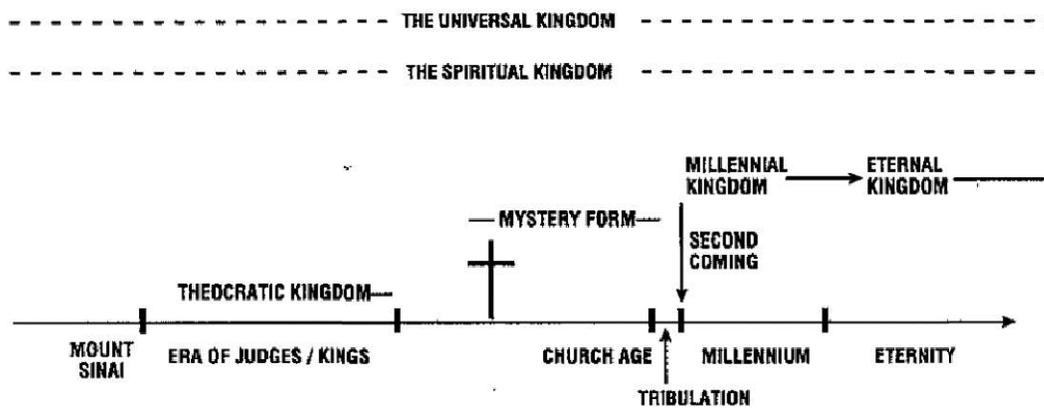


TWO PHASES OF THE FUTURE KINGDOM: THE MILLENNIUM & ETERNAL STATE

INTRODUCTION

- The biblical covenants and the promises in the OT that God will establish His kingdom (Daniel 2:44) will be fulfilled in the future in two phases: 1) In the millennial kingdom of Christ; and 2) In the eternal state
- “God’s great purpose in establishing His future kingdom on *this present earth* is to fulfill His many promises given in the Scriptures and to clearly demonstrate to all of creation that He alone is the sovereign God. It was on this earth that God was apparently defeated (in Eden and at the Cross), and it on this earth where He must be clearly victorious, defeating all usurpers and establishing His rule. Closely connected with this is the need to fulfill His specific covenant promises to Israel. The promises given in the Abrahamic, Davidic, Palestinian, and new covenants are fulfilled in the millennial kingdom. The purpose of the millennial (Messianic) kingdom especially relates to fulfilling these covenants made with Israel. The second (eternal) phase of the future kingdom of God will maintain God’s sovereign ruling authority over a new heaven and a new earth.”¹

VARIOUS ASPECTS OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD



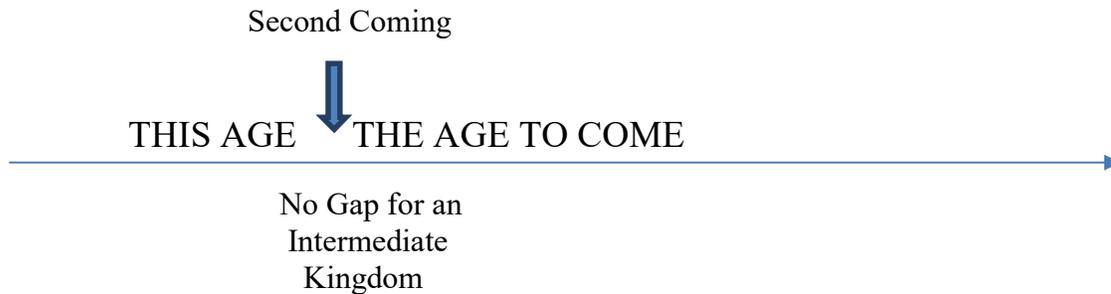
- In other words, the intermediate (Millennial) kingdom is the initial phase of the age to come (eternal kingdom):



¹ Paul Benware, *Understanding End Times Prophecy*, 280.

AMILLENNIAL UNDERSTANDING OF THE END

- Amillennialists see the fundamental structure of biblical eschatology as presented in two successive stages: this age, and the age to come
- This two-age model has become the primary argument for the amillennial view



- This two-fold division is supposedly supported by 5 passages which present a contrast between the two ages

Matthew 12:32 ~ Whoever speaks a word against the Son of Man, it shall be forgiven him; but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit, it shall not be forgiven him, either in this age or in the age to come.

