

kingdom and the details of the sacrificial system in the millennial kingdom as provided in Ezekiel. During the present age the Lord's Supper is the scriptural reminder of the sacrifice of Christ.

Millennial Life

The millennial kingdom will also be a time of great prosperity, and there will be no poor people or people suffering from lack of economic needs. The curse on the ground pronounced after Adam's sin will be lifted, and even the desert will produce abundant crops ([Isa. 32:14-15](#); [35:1-2](#)). It will be a time of general prosperity for the entire earth ([Jer. 31:12](#); [Ezek. 34:25-29](#); [Joel 2:21-27](#); [Amos 9:13-14](#)).

In the millennial kingdom each of the twelve tribes of Israel will have its designated portion of the promised land as indicated in [Ezekiel 48](#). One of the outstanding features of the Millennium is that there will be no war. Accordingly, expenditures necessary to support a military branch of the government will be turned into improvement of the social and economic life in the Millennium.

Contributing to peaceful circumstances, there will be universal justice. As stated in [Isaiah 11:4](#), "With righteousness he will judge the needy, with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth."

The earth, which was cursed following Adam's sin, will now bring forth abundantly as stated in [Isaiah 35:1-2](#), "The desert and the parched land will be glad; the wilderness will rejoice and blossom.

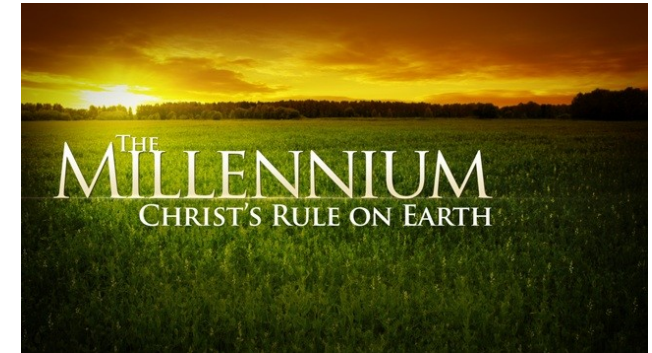
Apparently, sickness will be less prevalent in the Millennium than in any previous dispensation, and physical difficulties may be healed ([Isa. 29:18](#); [33:24](#)). Even those who are lame will be healed and those who are dumb will be able to speak ([Isa. 35:5-6](#)). In general, longevity will characterize the human race, for a person who dies at the age of one hundred will be considered a child ([Isa. 65:20](#)).

Jerusalem will be greatly enlarged but will include some of the old landmarks such as the Benjamin Gate ([Jer. 37:13](#)) as well as other gates.

Any close examination of the many particulars that abound in prophecy of this kingdom on earth will make it clear that these prophecies are not being fulfilled in any sense now and that they require a second coming of Christ, a personal return of Christ on earth, and the establishment of His kingdom on earth for a thousand years before the eternal state begins. The millennial kingdom will not be fulfilled in the new earth ([Rev. 21-22](#)), as in the Millennium there will be sin and death and divine judgment as well as other factors not found in heaven. The Millennium will be fulfilled in the present earth, even though some changes will be made in the earthly situation.

The Millennium will be a golden age to a far greater extent than any previous dispensation,

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Second Coming of Christ

At the second coming of Christ there will be a series of judgments. Already mentioned is the judgment and reward of the martyred dead of the Great Tribulation. Also mentioned is the judgment of Satan, which causes him to be bound for a thousand years.

The Scriptures also speak of a general judgment of the nations, or the Gentiles ([Matt. 25:31-46](#)). This is a judgment of Gentiles living in the world at the time of the second coming of Christ who have survived the Great Tribulation. Those counted worthy are described as sheep, and they will be eligible to enter the millennial kingdom. Those who are counted unworthy, designated as goats, are put to death.

A similar judgment of the people of Israel is described in [Ezekiel 20:33-38](#). Those counted worthy enter the millennial kingdom; those not counted worthy are put to death.

