

Eschatology ABF Series

“Millennium”

November 10th

Review

Questions to Be Answered (many notes by David Jeremiah)

1. What Does the Word “Millennium” Mean?
2. Will Believers Today Be on Earth for the Millennium?
3. Will There Be Conflict in the Millennium?
4. Will There Be Death During the Millennium?
5. Will There Be Sin During the Millennium?
6. What is the Purpose of the Millennium?
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1. What Does the Word “Millennium” Mean?

The word “mille” means a thousand, so the millennium is a thousand years. That term is mentioned six times in Revelation 20. The Millennium will be Christ’s one-thousand-year reign as King, following the Tribulation.

By studying the Millennium we discover that lifetimes will be extended, there will be peace in the animal kingdom; the lion will lay down with the lamb and there will be peace among mankind; all the hostilities that have been a part of our world will be gone. The Millennium will be incredible. Dwight Pentecost stated there is more information in the Bible about the Millennium than any other period in Scripture. Many of these references are tucked away in the Old Testament where you wouldn’t expect. When you start to search for it, there is something about that period everywhere you look in the Bible.

2. Will Believers Today Be on Earth for the Millennium?

At the moment of the Rapture, every believer who is alive or deceased will be taken up into heaven. We will remain there for about seven years while the Tribulation is happening on earth. The Marriage Supper of the Lamb and Judgment Seat of Christ will take place during this time. Once the Tribulation is over, Christ will return to earth.

When Christ returns to defeat the armies of the world that have formed against Him, we will return with Him. After the battle is over, the Bible says that all Christians are going to be part of the government. We will stay on earth with Him, and we will rule and reign with Him throughout the whole world.

Revelation 20:4 *“Then I saw thrones and seated on them were those to whom the authority to judge was committed. Also, I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for the testimony of Jesus and for the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or its image and had not received its mark on their foreheads or their hands. They came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.”*

What will we do in Christ’s government? I don’t know. In the Scripture, there seems to be a relationship between one’s faithfulness here in this time and what administration they

are going to be given in that time. It is like the parable of the talents in Matthew 25:14-30. Jesus will reward us with responsibilities based on our faithfulness to Him.

3. Will There Be Conflict in the Millennium?

War has been a consistent part of human history from the very beginning. Growing up in Toledo, Ohio, during the end of World War II, we had blackouts. There would be a siren, and it would help prepare people for the on-going conflict at that time. War has always been part of our conversation, but there will be no war when we get to the Millennium.

Micah 4:4 *“... but they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree, and no one shall make them afraid, for the mouth of the LORD of hosts has spoken.”*

Isaiah 19:23-25 *“In that day there will be a highway from Egypt to Assyria, and Assyria will come into Egypt, and Egypt into Assyria, and the Egyptians will worship with the Assyrians. In that day Israel will be the third with Egypt and Assyria, a blessing in the midst of the earth, whom the LORD of hosts has blessed, saying, ‘Blessed be Egypt my people, and Assyria the work of my hands, and Israel my inheritance.’”*

Isaiah 2:4 *“He shall judge between the nations, and shall decide disputes for many peoples; and 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.”*

4. Will There Be Death During the Millennium?

Isaiah 35:5-6 *“Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy. For waters break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert ...”*

Because of the universe’s pristine conditions during the thousand-year reign of Christ, people will live for a long time. It appears that life spans will revert to those of the era before the Flood, when humans lived to be more than nine hundred years old.

Isaiah 65:20 *“No more shall there be in it an infant who lives but a few days, or an old man who does not fill out his days, for the young man shall die a hundred years old, and the sinner a hundred years old shall be accursed.”*

Disease will be abolished. The crisis of death will be experienced only by those incorrigible individuals who rebel against the law of the kingdom. The ordinary hazards of physical life will be under the direct control of the One whose voice even the winds and waves obey.

5. Will There Be Sin During the Millennium?

Some people find it surprising to think of rebellion during the Millennium. Everybody who goes into the Millennium will be righteous. They all will be saved. But during that one-thousand-year period, there will be marriages. Children will be born and some of those children will rebel against the things of God. Just like today, each person born during the Millennial Age will need to make a personal decision for or against Christ.