Mark 10:30 ~ but that he will receive a hundred times as much now in the present age, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and farms, along with persecutions; and in the age to come, eternal life.

Luke 18:30 ~ who will not receive many times as much at this time and in the age to come, eternal life.

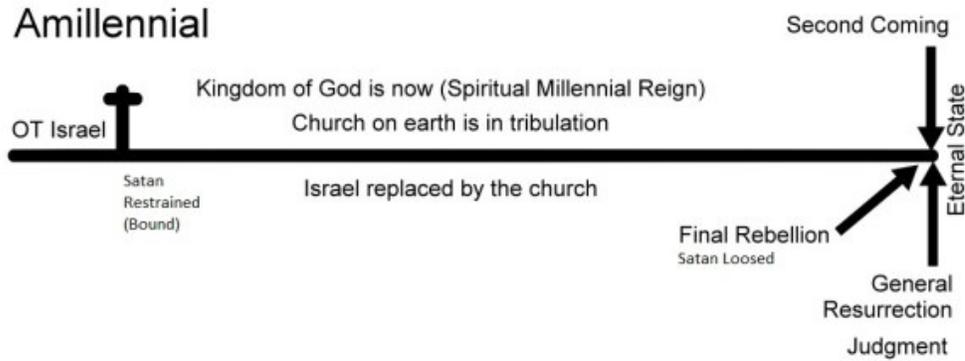
Luke 20:34-35 ~ Jesus said to them, “The sons of this age marry and are given in marriage, but those who are considered worthy to attain to that age and the resurrection from the dead, neither marry nor are given in marriage”

Ephesians 1:21 ~ far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come.

- This model has been used by amillennialists as the hermeneutical grid for the rest of Scripture
- “Because it serves as the overall framework of the New Testament, Riddlebarger argues that the two-age model also functions as ‘the interpretive grid through which amillennialists should understand the biblical concept of future history.’ Riddlebarger laments that ‘the two ages have not been properly considered as a major interpretive grid,’ but amillennialists have increasingly regarded this model as the hermeneutical lens through which the rest of Scripture, including Revelation 20, should be viewed.”²
- Amillennialists have used the two-age model to argue against the possibility of the intermediate (Millennial) kingdom in 3 ways:
 1. Because the “age to come” will immediately follow this present age (Matt 12:32; Eph 1:21), there is no gap of time between the two ages to allow for the intermediate kingdom of premillennialism.
 2. Because the qualities ascribed to “the age to come” are all eternal in nature (Mark 10:30; Luke 18:30; 20:34-36), the temporal aspects of premillennialism’s intermediate kingdom – such as sin, death, and procreation – render it incompatible with the coming age.
 3. Because the Second Coming is the line of demarcation between the two ages – and because it will be accompanied by the resurrection and judgment of all mankind (Dan 12:2; John 5:28-29; Acts 24:15; Matt 25:31-46; 2 Thess 1:6-10), the destruction and renewal of the cosmos (2 Pet 3:10-13; Rom 8:18-23), and the final victory over sin and death (1 Cor 15:20-28, 50-57; Rom 8:17-23) – there is no gap of time to allow for the intermediate kingdom of premillennialism.³

² Matthew Waymeyer, *Amillennialism and the Age to Come*, 4.

³ *Ibid.*, 6-7.



- Summary of Amillennialism:

1. It says that the Millennium began at the 1st coming of Christ and will continue to His 2nd coming
2. It says Satan was bound at Christ's first coming
3. It says that there are two resurrections...the first being a spiritual one (the new birth of the believer) and the second being a physical one (all people at end of millennium)
4. It says that the Second Coming is a single event (Rapture and 2nd Coming are the same event)
5. It says that the Tribulation is present currently as believers always face tribulation
6. It says that at the 2nd Coming, there is one general resurrection and one general judgment
7. It says that the eternal state will be brought in after the 2nd Coming

A PREMILLENNIAL RESPONSE TO AMILLENNIALISM'S TWO-AGE MODEL

- In the two-age model of amillennialism, there is no room for the intermediate kingdom of premillennialism
- However, several OT prophetic passages predict a period of time that is distinct from both the present age and the eternal state
- "Because these passages describe conditions which do not fit in either time period, they appear to 'indicate some future stage in the history of redemption which is far greater than the present church age but which still does not see the removal of all sin and rebellion and death from the earth.' ...On the one hand, the eschatological kingdom is characterized by peace, righteousness, eternal blessing, and immortality; but on the other hand, some prophetic passages include conditions of sin, rebellion, and human death. For this reason, 'it is certainly possible that these conditions might be fulfilled in a historical phase of the kingdom prior to the final fulfillment' of the eternal state. Because the prophetic picture includes a portrayal of the Messiah reigning in a yet imperfect world, premillennialists point to these passages as Old Testament evidence for the necessity of an intermediate kingdom."⁴

