

Millennium on Earth or in Heaven?

Is there coming a 1000 year period when man will work with God to restore this earth to pristine beauty and fertility, in preparation for the second resurrection, when God will restore to life all who have ever lived? By the time you have read this article you will have found the answer from God's Word!

Sadly, before that may happen, there is coming a time of Great Tribulation upon the earth because of man's wrong choices and sin, Matthew 24:2-22, *'For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened.'*

God will use this terrible, brief period to remove the wicked from all nations, Jeremiah 25:31, *'A noise shall come even to the ends of the earth; for the LORD hath a controversy with the nations, he will plead with all flesh; he will give **them that are wicked** to the sword, saith the LORD.'* And He will start by protecting those who, like Lot, hated the sin they saw around them, Ezekiel 9:4, *'And the LORD said unto him, Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and set a mark upon the foreheads of the men that sigh and that cry for all the abominations that be done in the midst thereof.'*

First to fall to the death angels though, will be the false ministers who have built the idol of dominion and abuse in God's temple, the church, Ezekiel 8:5, *'Then said he unto me, Son of man, lift up thine eyes now the way toward the north. So I lifted up mine eyes the way toward the north, and behold northward at the gate of the altar this **image of jealousy** in the entry.'*

Ezekiel 9:6, *'Slay utterly old and young, both maids, and little children, and women: but come not near any man upon whom is the mark; **and begin at my sanctuary**. Then they began at the ancient men which were before the house.'*

After that, such will be the violence and world war, that no nation on earth will escape, Isaiah 26:21, *'For, behold, the LORD cometh out of his place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity: the earth also shall disclose her blood, and shall no more cover her slain.'*

The 'tribulation of those days', the introductory first 3 ½ years comprising Seals 1-5, are terrible enough (Revelation 6:1-9). But after the return of Christ for His Saints at the 6th Seal, the Great Tribulation or 7th Seal lasts another 3 ½ years, at the end of which the whole earth is to be desolate, Isaiah 24:1, *'Behold, the LORD maketh the earth empty, and maketh it waste, and turneth it upside down, and scattereth abroad the inhabitants thereof.'* Passages such as this description of the Tribulation, have led some to believe that no human life can remain on earth during the millennium, and that the Saints are in heaven during the 1000 years. But notice the additional detail at the end of verse 6, here - Isaiah 24:5-6, *'The earth also is defiled under the inhabitants thereof; because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance, broken the everlasting covenant. 6 Therefore hath the curse devoured the earth, and they that dwell therein are desolate: therefore the inhabitants of the earth are*

burned, and few men left.’ The wicked kings or rulers who have led their people into sin, who also survive, are imprisoned along with the demons, verses 21-22, *‘And it shall come to pass in that day, that the LORD shall punish the host of the **high ones that are on high**, and the **kings of the earth** upon the earth. And they shall be gathered together, as prisoners are gathered in the pit, and shall be shut up in the prison, and after many days shall they be visited,’* and Satan the devil, Revelation 20:3, *‘And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season.’*

Viewing the earth from space, as Jeremiah saw in a vision of the culmination of the Tribulation, would have led him to believe that **all life** had perished, Jeremiah 4:23-26, *‘I beheld the earth, and, lo, it was without form, and void; and the heavens, and they had no light. I beheld the mountains, and, lo, they trembled, and all the hills moved lightly. **I beheld, and, lo, there was no man**, and all the birds of the heavens were fled. I beheld, and, lo, the fruitful place was a wilderness, and all the cities thereof were broken down at the presence of the LORD, and by his fierce anger.’*

This vision reflects the awesome loss of life which occurs during the Tribulation and the great earthquake which afflicts the nations as Jesus Christ finally returns with His bride and His angelic armies, Revelation 16:18, *‘And there were voices, and thunders, and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such as was not since men were upon the earth, so mighty an earthquake, and so great.’*

Do all men die at His coming, then, as some have concluded? 2 Thessalonians 2:8, *‘And then shall that **Wicked** [Greek- lawless one] be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall **destroy with the brightness of his coming**.’* This scripture, in the Greek, refers to an individual, singular, not the wicked of the world, plural!