But, be assured: rebellion won't last long. The One who is in charge will know the intent of every heart, and there will be swift justice for every wrong. The Bible says our Lord will rule with a rod of iron. That means there won't be any long delays in justice. No long waits for trials, no long waits for sentences to be carried out. There will be immediate justice based upon the holy reign of King Jesus.

6. What is the Purpose of the Millennium?

There are several reasons that a literal Millennium must occur.

To reward the people of God:

There are scores of promises scattered throughout the Bible, both in the Old Testament and in the New Testament, guaranteeing God's people that they will receive rewards for faithful service.

Matthew 16:27 *"For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay each person according to what he has done."*

Matthew 25:34 *"Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.'"*

Revelation 22:12 *"Behold, I am coming soon, bringing my recompense with me, to repay each one for what he has done."*

Part of our heavenly reward will be to reign and rule with Christ upon this earth during the Millennium. Each of us will have opportunities to serve the Lord based upon our faithfulness in serving Him right now.

To respond to the prophets' predictions:

The prophets of the Old Testament predicted such a time. Without the Millennium, none of those prophecies could be fulfilled.

Psalms 72:11 *"May all kings fall down before him, all nations serve him!"*

Isaiah 9:7 *"Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this."*

Luke 1:32-33 *"He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to 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.”

To receive an answer to the disciples’ prayer:

One day, when Jesus returns, His kingdom will come, and His will shall be done on this earth.

Matthew 6:8-13 *“Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him. Pray then like this: “Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.”*

To reemphasize man’s depravity and the necessity of Christ’s death:

During the Millennium, those faithful servants who survive the Tribulation will bear children, in whom the sin nature will reside, because the fallen human nature of man will not be eliminated until eternity begins at the end of the millennial kingdom. At the end of the thousand years, Satan will be released, and he will stir up a final rebellion against God just as he did in the Garden of Eden.

Revelation 20:1-3, 7-8 *“Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, holding in his hand the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain. And he seized the dragon, that ancient serpent, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years, and threw him into the pit, and shut it and sealed it over him, so that he might not deceive the nations any longer, until the thousand years were ended. After that he must be released for a little while ... And when the thousand years are ended, Satan will be released from his prison and will come out to deceive the nations that are at the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them for battle; their number is like the sand of the sea.”*

Even though Christ is ruling and reigning on the earth during the Millennium, some will yet be deceived. This demonstrates just how deeply man needs a Savior. Man can never achieve righteousness apart from God.

To allow Jerusalem to become the capital of the world:

Jeremiah 3:17 *“At that time Jerusalem shall be called the throne of the LORD, and all nations shall gather to it, to the presence of the LORD in Jerusalem, and they shall no more stubbornly follow their own evil heart.”*

To allow for environmental changes:

Isaiah 4:5-6 *“Then the LORD will create over the whole site of Mount Zion and over her assemblies a cloud by day, and smoke and the shining of*

a flaming fire by night; for over all the glory there will be a canopy. There will be a booth for shade by day from the heat, and for a refuge and a shelter from the storm and rain.”

7. What Is the Purpose of the Book of Revelation?

This book is a purposeful book. Revelation is a book that is written on purpose. It's written to tell us about two things: the return of the King and the reign of the King.

First, it says Jesus Christ is coming back. There is going to be a King on this earth one day who rules over every nation.

Daniel 7:13-14 *“I saw in the night visions, and behold, with the clouds of heaven there came one like a son of man, and he came to the Ancient of Days and was presented before him. And to him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him; his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom one that shall not be destroyed.”*

Revelation 1:7 *“Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. Amen.”*

In His Olivet Discourse, Jesus spoke of His coming in similar terms.

Matthew 24:30 *“Then will appear in heaven the sign of the Son of Man, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.”*

John expanded upon Jesus' words.

Revelation 1:7-8 *“Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. Amen. ‘I am the Alpha and the Omega,’ says the Lord God, ‘who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.’”*