Psalm 72:1-20

- In this Psalm, Solomon looks beyond his own reign as king to the reign of the coming Messiah

⁴ Ibid., 19

- He describes the reign of Christ as: extending over the entire world (vs. 2-4, 7, 12)...extending from sea to sea and the ends of the earth (vs. 8)...a time when all kings will bow down to Him (vs. 11)...when all the peoples of the earth will be blessed (vs. 7, 16-17)...and when the whole earth is filled with His glory (vs. 19)
- Yet, this description of the future reign of Messiah also includes conditions that fall far short of the eternal state: Messiah will vindicate the afflicted (vs. 2, 4)...will save the children of the needy (vs. 4)...will crush the oppressor...(vs. 4)...will subdue His enemies (vs. 9)...will deliver the needy and afflicted who cry out for help (vs. 12)...will have compassion on the poor (vs. 13)...will deliver the victims of violence (vs. 13-14)
- Because this description cannot be harmonized with either our present world or the eternal state, it must refer to a future reign of Messiah in the intermediate kingdom

Isaiah 11:1-9

- Isaiah describes the righteous and peaceful reign of the Messiah as a time when the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord (vs.9)...and when the wolf will dwell with the lamb, etc. (vs. 6)
- But Isaiah also indicates in this passage that certain aspects of this stage of the kingdom will not align with the eternal state: Messiah will judge the poor with righteousness (vs. 4a)...He will defend the afflicted (vs. 4b)...He will strike the earth with the rod of His mouth (vs. 4c)...He will slay the wicked (vs. 4d)
- “Because the coming kingdom of Isaiah 11 exceeds what is currently manifest in the current age – and because the presence of the poor, the afflicted, and the wicked are incompatible with the eternal state – premillennialists point to this passage as evidence of an intermediate kingdom between the two.”⁵

Isaiah 65:17-25

- This passage looks ahead and describes the coming kingdom as a time of joy and prosperity when God will bless His people and make all things new...this is evident in that it promises longevity of life (vs. 20, 22). Thus, no one will experience an untimely or premature death as people will likely live hundreds of years
- However, death will continue to exist in this stage of the kingdom (vs. 20)
- “The impossibility of locating the fulfillment of Isaiah 65:20 in either the present age or the eternal state points to the existence of an intermediate kingdom in which sin and death still persist, and yet the longevity of life far exceeds current conditions.”⁶
- (Amillennialists believe that vs. 20 poetically describes the longevity of life to be enjoyed in the eternal state without actually implying that death will still exist at this time.)

Zechariah 8:4-5

- This text points to a time when the Lord returns to Jerusalem and the kingdom is characterized by sweet fellowship, a time of undisturbed peace and tranquility: the young will play...the old will rest peacefully. Thus, in the coming kingdom, God’s people will live to an old age and will enjoy the blessing of seeing their descendants playing in the streets.
- However, age discrepancies still exist (old men and old women...boys and girls)...and the weakness of old age will make it necessary for the elderly to lean on a can (vs. 4b)
- “From Zechariah’s time until now there has never been a time where the conditions of Zechariah 8 have happened. On the other hand, there will be no elderly who are weak in the final eternal stage for all the

⁵ Ibid., 28.

⁶ Ibid., 34.

remnants of the curse have been removed (see Revelation 21 and 22). What Zechariah describes here, therefore, must take place in an initial phase of God's kingdom before the eternal state begins."⁷

- (Amillennialists view this passage as not describing a coming kingdom which includes procreation, birth, and aging; rather it symbolically portrays the child-like joy, eternal life, and spiritual fruitfulness characteristic of God's people in the last days.)