Now let’s examine the scriptures which reveal what does happen after Jesus Christ’s return and the battle of Armageddon.

1. Isaiah 24:1-6, *Behold, the LORD maketh the earth empty, and maketh it waste, and turneth it upside down, and scattereth abroad the inhabitants thereof. And it shall be, as with the people, so with the priest; as with the servant, so with his master; as with the maid, so with her mistress; as with the buyer, so with the seller; as with the lender, so with the borrower; as with the taker of usury, so with the giver of usury to him. The land shall be utterly emptied, and utterly spoiled: for the LORD hath spoken this word. The earth mourneth and fadeth away, the world languisheth and fadeth away, the haughty people of the earth do languish. The earth also is defiled under the inhabitants thereof; because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance, broken the everlasting covenant. Therefore hath the curse devoured the earth, and*

they that dwell therein are desolate: therefore the inhabitants of the earth are burned, and few men left.

2. A little earlier, Isaiah 16:3-5, *Take counsel, execute judgment; make thy shadow as the night in the midst of the noonday; **hide the outcasts**; bewray not him that wandereth. **Let mine outcasts dwell with thee, Moab**; be thou a covert to them from the face of the spoiler: for the extortioner is at an end, the spoiler ceaseth, the oppressors are consumed out of the land. **And in mercy shall the throne be established**: and he shall sit upon it in truth in the tabernacle of David, judging, and seeking judgment, and hastening righteousness.*
3. *Jeremiah 4:27, For thus hath the LORD said, The whole land shall be desolate; yet will I **not make a full end.***
4. *On Christ's return, Jeremiah 48:22, 'Behold, he shall come up and fly as the eagle, and **spread his wings over Bozrah**: and at that day shall the heart of the mighty men of Edom be as the heart of a woman in her pangs.'*
5. *Micah 2:12-13, I will surely assemble, O Jacob, all of thee; I will surely gather the **remnant of Israel**; I will put them together as **the sheep of Bozrah**, as the flock in the midst of their fold: they shall make great noise by reason of the multitude of men. **The breaker is come up before them**: they have broken up, and have passed through the gate, and are gone out by it: and **their king shall pass before them**, and the **LORD on the head of them.***
6. The watchman of Jerusalem then says, *Isaiah 63:1-6, **Who is this that cometh from Edom, with dyed garments from Bozrah?** This that is glorious in his apparel, travelling in the greatness of his strength? Christ says, I that speak in righteousness, mighty to save. The watchman says, *Wherefore art thou red in thine apparel, and thy garments **like him that treadeth in the winefat?** Christ says, I have trodden the winepress alone; and of the people there was none with me: for I will tread them in mine anger, and trample them in my fury; and their blood shall be sprinkled upon my garments, and I will stain all my raiment. For the day of vengeance is in mine heart, and **the year of my redeemed is come.** And I looked, and there was none to help; and I wondered that there was none to uphold: therefore mine own arm brought salvation unto me; and my fury, it upheld me. And I will tread down the people in mine anger, and make them drunk in my fury, and I will bring down their strength to the earth.**
7. *Isaiah 2:2, And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the LORD'S house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and **all nations shall flow unto it.***

