

REVELATION CHAPTER 20 part 2

More on the millennium!

Commentaries compiled by Gaetan.

You'll find very little about the Millennium in the Book of Revelation. It only devotes a few verses in this *chapter 20, verses 2 to 7*, where it mentions this period of a *"thousand years"* six times. But the description of it is very limited. In the writings of the old Jewish prophets, you'll find more about the Millennium than you will in the whole New Testament, believe it or not! There's more about Christ's Messianic Kingdom on earth in the Book of Isaiah than anywhere else in the Bible, but you'll also find quite a bit in the Psalms and other Prophets too. From those relevant passages, we get many tantalizing snapshots of the fantastic future our wonderful God has in store.

Many scholars have written covering this subject in detail, but we'll stick here to the short version, taken mostly from excerpts of Scott McGregor's excellent book, *"From the End to Eternity"*:



“Peace at Last! The current cruel, selfish, dog-eat-dog world, where the strongest and often most unscrupulous prevail, will be gone. Then, under the supreme and powerful rule and reign of Jesus Christ, wars will cease and the world will at last be governed fairly and well with true justice, liberty, peace, plenty, and happiness for all!”

**** Isaiah 2:2-4** Now it shall come to pass ***in the latter days*** that 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***. Many people shall come and say, “Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; ***He will teach us His ways, and we shall walk in His paths.***” For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. ***He shall judge between the nations, and rebuke many people; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore. (Also Micah 4:1-3)***

“Then the world’s first genuine disarmament will occur, all weapons being converted into instruments of peace. There will be peace on Earth under the reign of Jesus Christ, the Son of God and Prince of Peace. Today’s warmongering will be stopped as God *“destroys those who destroy the Earth”* (Rev.11:18). He’s going to stop all war and abolish the military-industrial complex that thrives on it.”

**** Psa.22:27-28 *All the ends of the world shall remember and turn to the Lord, and all the families of the nations shall worship before [Him]. For the Kingdom is the Lord’s, and He rules over the nations.***

**** Psa.46:9 *He makes wars cease to the end of the Earth; He breaks the bow and cuts the spear in two; He burns the chariot in the fire.***

**** Psa.47:2, 7-8 *For the Lord Most High is awesome; He is a great King over all the Earth. For God is the King of all the Earth; sing praises with understanding. God reigns over the nations; God sits on His holy throne.***