Zechariah 14:16-19

- Zechariah 14 pictures the day when Messiah will return to earth, arriving on the Mount of Olives (vs. 3-5) to defeat the invading enemies of Jerusalem (vs. 12-15) and to establish His messianic kingdom in which He reigns as king over all the earth (vs. 8-11)
- However, over time some will refuse to travel to Jerusalem to celebrate the Feast of Booths; consequently, God will punish them by withholding rain and bringing drought upon their land (vs. 17-19)
- "According to this passage, then, the Lord Himself will rule as king over all the earth, and yet this messianic reign of peace will not immediately involve the exclusion of all sin. Instead, the rebellion of nations refusing to worship the Messiah will be met with decisive judgment as the Lord smites the disobedient with the plague of drought. The Kingdom of Jesus in Zechariah 14, in other words, will take place in a radically transformed and yet imperfect world in which sin, rebellion, suffering, and death continue to exist."⁸

FUTURE KINGDOM PHASE 1: THE MILLENNIUM

A Literal 1,000 Years

Revelation 20:1-7~Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, holding the key of the abyss and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold of the dragon, the serpent of old, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a **thousand years**; and he threw him into the abyss, and shut it and sealed it over him, so that he would not deceive the nations any longer, until the **thousand years** were completed; after these things he must be released for a short time. Then I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was given to them. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony of Jesus and because of the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received the mark on their forehead and on their hand; and they came to life and reigned with Christ for a **thousand years**. The rest of the dead did not come to life until the **thousand years** were completed. This is the first resurrection. Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a **thousand years**. When the **thousand years** are completed, Satan will be released from his prison,

- "Millennium" = χίλια (*chilia*) = thousand
- *Chiliasm* = The doctrine stating that Jesus will reign on earth for 1,000 years
- This word is used 6 times in these 7 verses and should be taken literally
- This is not just a general reference to a long period of time; rather it is a specific 1,000 period
- If other portions of this text (binding of Satan, the resurrections, etc.) are to be taken literally, so also must the 1,000 years
- There was another word available if John wanted to refer to long time = μυριάδες (*myriades*)
- This term, used in Rev 5:11, expresses an amount beyond calculation; innumerable

Revelation 5:11 ~ Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne and the living creatures and the elders; and the number of them was myriads of myriads, and thousands of thousands,

- In a sense, Christ's kingdom will actually last for all eternity

⁷ Michael Vlach, "The Kingdom of God in the Millennium," *MSJ* 23, no. 2 (Fall 2012): 238.

⁸ Waymeyer, *Amillennialism and the Age to Come*, 56-57.

- The earthly aspect of the kingdom, with Christ ruling out of Jerusalem, will last only for 1,000 years
- But there will be a continuation of the kingdom which will have no end – this will occur when the earthly form of the kingdom merges into God’s eternal rule in the new heavens and earth

Satan is Bound

Revelation 20:2-3 ~ And he laid hold of the dragon, the serpent of old, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years...so that he would not deceive the nations any longer

- Satan is bound so he can no longer deceive the nations, imprisoned in chains

Israel will be the Focus

- The purpose of the millennial kingdom is to fulfill the covenant promises made to Israel in the Abrahamic, Palestinian, Priestly, Davidic, and New Covenants

Jeremiah 31:31 ~ Behold, days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah.

Jeremiah 33:15 ~ In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch of David to spring forth; and He shall execute justice and righteousness on the earth.

Ezekiel 36:24-28 ~ For I will take you from the nations, gather you from all the lands and bring you into your own land. Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols. Moreover, I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will be careful to observe My ordinances. You will live in the land that I gave to your forefathers; so you will be My people, and I will be your God.

- Also, Jerusalem will be the world center for worship of the Lord Jesus

Isaiah 2:3 ~ And many peoples will come and say, “Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, To the house of the God of Jacob; That He may teach us concerning His ways And that we may walk in His paths.” For the law will go forth from Zion And the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

Isaiah 60:2-3 ~ For behold, darkness will cover the earth And deep darkness the peoples; But the Lord will rise upon you And His glory will appear upon you. Nations will come to your light, And kings to the brightness of your rising.

Micah 4:1-2 ~ And it will come about in the last days That the mountain of the house of the Lord Will be established as the chief of the mountains. It will be raised above the hills, And the peoples will stream to it. Many nations will come and say, “Come and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord And to the house of the God of Jacob, That He may teach us about His ways And that we may walk in His paths.” For from Zion will go forth the law, Even the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

Temple Worship and Sacrifices

- Numerous passages speak of a reinstatement of a millennial temple worship and sacrificial system
- They will not be efficacious any more than OT sacrifices were
- As OT sacrifices pointed forward to Christ’s death, these sacrifices will point back to Christ’s death in remembrance of His once for all sacrifice

Isaiah 56:6-8 ~ Also the foreigners who join themselves to the Lord, To minister to Him, and to love the name of the Lord, To be His servants, every one who keeps from profaning the sabbath And holds fast My covenant; Even those I will bring to My holy mountain And make them joyful in My house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be acceptable on My altar; For My house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples. The Lord God, who gathers the dispersed of Israel, declares, “Yet others I will gather to them, to those already gathered.”

