throne Established In Love, but Ruling With A Rod of Iron.

These two ideas do not seem compatible. But let's unpack them. **Isaiah chapter 13** takes up the theme of the day of the Lord. **Isaiah 16 verse 5** says "In love, a throne will be established, and in faithfulness one will sit on it, one from the house of David, judging and seeking justice, and hastening righteousness".

So we need not fear that King Jesus will be a different person to our saviour Jesus who walked the shores of Galilee. He still has compassion on the people. He still serves. He will still be the unselfish one. The only difference is that instead of constantly being persecuted by the pharisees and rulers, Jesus will be the one sat on the throne, honoured by all. He will be where he deserves to be. In charge!

But love is not soft. Love is not afraid to make unpopular decisions. Love does not allow injustice to continue. Love does not have selfish agendas. Love has only God's agenda. Love does not make judgements for the good of the ruler, but for the good of the subjects. Love is consistent.

Love, stays in control, instead of giving control over to those with their own agenda. For this reason, the reign of Jesus is described as a rod of iron. Do not confuse this with harsh rulership. Unlike the harsh autocrats of this world, Jesus will not take away people's freedom.

But He will break pride and rebellion. Revelation 2 verse 27 says "He shall rule them with a rod of iron, they shall be dashed to pieces like potters vessels". All pride and rebellion will be broken by the iron rod of his rule.

## No War.

**Isaiah 2 verses 4 and Micah 4 verses 3** says that under the reign of Jesus, nation shall no longer lift up their swords against each other. In fact they will beat their weapons into agricultural tools. Even if that is metaphorical, the interpretation to take away, is that a country's military budget will be used on agriculture. Finally it says that nations will no longer learn war any more.

That speaks of a total absence of armies and political conflict. No need to learn offensive and defensive strategy. For many war-torn countries, it will be a dream come true, and life will instantly be a thousand times better.

# The Poor.

**Psalm 72** was written by David, and in part, it seems to apply to Solomon's reign. But then he says in **verse 11**, "Yes, all kings shall fall before him, all nations shall serve him". Then in **verse 17** he says "His name shall endure forever, his name shall continue as long as the sun, and men shall be blessed in him. Many accept that these verses speak of the future Millennial reign of Christ.

In this case, let's look at the main focus of this future king. **Verse 4** tells us that He will bring justice to the poor of the people. He will save the children of the needy, and will break in pieces the oppressor. **Verse 12** continues, "For he will deliver the needy when he cries, the poor also, and him who has no helper. He will spare the poor and needy, and will save the souls of the needy.

He will redeem their life from oppression and violence, and precious shall be their blood in his sight".

This should be no surprise, for Jesus spent his earthly ministry 2000 years ago helping the poor and afflicted. Isaiah 61 was his remit, to preach good tidings to the poor. Once Jesus is reigning as king over the earth, we can be sure that He will once again prioritize the poor.

Yes, there will still be poor people in the Millennium. But they will be supported, encouraged, given hope and opportunity, and freed from oppression. The Millennium period

will not be a utopia, but according to **Psalm 72**, King Jesus will have his eyes on the poor, to bless them, and lift up their heads.

# Long Life, Abundance, Prosperity and Safety.

**Isaiah 65** speaks of the new heavens and the new earth, which surely looks forward to the final kingdom of God on earth. The following verses speak of this time, but notice that there are sinners present, and some die. We don't believe that sinners will enter the New Jerusalem which comes down from Heaven, and neither will there be death in the New Jerusalem. Therefore what period does this passage describe? Could it be the Millennium?

"No more shall an infant from there live but a few days,

Nor an old man who has not fulfilled his days,

For the child shall die one hundred years old,

But the sinner being one hundred years old shall be accursed.

They shall build houses and inhabit them,

They shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit.

They shall not build and another inhabit,

They shall not plant and another eat,

For as the days of a tree, so shall be the days of My people,

And My elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands.

They shall not labour in vain,

Nor bring forth children for trouble,

For they shall be the descendants of the blessed of the LORD,

And their offspring with them."

The widely accepted interpretation is that mankind will experience a pre-flood blessing of long life. If someone dies less than 100 years old, they will be considered a child. Notice also that mankind will enjoy the fruit of their labours.