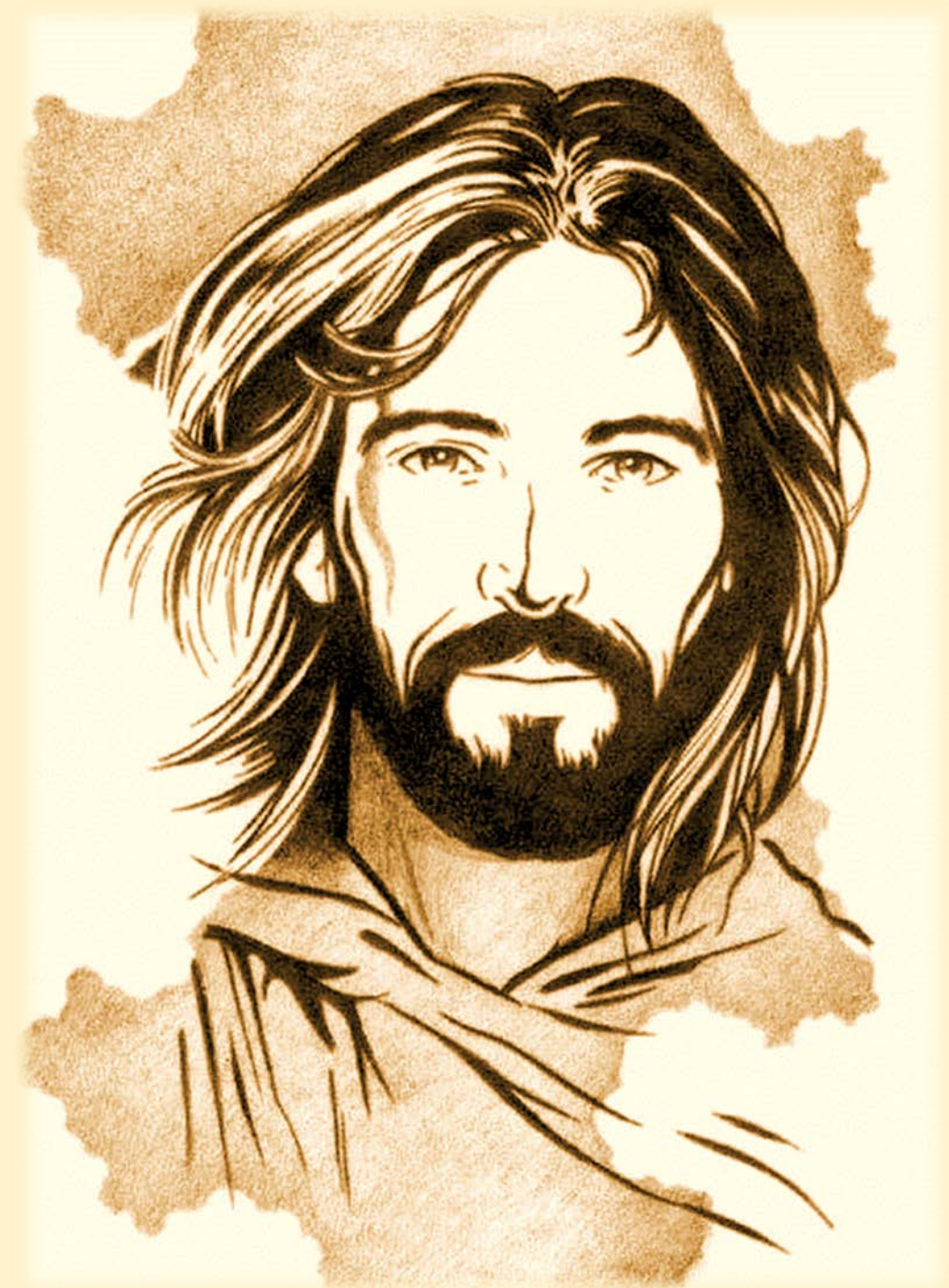


**** Psa.72:4 He will bring justice to the poor of the people; He will save the children of the needy, and will break in pieces the oppressor.**

“The world is going to have a righteous Judge and a righteous King who will have a righteous government. —No more corruption, vice, crime, or crooked judges and politicians, but a righteous government and righteous, honest justice for all.”

**** Isaiah 14:5, 7 The Lord has broken the staff of the wicked, the scepter of the rulers. ... The whole Earth is at rest and quiet; they break forth into singing.**

**** Isaiah 72:11, 19 All kings shall fall down before Him; all nations shall serve Him. ... And blessed be His glorious name forever! And let the whole Earth be filled with His glory.**



**LET THERE BE
PEACE ON EARTH!**



“There’ll be no more ruthless and exploitive powers and oppressed poor—only the Kingdom of Jesus Christ, dispensing fairness and justice for all, and eternal happiness forever.”

**** Psalm 96:10-13** Say among the nations, ***“The Lord reigns; the world also is firmly established, it shall not be moved; He shall judge the peoples righteously.”*** Let the heavens rejoice, and let the Earth be glad; let the sea roar, and all its fullness; let the field be joyful, and all that is in it. Then all the trees of the woods will rejoice before the Lord. For He is coming, **for He is coming to judge the Earth. He shall judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with His truth.**

***** Isaiah 11:1-5 There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots. The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon Him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord. His delight is in the fear of the Lord, and He shall not judge by the sight of His eyes, nor decide by the hearing of His ears; but with righteousness He shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the Earth; He shall strike the Earth with the rod of His mouth, and with the breath of His lips He shall slay the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt of His loins, and faithfulness the belt of His waist.***

“The greatest thrill of all will be that Jesus Himself, God’s Son, will personally be here visibly, ruling and reigning powerfully over the entire Earth. God in the person of Jesus Christ is going to run the world fairly and well, and His angelic helpers and saints are going to assist Him.”



“In Genesis, when Adam and Eve sinned by listening to the Devil in the form of a serpent and disobeyed God, they were then driven out of the Garden of Eden, at which time God pronounced a series of curses, which remain in effect to this day. (*Genesis 3:14-19*) These punishments and handicaps are collectively known as the Curse, and it doesn’t get totally lifted until the New Earth is created at the end of the Millennium. (*Revelation 22:3*) However, it appears from other verses, some of which we will cover in this class, that the Curse is partially lifted during the Millennium.”