Isaiah 66:21 ~ I will also take some of them for priests and for Levites,” says the Lord.

Jeremiah 33:15-18 ~ In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch of David to spring forth; and He shall execute justice and righteousness on the earth. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will dwell in safety; and this is the name by which she will be called: the Lord is our righteousness.’ For thus says the Lord, ‘David shall never lack a man to sit on the throne of the house of Israel; and the Levitical priests shall never lack a man before Me to offer burnt offerings, to burn grain offerings and to prepare sacrifices continually.’ ”

Zechariah 14:16 ~ Then it will come about that any who are left of all the nations that went against Jerusalem will go up from year to year to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, and to celebrate the Feast of Booths.

Ezekiel 40-48

Christ will Rule and Reign on Earth

- Christ will serve as the supreme, absolute ruler on earth in fulfillment of the Davidic Covenant

Psalms 2:6 ~ But as for Me, I have installed My King Upon Zion, My holy mountain.

Luke 1:32-33 ~ He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David; and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and His kingdom will have no end.”

Isaiah 9:6-7 ~ For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; And the government will rest on His shoulders; And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace. There will be no end to the increase of His government or of peace, On the throne of David and over his kingdom, To establish it and to uphold it with justice and righteousness From then on and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will accomplish this.

Revelation 19:16 ~ And on His robe and on His thigh He has a name written, “KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.”

- Thus, the form of government during the millennium will be an autocracy as opposed to a democracy
- Christ will be the autocratic ruler of earth – as the perfect man, without sin, Christ will be the supreme ruler

Isaiah 24:23 ~ Then the moon will be abashed and the sun ashamed, For the Lord of hosts will reign on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem, And His glory will be before His elders.

Jeremiah 23:5-6 ~ “Behold, the days are coming,” declares the Lord, “When I will raise up for David a righteous Branch; And He will reign as king and act wisely And do justice and righteousness in the land. “In His days Judah will be saved, And Israel will dwell securely; And this is His name by which He will be called, ‘The Lord our righteousness.’ ”

Micah 4:7 ~ I will make the lame a remnant And the outcasts a strong nation, And the Lord will reign over them in Mount Zion From now on and forever.

- Israel and Judah will be united under the kingship of Christ

Ezekiel 37:16-17, 22 ~ And you, son of man, take for yourself one stick and write on it, ‘For Judah and for the sons of Israel, his companions’; then take another stick and write on it, ‘For Joseph, the stick of Ephraim and all the house of Israel, his companions.’ Then join them for yourself one to another into one stick, that they may become one in your hand...and I will make them one nation in the land, on the mountains of Israel; and one king will be king for all of them; and they will no longer be two nations and no longer be divided into two kingdoms.

- Christ will be king over the Gentiles

Psalms 2:8 ~ Ask of Me, and I will surely give the nations as Your inheritance, And the very ends of the earth as Your possession.

Daniel 2:35 ~ Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver and the gold were crushed all at the same time and became like chaff from the summer threshing floors; and the wind carried them away so that not a trace of them was found. But the stone that struck the statue became a great mountain and filled the whole earth.

- Thus, Christ's reign will be a universal one

Daniel 7:14~ And to Him was given dominion, Glory and a kingdom, that all the peoples, nations, and men of every language might serve Him.

Zechariah 14:9~ And the Lord will be king over all the earth; in that day the Lord will be the only one, and His name the only one.

Glorified Saints Will Rule with Christ

- Resurrected saints (OT, church and Tribulation saints) will be those who are ruling and reigning with Christ during the Millennium

1 Corinthians 6:2 ~ Or do you not know that the saints will judge the world? If the world is judged by you, are you not competent to constitute the smallest law courts?

2 Timothy 2:12 ~ If we endure, we will also reign with Him; If we deny Him, He also will deny us;

Revelation 5:10 ~ You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to our God; and they will reign upon the earth

Revelation 20:4 ~ Then I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was given to them. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony of Jesus and because of the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received the mark on their forehead and on their hand; and they came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.