**Isaiah chapter 11** also speaks of the stump of Jesse, or the descendant of David, our messiah Jesus. Is this referring to the earthly ministry of Jesus, some 2000 years ago?

Maybe in part, but then we get to **verse 4** which says, "He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked". So now we know it is talking of his second coming, and his earthly reign.

**Verses 6 and 7** speak of total harmony in the animal kingdom, and even says that a child will play near the cobra's den, and put his hand into the viper's nest. What should be fraught

with danger, will be safe in the Millennium. **Verse 9** says "For they will neither harm nor destroy, on all my holy mountain".

# Under Jesus Reign, Israel Will Be The Greatest Kingdom On Earth.

**Isaiah chapter 2 verse 2** says: "Now it shall come to pass in the latter days t*hat* the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established on the top of the mountains, and shall be **exalted** above the hills; And all nations shall flow to it".

As a note the text mentions the top of a mountain, which could be symbolic of its power and all that this would mean.

An alternative thought, it could be interpreted literally. During the tribulation period, earthquakes and seismic shifts could physically lift the mountain ranges of Jerusalem much higher, making the city itself elevated as described in the text.

**Micah chapter 4 verse 7** says: "I will make the lame a remnant, and the outcast a strong nation; So the LORD will reign over them in Mount Zion from now on, even forever".

Nahum chapter 2 verse 2 says: "For the Lord will restore the excellence of Jacob".

**Zephaniah chapter 3 verse 20** says: "At that time I will bring you back, even at the time I gather you; For I will give you fame and praise among all the peoples of the earth, when I return your captives before your eyes".

**Zechariah chapter 8 verse 13** says "And it shall come to pass th*at* just as you were a curse among the nations, O house of Judah and house of Israel, so I will save you, and you shall be a blessing. Do not fear, Let your hands be strong".

**Haggai chapter 2 verses 6-9**. "For thus says the LORD of hosts: 'Once more (it *is* a little while) I will shake heaven and earth, the sea and dry land; and I will shake all nations, and they shall come to the Desire of All Nations, and I will fill this temple with glory,' says the LORD of hosts. 'The silver *is* Mine, and the gold *is* Mine,' says the LORD of hosts. 'The glory of this latter temple shall be greater than the former,' says the LORD of hosts. 'And in this place I will give peace,' says the LORD of hosts".

**Ezekiel 34 verses 26 to 27, and 29**, say "I will make them and the places all around My hill a blessing, and I will cause showers to come down in their season, there shall be showers of blessing. Then the trees of the field shall yield their fruit, and the earth shall yield her increase. They shall be safe in their land, I will raise up for them a garden of renown, and they shall no longer be consumed with hunger in the land, nor bear the shame of the Gentiles any more.

## End time verses throughout the Bible.

The Bible uses specific phrases like "in that day," or, "on that day," and, "the day of the Lord" to refer to the end times and the period leading up to the second coming of Jesus.

These phrases are scattered across both the Old and New Testaments.

These verses describe literal events on earth relating to Jesus's return, particularly focusing on the fulfilment of promises to the Jews regarding their Messiah.

These verses point to a future physical kingdom of God, established on earth, particularly in Jerusalem.

### Some Examples.

### Jeremiah 30:7.

How awful that day will be! No other will be like it. It will be a time of trouble for Jacob, but he will be saved out of it.

### Isaiah 27:12-13.

And in that day a great trumpet will be blown, and those who were lost in the land of Assyria and those who were driven out to the land of Egypt will come and worship the Lord on the holy mountain at Jerusalem.

### Micah 4:6-7.

In that day, says the Lord, I will assemble the lame, I will gather the outcast And those whom I have afflicted, I will make the lame a remnant, And the outcast a strong nation, So the Lord will reign over them in Mount Zion, from now on, even forever.

### Mark 13:26-27.

And then they will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory. And then he will send out the angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

#### Hosea 3:5.

Afterward the Israelites will return and seek the Lord their God and David their king. They will come trembling to the Lord and to his blessings in the last days.

## Amos 9:11.

In that day, I will restore David's fallen shelter, I will repair its broken walls and restore its ruins and will rebuild it as it used to be.