“We, the born-again, resurrected saints will be in our new supernatural bodies, (*1co.15:35-55; 1Jn.3:2; Phi.3:19*) but the rest of the World, those who have been spared and blessed enough to survive into the Millennium, are going to be in their natural physical bodies; and they will experience death, which won’t be abolished until the end of these 1000 years.” (v.14)

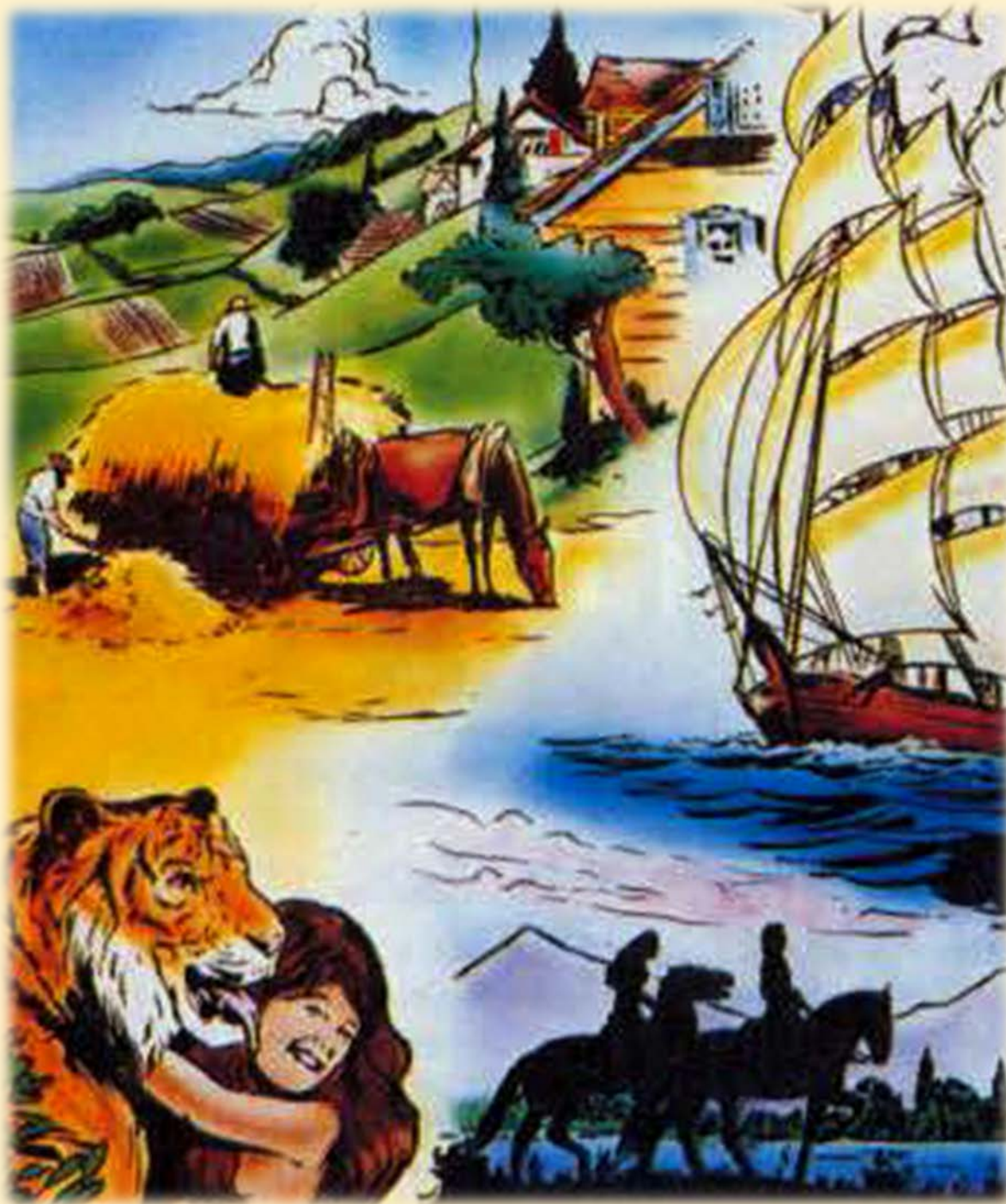


**** 1 Co.15:25-26** For He [Jesus] must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet. **The last enemy that will be destroyed is death.**

“However, people are going to go back to living in more natural ways – more quietly and more slowly. All indications are that during the Millennium there will be much less disease and sickness, and people will live much longer than they do today. The Bible says that if anybody dies at 100 years old, they’ll call him just a child.”

**** Isaiah 65:20-23** 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 [In the ESV “child” is translated as “young man”]** shall die one hundred years old. ... 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 labor 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.**





“There will be no more enmity between man and the animals, or among the animals themselves.”