A Time of Great Blessing Because Earth Will be Supernaturally Renewed

1. No more war

Isaiah 2:4 ~ And He will judge between the nations, And will render decisions for many peoples; And they will hammer their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not lift up sword against nation, And never again will they learn war.

Micah 4:3 ~ And He will judge between many peoples And render decisions for mighty, distant nations. Then they will hammer their swords into plowshares And their spears into pruning hooks; Nation will not lift up sword against nation, And never again will they train for war.

2. The curse on the ground will be removed; the land of Palestine will be fertile and productive

Isaiah 30:23-25 ~ Then He will give *you* rain for the seed which you will sow in the ground, and bread *from* the yield of the ground, and it will be rich and plenteous; on that day your livestock will graze in a roomy pasture. 24 Also the oxen and the donkeys which work the ground will eat salted fodder, which has been winnowed with shovel and fork. 25 On every lofty mountain and on every high hill there will be streams running with water on the day of the great slaughter, when the towers fall.

Isaiah 32:13-15 ~ For the land of my people *in which* thorns *and* briars shall come up; Yea, for all the joyful houses *and for* the jubilant city. 14 Because the palace has been abandoned, the populated city forsaken. Hill and watch-tower have become caves forever, A delight for wild donkeys, a pasture for flocks; 15 Until the Spirit is poured out upon us from on high, And the wilderness becomes a fertile field, And the fertile field is considered as a forest

Isaiah 35:1-2, 7 ~ The wilderness and the desert will be glad, And the Arabah will rejoice and blossom; Like the crocus 2 It will blossom profusely And rejoice with rejoicing and shout of joy. The glory of Lebanon will be given to it, The majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They will see the glory of the LORD, The majesty of our God...The scorched land will become a pool And the thirsty ground springs of water; In the haunt of jackals, its resting place, Grass *becomes* reeds and rushes.

Isaiah 41:18 ~ I will open rivers on the bare heights And springs in the midst of the valleys; I will make the wilderness a pool of water And the dry land fountains of water

Ezekiel 36:6-9 ~ Therefore prophesy concerning the land of Israel and say to the mountains and to the hills, to the ravines and to the valleys, “Thus says the Lord GOD, ‘Behold, I have spoken in My jealousy and in My wrath because you have endured the insults of the nations.’” 7Therefore thus says the Lord GOD, ‘I have sworn that surely the nations which are around you will themselves endure their insults. 8 But you, O mountains of Israel, you will put forth your branches and bear your fruit for My people Israel; for they will soon come. For, behold, I am for you, and I will turn to you, and you will be cultivated and sown.’

Ezekiel 36:29-30 ~ Moreover, I will save you from all your uncleanness; and I will call for the grain and multiply it, and I will not bring a famine on you. I will multiply the fruit of the tree and the produce of the field, so that you will not receive again the disgrace of famine among the nations.

Ezekiel 36:35 ~ They will say, ‘This desolate land has become like the garden of Eden; and the waste, desolate and ruined cities are fortified *and* inhabited.’

Joel 2:21-27

Zechariah 8:11-12 ~ ‘But now I will not treat the remnant of this people as in the former days,’ declares the LORD of hosts. 12 ‘For *there will be* peace for the seed: the vine will yield its fruit, the land will yield its produce and the heavens will give their dew; and I will cause the remnant of this people to inherit all these *things*.

3. Sickness and death will be greatly reduced

Isaiah 29:18 ~ On that day the deaf will hear words of a book, And out of *their* gloom and darkness the eyes of the blind will see

Isaiah 33:24 ~ And no resident will say, “I am sick”;The people who dwell there will be forgiven *their* iniquity

Isaiah 35:5-6 ~ Then the eyes of the blind will be opened And the ears of the deaf will be unstopped. Then the lame will leap like a deer, And the tongue of the mute will shout for joy. For waters will break forth in the wilderness And streams in the Arabah.

Ezekiel 34:16 ~ I will seek the lost, bring back the scattered, bind up the broken and strengthen the sick; but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with judgment

4. People will be healthy and live to old age

Isaiah 65:20, 22 ~ No longer will there be in it an infant who lives but a few days, Or an old man who does not live out his days; For the youth will die at the age of one hundred And the one who does not reach the age of one hundred will be thought accursed... They will not build and another inhabit, They will not plant and another eat; For as the lifetime of a tree, *so will be* the days of My people, And My chosen ones will wear out the work of their hands.