8. *Isaiah 2:4, And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and **they shall beat their swords into plowshares**, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.*
9. *Isaiah 4:2, In that day shall the branch of the LORD be beautiful and glorious, and the fruit of the earth shall be excellent and comely **for them that are escaped of Israel.***
10. *Isaiah 4:3, And it shall come to pass, **that he that is left in Zion, and he that remaineth in Jerusalem**, shall be called holy, even every one that is written among the living in Jerusalem.*
11. *Isaiah 6:13, 'And though a tenth remains in the land, it will again be laid waste. But as the terebinth and oak leave stumps when they are cut down, so the holy seed will be **the stump in the land.**' NIV*
12. *Isaiah 10:20, 'And it shall come to pass in that day, **that the remnant of Israel, and such as are escaped of the house of Jacob**, shall no more again stay upon him that smote them; but shall stay upon the LORD, the Holy One of Israel, in truth.'*
13. *Isaiah 11:4-11, 'But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked. And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins. The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together: and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice' 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. And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek: and his rest shall be glorious. **And it shall come to pass in that day, that the Lord shall set his hand again the second time to recover the remnant of his people, which shall be left**, from Assyria, and from Egypt, and from Pathros, and from Cush, and from Elam, and from Shinar, and from Hamath, and from the islands of the sea.'*
14. *Isaiah 11:12-16, And he shall set up an ensign for the nations, **and shall assemble the outcasts of Israel, and gather together the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth.** The envy also of Ephraim shall depart, and the adversaries of Judah shall be cut off: Ephraim shall not envy Judah, and Judah shall not vex Ephraim. But they shall fly upon the shoulders of the Philistines toward the west; they shall spoil them of the east together: they shall lay their hand upon Edom and Moab; and the children of Ammon shall obey them. And the LORD shall utterly destroy the*

tongue of the Egyptian sea; and with his mighty wind shall he shake his hand over the river, and shall smite it in the seven streams, and make men go over dryshod. And there shall be an highway for the remnant of his people, which shall be left, from Assyria; like as it was to Israel in the day that he came up out of the land of Egypt.

15. *Isaiah 14:1, For the LORD will have mercy on Jacob, and will yet choose Israel, **and set them in their own land: and the strangers shall be joined with them,** and they shall cleave to the house of Jacob*
16. *Isaiah 19:24, In that day shall Israel be the third with Egypt and with Assyria, even a blessing **in the midst of the land***
17. *Isaiah 25:10, For in this mountain shall the hand of the LORD rest, Moab shall be trodden down under him, even as straw is trodden down for the dunghill.*
18. *Isaiah 30:19-25, **For the people shall dwell in Zion at Jerusalem: thou shalt weep no more:** he will be very gracious unto thee at the voice of thy cry; when he shall hear it, he will answer thee. And though the Lord give you the bread of adversity, and the water of affliction, **yet shall not thy teachers be removed into a corner any more, but thine eyes shall see thy teachers:** And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, **This is the way, walk ye in it,** when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left. Ye shall defile also the covering of thy graven images of silver, and the ornament of thy molten images of gold: thou shalt cast them away as a menstruous cloth; thou shalt say unto it, *Get thee hence.* Then shall he give the rain of thy seed, that thou shalt sow the ground withal; and bread of the increase of the earth, and it shall be fat and plenteous: in that day shall thy cattle feed in large pastures. The oxen likewise and the young asses that ear the ground shall eat clean provender, which hath been winnowed with the shovel and with the fan. And there shall be upon every high mountain, and upon every high hill, rivers and streams of waters in the day of the great slaughter, when the towers fall.*
19. *Isaiah 31:5,8, As birds flying, so will the LORD of hosts defend Jerusalem; **defending also he will deliver it;** and passing over **he will preserve it.** Then shall the Assyrian fall with the sword, not of a mighty man; and the sword, not of a mean man, shall devour him: but he shall flee from the sword, and his young men shall be discomfited.*
20. *Isaiah 33:5,10,14,24, 'The LORD is exalted; for he dwelleth on high: he hath filled Zion with judgment and righteousness. 10 Now will I rise, saith the LORD; now will I be exalted; now will I lift up myself. 14 **The sinners in Zion are afraid;** fearfulness hath surprised the hypocrites. Who among us shall dwell with the devouring fire? who*

*among us shall dwell with everlasting burnings? 24 **And the inhabitant shall not say, I am sick: the people that dwell therein shall be forgiven their iniquity***’.