Not mentioned in Revelation is the resurrection and judgment of Old Testament saints as revealed in [Daniel 12:2](#). Daniel writes, "Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth

will awake: some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt.” The righteous are raised and will enter the millennial kingdom. Though it is mentioned in the same verse, the judgment of the wicked, which is also mentioned, actually occurs a thousand years later as [Revelation 20:5](#) makes clear. At the beginning of the millennial kingdom all the righteous have been raised from the dead, and those living, both Gentiles and Jews, who survived the Great Tribulation will enter the Millennium in their natural bodies and will perform natural functions in that kingdom. Only those who are wicked will still be in the grave and not resurrected.

The New Testament does not detail the characteristics of the millennial kingdom because this is covered in many passages in the Old Testament.

Millennial Characteristics

The millennial kingdom is primarily a political kingdom, though it has spiritual aspects and Jesus Christ is the King of Kings, who has come to reign over the earth. Because it is an earthly kingdom with Christ on the throne, it obviously cannot be fulfilled in the present age when Christ is in heaven, though Christians form a part of the kingdom of God in a spiritual sense.

Jesus Christ will serve as King of Kings and Lord of Lords in the millennial kingdom and will fulfil the promises that He will sit on David’s throne over the house of Israel ([2 Sam. 7:16](#); [Ps. 89:20-37](#); [Isa. 11:1-16](#); [Jer. 33:19-21](#)).

In addition to reigning over Israel as the Son of David, Christ is also King of Kings over the entire earth, and this includes, of course, the Gentile world. As [Psalm 72:8](#) states, “He will rule from sea to sea and from the River to the ends of the earth.”

In Christ’s reign over the people of Israel, David will be resurrected as king and serve as a regent under Christ ([Jer. 30:9](#); [33:15-17](#); [Ezek. 34:23-24](#); [37:24-25](#); [Hosea 3:5](#)). The twelve apostles also will have part in the reign of Christ on earth and will judge the twelve tribes of Israel ([Matt. 19:28](#)). Because all those who enter the Millennium are either resurrected saints or people who have been born again, in the early stages of the Millennium, particularly, there will be a righteous manner of life in the world such as the world has never seen.

Millennial Spiritual Life

Though the millennial kingdom is a political kingdom, it nevertheless will provide a context for a high level of spiritual life and experience. Though Christ reigns in the hearts of His followers now, in the millennial kingdom this will be universal, political, and visible.

An important part of this is the fact that Christ will be visibly present and the world will be able to see His glory ([Matt. 24:30](#)). [Psalm 72:19](#) also mentions that the whole earth will be filled with His glory. In addition to other aspects of the spiritual life, full knowledge of God and His ways are indicated, as stated in [Isaiah 11:9](#) : “They will

[neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.”](#) In contrast to the Mosaic Law, which was written on tables of stone, God will put His truth in the heart of man, and all will know the facts about Jesus Christ ([Jer. 31:33-34](#)). God will also forgive their sins and pour out His blessings upon them. The spiritual life in the Millennium will be manifested in righteousness among the saints, who will flourish ([Ps. 72:7](#)).

In keeping with righteousness and peace, there will be universal joy, as stated in [Isaiah 12:3-4](#): “[With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. In that day you will say: ‘Give thanks to the Lord, call on his name; make known among the nations what he has done, and proclaim that his name is exalted.’”](#)

The Millennial Temple

In [Ezekiel 40:1-46:24](#) the millennial temple is described, a huge building rich in spiritual meaning. The spiritual significance of the millennial temple will differ from the importance of the temple under the Mosaic Law, but it will provide a means of worship of God, including animal sacrifices. Though animal sacrifices in themselves do not provide any relief from sin, as was true in the Old Testament, millennial sacrifices will look back to the cross even as sacrifices in the Mosaic period looked forward to the cross. Though some have opposed the idea of animal sacrifices in the Millennium on the ground that Christ’s sacrifice was sufficient, there does not seem to be any other suitable explanation of the details of the millennial