**** Isaiah 11:6-9** *The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze; their young ones shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play by the cobra's hole, and the weaned child shall put his hand in the viper's 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.*

“After the Flood, God told humankind to eat meat (Ge.9:3) to give them greater strength so that they could survive the rigors of life outside the Garden of Eden. But in the Millennium, if nothing is going to bring pain and hurt, then it would seem that the killing of livestock and game for meat is no longer going to occur.”

“Therefore, we can assume that people will revert to the vegetarian diet that was maintained before the Flood. (Ge.1:29-30) And not only humankind, but all the carnivorous animals will also revert to an herbivorous diet. It appears that the conditions which will make it possible for people to live for hundreds of years will also result in humankind and the carnivorous animals no longer needing meat to survive.”

“Apparently another part of the Curse or consequence of the Fall of Man was a change in the climate. Adam and Eve were created naked, and they needed no clothes until they sinned and left the Garden. Then God had to clothe them with furs and skins of animals (for they felt ashamed of their nakedness).”



“With the curse being alleviated, the climate in the Millennium is likely to be more pleasant overall. As far as we know, the North and South Poles will be frozen and there will probably be tropical and temperate zones. However, the extremes of weather we experience today will most likely be moderated. Interspersed among the prophecies of Isaiah and other prophets are tantalizing glimpses of what the restored Earth shall look like.”

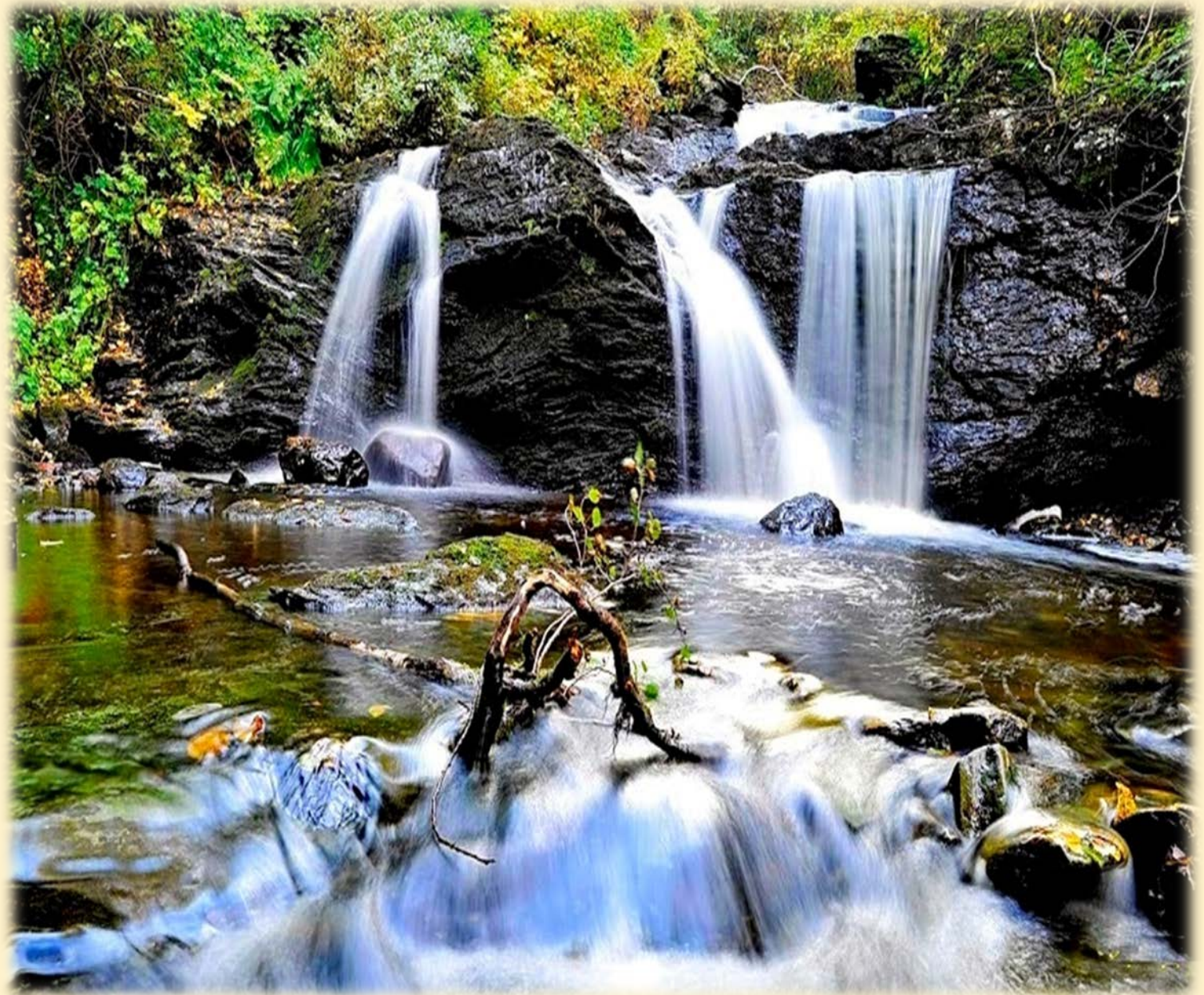


***** Isaiah 35:1-2 The wilderness and the wasteland shall be glad for them, and the desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose; it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice, even with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the excellence of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the Excellency of our God.***