When we interpret Bible verses literally, we reach the conclusion of an earthly Millennial reign of Jesus in Israel, rather than a symbolic or spiritual interpretation. Over one hundred and fifty chapters throughout the Bible speak of the Kingdom of God here on earth.

We should study the entire Bible, including the prophets, to understand God's promises and to prepare for Jesus's return, as the Bible commands believers to be ready to meet Jesus face to face.

## To Summarise.

The nation who God calls "my people" were scattered throughout the earth in, A, D, 70, and for nearly 2000 years maintained their culture and religion, and by a miracle, were reformed

in 1948, only to be hated by most of its Arab neighbours. This nation of Jews has already done great things in the technological and agricultural world. But always in the gun sights of their neighbours.

This nation has yet to inherit the promises God has spoken over them. Under the Millennial rule of Christ, Israel will rise to be the only superpower, not because of her amazing military, for there will be none, but simply due to her King, long rejected but at last accepted, Jesus, the Son of God!

Theologians have sought to ignore or re-arrange the verses in Revelation which tell of Jesus's 1000 year reign. But if we do this, then the vast amounts of scripture in the minor prophets have to be swept under the carpet. Since these prophets spoke, Israel has never attained the heights that they spoke of.

We have only two possible conclusions. Either the bible is full of poetic imagery that means nothing, or, under Jesus's future reign, Israel will become the nation to which all nations submit. Our prayer is that you will come to a conclusion which helps you to see scripture as true, authentic, eternal, hope giving, and to see our God as one who never breaks his promises. Amen?

Isaiah 24:21-22 Zephaniah 1:14-18 Isaiah 13:9-11 Jeremiah 46:10 Job 20:28-29 Isaiah 13:4-6 Isaiah 19:16-17 Ezekiel 30:3-4 Isaiah 27:1 Joel 3:12-14 Zephaniah 3:8 Romans 2:16 Revelation 6:15-17 Amos 5:18-20 Isaiah 2:12 Joel 1:15 Joel 2:1-2 Matthew 7:22-23 John 12:48 Romans 2:5 Jeremiah 30:7-8 Joel 2:23-28 Isaiah 11:11 Revelation 20:8-9 Isaiah 4:2 Isaiah 27:12-13 Micah 4:6-7 Matthew 24:30-31 Mark 13:26-27 Zephaniah 3:14-20 Isaiah 4:5-6 Isaiah 26:1 Joel 2:32 Joel 3:16-18 Zechariah 9:16-17 Isaiah 4:3-4 Zephaniah 3:11-13 Zechariah 14:20-21 Malachi 4:1-2 Micah 4:8 Micah 5:8-9 **Revelation 22:5** Philippians 1:6 Daniel 12:1-2 John 6:40

John 11:24

1 Corinthians 1:8

2 Timothy 1:12

2 Timothy 4:8

2 Peter 3:10

Ezekiel 38:14-16

Zechariah 14:2

Luke 21:20

Isaiah 11:10

Revelation 20:8-9

Isaiah 4:2

Isaiah 11:10

Jeremiah 30:9

Hosea 3:5

Amos 9:11

Zechariah 9:9

Zechariah 12:10

1 Thessalonians 5:2-3

Matthew 24:43-44

Luke 12:39-40

Mark 13:32

1 Thessalonians 5:4-8

Ezekiel 13:5

Zephaniah 2:1-3

Malachi 4:5

Joel 2:30-31

Isaiah 13:9-10

Isaiah 11:12-14

Haggai 2:23

Luke 21:31

2 Peter 3:11-12 Matthew 24:33 Mark 13:29 2 Thessalonians 2:3 Acts 2:19-20 Joel 2:10 Luke 21:11 Isaiah 5:29-30 Ezekiel 30:10 Joel 2:2-4 Amos 5:27 Matthew 24:21 Mark 13:19 Zechariah 3:8

## What Do You Think?

Describe what life would be like if Satan could no longer influence people?

Describe what you think life would be like if Jesus weas physically present on earth, reigning over Israel and the world?

Did you know about the Millennium period?

And why has it not been taught much in the church?

Discuss the super of the lamb & supper the birds, and did you know there were 2 suppers?