5. Peace among animals and with humans; animal world will be tamed

Isaiah 11:6-8 ~ And the wolf will dwell with the lamb, And the leopard will lie down with the young goat, And the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; And a little boy will lead them. Also the cow and the bear will graze, Their young will lie down together, And the lion will eat straw like the ox. The nursing child will play by the hole of the cobra, And the weaned child will put his hand on the viper’s den.

Isaiah 65:25 ~ The wolf and the lamb will graze together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox; and dust will be the serpent’s food. They will do no evil or harm in all My holy mountain,” says the LORD

6. Perfect justice will be executed by Christ

Isaiah 11:3-4 ~ And He will delight in the fear of the Lord, And He will not judge by what His eyes see, Nor make a decision by what His ears hear; But with righteousness He will judge the poor, And decide with fairness for the afflicted of the earth; And He will strike the earth with the rod of His mouth, And with the breath of His lips He will slay the wicked.

Jeremiah 23:5 ~ “Behold, the days are coming,” declares the Lord, “When I will raise up for David a righteous Branch; And He will reign as king and act wisely And do justice and righteousness in the land.

7. An outpouring of the Holy Spirit

Ezekiel 36:27 ~ I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will be careful to observe My ordinances.

Joel 2:28-29 ~ It will come about after this That I will pour out My Spirit on all mankind; And your sons and daughters will prophesy, Your old men will dream dreams, Your young men will see visions. “Even on the male and female servants I will pour out My Spirit in those days.

8. A time of unprecedented prosperity for humanity

Jeremiah 31:12 ~ They will come and shout for joy on the height of Zion, And they will be radiant over the bounty of the LORD – Over the grain and the new wine and the oil, And over the young of the flock and the herd; And their life will be like a watered garden, And they will never languish again.

Ezekiel 34:26-29 ~ I will make them and the places around My hill a blessing. And I will cause showers to come down in their season; they will be showers of blessing. 27 Also the tree of the field will yield its fruit and the earth will yield its increase, and they will be secure on their land. Then they will know that I am the LORD, when I have broken the bars of their yoke and have delivered them from the hand of those who enslaved them. 28 “They will no longer be a prey to the nations, and the beasts of the earth will not devour them; but they will live securely, and no one will make *them* afraid. 29 I will establish for them a renowned planting place, and they will not again be victims of famine in the land, and they will not endure the insults of the nations anymore.

Amos 9:13-15 ~ “Behold, days are coming,” declares the LORD, “When the plowman will overtake the reaper And the treader of grapes him who sows seed; When the mountains will drip sweet wine And all the hills will be dissolved. 14 Also I will restore the captivity of My people Israel, And they will rebuild the ruined cities and live *in them*; They will also plant vineyards and drink their wine, And make gardens and eat their fruit. 15 I will also plant them on their land, And they will not again be rooted out from their land Which I have given them,” Says the LORD your God.

But Sin and Judgment Will not be Entirely Eliminated

- See above

FUTURE KINGDOM PHASE 2: THE ETERNAL STATE

- The Bible presents the new heavens and new earth as the final destiny of redeemed humanity (Rev 21-22)
- The millennium is past...the great white throne judgment has occurred...Satan and all unbelievers have been cast into the lake of fire forever...and Christ transfers the kingdom to the Father (1 Cor 15:24-26)
- What remains is a glorious destiny for the saints of God as they live on a new earth with direct access to God who now lives among them...when the earthly millennial kingdom merges with the eternal kingdom
- Characteristics:
 - A new heaven and new earth– Rev 21:1
 - A beautiful capital city, the New Jerusalem – Rev 21:2, 10-21
 - Unhindered fellowship with God – Rev 21:3; 22:4
 - The absence of a number of things – no sin, sadness or death (Rev 21:4); no temple (Rev 21:22); no need of the sun or moon (Rev 21:23; 22:5); no night (Rev 21:25; 22:5); no closed gates (Rev 21:25); nothing unclean (Rev 21:27); no curse (Rev 22:3)
 - The presence of many things we enjoy – mountains (Rev 21:10); the city with beautiful architecture (Rev 12:10-21); nations (Rev 21:24); river (Rev 22:1); fruit -bearing tree (Rev 22:2)