

I. Review

A. In this series we have set a strong precedent to contend and hope for the promise of the restoration of all things through the establishment of the Kingdom upon the return of Jesus, to rule the earth from Jerusalem. Series review.....

1. Crisis of Hope
2. Establishing the Promise
3. Apologetic Expectations
4. There is no Kingdom without the King
5. Preaching the Kingdom
6. Examining the Millennial Kingdom

B. Mission of the Kingdom - In this session we will look into the thousand year reign of Jesus and to the promises that are given concerning eternal ages that come after the millennial reign. Our desire in this session is to develop a true and living hope that anchors our soul even deeper in love and expectation as we contend for the fullness of the kingdom to come.

“What seems absolutely clear is that our eschatological perspective has profound implications on how we live and act now.” - Environmental/Ecological Perspective by Benjamin Aldous

II. Restoration of all Things

A. Missional Work - As we presented in the previous session, there will be a large scale continuance of work as we partner with our King in establishing righteousness worldwide, directly following the return of Jesus. It becomes clear, as we consider all of the arenas of work of the millennium, that it is incredibly missional in nature. A quick examination at what the prophetic scriptures say about the realities and events that will happen at the end of that time period are extremely helpful in determining its missional purposes.

1. Preparatory Restoration - The reuniting of heaven and earth is the main culminating event that happens at the end of the thousand years. This event is the ultimate fulfillment the original promise given to the people of God and closes the narrative of all redemptive history. This event does not happen in a vacuum, but rather, is the goal and mission of the initial rulership of our King. The scope of this preparation will be the fullness of righteousness in both the internal and external aspects of creation. (Is. 1:26; Mal 3:3-6; Mark 9:11-12; Acts 1:6, 3:21; Rev. 21:1-6)

2. Evengelistic - Another clear purpose of the unique thousand year time period is that Jesus still desires that none should perish. The beauty and kindness of His patience currently in this age of faith will be eclipsed by the physical and personal evangelistic work He will do in the age to come. (Jer. 3:14-17; Is. 2:2-3, 59:16-21, 66:15-23; Rev. 20:1-10)
3. Establishing Intimacy - There will be a whole new dynamic of partnership and intimacy with Jesus that we will “learn” to walk in as He physically rules the earth with us. Not only is the restoration of the earth a process, but the ruling and reigning with Him will be a process as well. When the thousand years is complete, we will be walking in full confidence in bridal partnership with Him. We will enter into the next age of eternity with every question answered and every internal issue resolved, fully prepared to rule all of creation forever together in the fullness of love, friendship, and perfection. (

- B. Still Contending - There is very much a biblical reality of still contending for the kingdom even after Jesus returns to the earth and sets up His kingdom initially. Why? Because the initial rule and reign of Jesus is geared to establish or bring about the total fulfillment of the promises of the restoration of all things, culminating in the complete reunification of heaven and earth.

III. New Heavens and New Earth

- A. The culmination of the work of the promised one, in conjunction with His church/bride, is the establishment of a new heaven and new earth. I believe strongly that this is the complete fulfillment of all of the prophetic promises of restoration and establishment of the Kingdom of God upon the earth.
- B. I often get asked when speaking on the topic of our eternal hope as to which eternal reality are we to hope in? The millennial kingdom or the new heavens and earth? What becomes clear, in my opinion, is that the realities of ruling the earth and establishing righteousness in the millennial age is not that different than ruling the earth with Jesus upholding righteousness.
 1. We will look at the doctrine of annihilation based on 2 Peter 3:10-13 in our next session.

- C. Our biblical hope is clearly a return to the garden from which we were cast out, in order to walk out the destiny we were originally created for, through a deep relationship with God.