21. *Isaiah 35:4, ‘Say to them that are of a fearful heart, Be strong, fear not: behold, your God will come with vengeance, even God with a recompence; **he will come and save you.***’
22. *Isaiah 35:8, And an highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called **The way of holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it;** but it shall be for those: the wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err therein.*
23. *Isaiah 35:10, **And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads:** they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.*
24. *Isaiah 40:10-11, Behold, the Lord GOD will come with strong hand, and his arm shall rule for him: behold, his reward is with him, and his work before him. He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: **he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young.***
25. *Isaiah 41: 15-18,20, Behold, I will make thee a new sharp threshing instrument having teeth: thou shalt thresh the mountains, and beat them small, and shalt make the hills as chaff. Thou shalt fan them, and the wind shall carry them away, and the whirlwind shall scatter them: and thou shalt rejoice in the LORD, and shalt glory in the Holy One of Israel. **When the poor and needy seek water, and there is none, and their tongue faileth for thirst, I the LORD will hear them, I the God of Israel will not forsake them.** 18 I will open rivers in high places, and fountains in the midst of the valleys: I will make the wilderness a pool of water, and the dry land springs of water. 20 That they may see, and know, and consider, and understand together, that the hand of the LORD hath done this, and the Holy One of Israel hath created it.*
26. *Isaiah 43: 5-6,20, Fear not: for I am with thee: **I will bring thy seed from the east, and gather thee from the west; I will say to the north, Give up; and to the south, Keep not back: bring my sons from far, and my daughters from the ends of the earth;** 20 The beast of the field shall honour me, the dragons and the owls: because I give waters in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert, to give drink to my people, my chosen*
27. *Isaiah 49:8-12, Thus saith the LORD, In an acceptable time have I heard thee, **and in a day of salvation have I helped thee: and I will preserve thee, and give thee for a covenant of the people, to establish the earth, to cause to inherit the desolate heritages;** That thou mayest say to the prisoners, Go forth; to them that are in darkness, Shew yourselves. They shall feed in the ways, and their pastures shall be in all high places. They shall not hunger nor thirst; neither shall the heat nor sun smite*

*them: for he that hath mercy on them shall lead them, even by the springs of water shall he guide them. And I will make all my mountains a way, and my highways shall be exalted. **Behold, these shall come from far: and, lo, these from the north and from the west; and these from the land of Sinim.** [Australia]*

28. *Isaiah 49:20, **The children which thou shalt have, after thou hast lost the other,** shall say again in thine ears, The place is too strait for me: give place to me that I may dwell*
29. *Isaiah 51:5, My righteousness is near; my salvation is gone forth, **and mine arms shall judge the people;** the isles shall wait upon me, and on mine arm shall they trust.*
30. *Isaiah 51:11, **Therefore the redeemed of the LORD shall return, and come with singing unto Zion;** and everlasting joy shall be upon their head: they shall obtain gladness and joy; and sorrow and mourning shall flee away.*
31. *Isaiah 54:7, For a small moment have I forsaken thee; but **with great mercies will I gather thee.***
32. *Isaiah 56:8, **The Lord GOD which gathereth the outcasts of Israel** saith, Yet will I gather others to him, beside those that are gathered unto him*
33. *Isaiah 61:4-6.9, And they shall build the old wastes, they shall raise up the former desolations, and **they shall repair the waste cities,** the desolations of many generations. And strangers shall stand and feed your flocks, and the sons of the alien shall be your plowmen and your vinedressers. **But ye shall be named the Priests of the LORD:** men shall call you the Ministers of our God: ye shall eat the riches of the Gentiles, and in their glory shall ye boast yourselves. ⁹And their seed shall be known among the Gentiles, and their offspring among the people: all that see them shall acknowledge them, that they are the seed which the LORD hath blessed.*
34. *Isaiah 66:16,19, For by fire and by his sword will the LORD plead with all flesh: and the slain of the LORD shall be many. ¹⁹ And I will set a sign among them, and I will send **those that escape of them** unto the nations, to Tarshish, Pul, and Lud, that draw the bow, to Tubal, and Javan, to the isles afar off, that have not heard my fame, neither have seen my glory; and they **shall declare my glory among the Gentiles.***
35. *Jeremiah 3:17, At that time they shall call Jerusalem the throne of the LORD; and all the nations shall be gathered unto it, to the name of the LORD, to Jerusalem: neither shall they walk any more after the imagination of their evil heart.*
36. *Jeremiah 23:8, But, The LORD liveth, which **brought up and which led the seed of the house of Israel** out of the north country, and **from all countries whither I had driven them;** and they shall dwell in their own land.*