“God will restore the arid plains and deserts to their former fertile nature, and they will become lush with vegetation. They will be as glorious as Lebanon once was, when it was covered with beautiful forests of giant cedar trees.

One of the major problems in our current age is the continuing depletion of our potable and fresh water resources. But it looks like the Lord is going to reverse that trend.”

***** Isaiah 35:6-7; 41:18-20 For waters shall burst forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert. The parched ground shall become a pool, and the thirsty land springs of water; in the habitation of jackals, where each lay, there shall be grass with reeds and rushes... I will open rivers in desolate heights, and fountains in the midst of the valleys; I will make the wilderness a pool of water, and the dry land springs of water. I will plant in the wilderness the cedar and the acacia tree, the myrtle and the oil tree; I will set in the desert the cypress tree and the pine and the box tree together, that they may see and know, and consider and understand together, that the hand of the Lord has done this, and the Holy One of Israel has created it.***



There's a Job for Everyone.

“The world will be administered by those who are guided by attributes which modern society considers weaknesses: love, meekness, forgiveness, and faith in God and His Word. Yet they will also have the power and authority, when needed, to enforce God’s laws and compel the nations of the Earth to obey His rules of life, love, health, and happiness for a reign of peace on Earth toward men of good will *(Luke 2:14).*”

“You’ll use then what you know now: some people have strange ideas about their future in Heaven: *“Oh, I’m going to know everything then, speak any language, and be able to do anything.”* Some people imagine that they’re going to suddenly be catapulted into positions of great responsibility, even though they’re doing nothing for Jesus and their fellow man now. That’s not how it’s going to be.”



“But God is going to take the talents that He’s already given people and that they have already developed, He’s going to take the knowledge they have already learned, the experiences they have already been through, the languages they already know, etc. etc. and use all these things.”



“Knowledge is not just going to be handed out on silver platters in the Afterlife. People are not going to suddenly receive some gift of omniscience so that they know everything like God—not even the angels have that. Judging from the Bible, the near-death experiences many people have had, and just common sense and logic, people are going to carry their experiences from this life into the next life. And they’ll build on that knowledge and experience as they continue to learn in Heaven.”

“Jesus is going to use people who lived godly lives, who understand this world and its people, to assist Him in running the world to come, governing it as it ought to be. God’s people will do



their best to teach God’s love to those who have survived the horrible holocaust of the Plagues of the Wrath of God and the Battle of Armageddon. They will be among the administrators and judges whose oversight and judgment will be based on God’s rulebook of love. And just where each of us is going to be and just how much each of us will be trusted with will depend a lot upon how faithful we are to Him and the job He’s given each of us to do here and now!” (See *Luke 19:12-27, Mt. 25:14-30*)

“Right now we are in training for the days when we will rule the earth! --But before we can do that, we must first learn to rule ourselves! So, in a way, God is now having us practice for what is going to be the real thing, and how well we do now is going to have a lot to do with how well we will do in the future.”

“So remember, everything you’re being taught now, doing now, and the decisions you’re making and the lessons you’re learning now, are all a part of your schooling and your training here and now so you can be greatly used by the Lord there and then! If not, a lot of that schooling would be a big waste of time, except for what little we get done here, which isn't very much compared to what we’ll be able to do then! So let's really try to learn our lessons today, learn to be faithful and obedient servants of the Lord now so He can trust and honour us with a place of blessing and usefulness to Him and others tomorrow, in the beautiful Kingdom of God on Earth during the Millennium! -- When you and I will rule and reign with our King of kings, Jesus! Won't that be great? See you there!”

Be ready for these events. You can receive Jesus at this very moment. It is a free gift of God. Please pray this simple prayer:



“Jesus, please forgive all my faults and sins. I believe that You are the Son of God and that You died for me. I receive You into my heart and life. Thank you for your gift of eternal life and please fill me with Your Holy Spirit. Help me to read and understand Your Word. Amen”

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