37. *Jeremiah 30:3,11, For, lo, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will bring again the captivity of my people Israel and Judah, saith the LORD: and I will cause them to return to the land that I gave to their fathers, and they shall possess it. 11 For I am with thee, saith the LORD, to save thee: though I make a full end of all nations whither I have scattered thee, yet will I not make a full end of thee: but I will correct thee in measure, and will not leave thee altogether unpunished*
38. *Jeremiah 31:8, Behold, I will bring them from the north country, and gather them from the coasts of the earth, and with them the blind and the lame, the woman with child and her that travaileth with child together: **a great company shall return thither.***
39. *Ezekiel 11:17, Therefore say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; I will even gather you from the people, **and assemble you out of the countries where ye have been scattered,** and I will give you the land of Israel*
40. *Ezekiel 20:37-38, And I will cause you to **pass under the rod,** and I will bring you into the bond of the covenant: And I will **purge out from among you the rebels,** and them that transgress against me: I will bring them forth out of the country where they sojourn, and they shall not enter into the land of Israel: and ye shall know that I am the LORD.*
41. *Ezekiel 34:13,23, And I will **bring them out from the people, and gather them from the countries,** and will bring them to their own land, and feed them upon the mountains of Israel by the rivers, and in all the inhabited places of the country. 23 And I will **set up one shepherd over them, and he shall feed them, even my servant David;** he shall feed them, and he shall be their shepherd*
42. *Ezekiel 37:23-24, Neither shall they defile themselves any more with their idols, nor with their detestable things, nor with any of their transgressions: but I will save them out of all their dwellingplaces, wherein they have sinned, **and will cleanse them: so shall they be my people, and I will be their God.** And David my servant shall be king over them; and they all shall have one shepherd: they shall also walk in my judgments, and observe my statutes, and do them.*
43. *Amos 9:14, And I will **bring again the captivity of my people of Israel, and they shall build the waste cities, and inhabit them;** and they shall plant vineyards, and drink the wine thereof; they shall also make gardens, and eat the fruit of them*
44. *Zephaniah 2:7, And the coast shall be for the **remnant of the house of Judah;** they shall feed thereupon: in the houses of Ashkelon shall they lie down in the evening: for the LORD their God shall visit them, and **turn away their captivity***

45. Zechariah 13:8-9, *And it shall come to pass, that in all the land, saith the LORD, two parts therein shall be cut off and die; **but the third shall be left therein.** And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried: they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, It is my people: and they shall say, The LORD is my God.*
46. Zechariah 14:16-17, *And it shall come to pass, that **every one that is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem** shall even go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and **to keep the feast of tabernacles.** And it shall be, that whoso will not come up of all the families of the earth unto Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, even upon them shall be no rain.*
47. Revelation 2:27, *And he shall rule them with a rod of iron; as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to shivers: even as I received of my Father.*
48. Revelation 5:10, *And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: **and we shall reign on the earth.***
49. Revelation 20:4, *And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; **and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years***

'We shall reign on the earth ...with Christ a thousand years.' Is what we have read sufficient evidence that the first task of the arm of Christ, [His Bride] after His return, will be to gather in the surviving remnant of Israel from the nations of the earth where they have been held in captivity? And that then follows the 1,000 years of the millennium? Please come to your own conclusion from these scriptures.