

God's Plan for the Future

Study Sheet

(Content herein based on the work of David Jeremiah, *The Book of Signs*; and from personal study notes)

The Millennium

Selected Scriptures

Psalm 98

(1) *Oh, sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things! His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him. (2) The LORD has made known his salvation; he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations. (3) He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. (4) Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises! (5) Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody! (6) With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD! (7) Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who dwell in it! (8) Let the rivers clap their hands; let the hills sing for joy together (9) before the LORD, for he comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.*

Listen to the words of "Joy to the World." Is the song about Christmas or about the Millennium?

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room,
And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let men their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.

No more let sin and sorrow grow,
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as, the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders, and wonders, of His love.

While the words to the song do reflect biblical promises, they are not about the first coming of Christ. The song references His second coming and the Millennium that will occur when He returns. The words to the song "Joy to the World" will only be truly fulfilled during the Millennium.

Millennium = the term comes to us from the Latin word *mille* ("a thousand") and *annum* ("years").

The Millennium's four-fold _____:

Why have a millennium? Here are four reasons:

To reward God's _____

Isaiah 40:10 – *Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him.*

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.*

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The Bible teaches that when we serve the Lord on earth as believers, we will be rewarded when we enter His kingdom. Our role as servants and rulers will be based upon our faithfulness.

Matthew 25:23 – *His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.'*

In the Millennium, we will be ruling the earth with Jesus.

He will be our King and we will serve Him—not as a punishment but as a reward.

Imagine being allowed to help Jesus rule and reign on earth for a thousand wonderful years!

To respond to the prophets' _____

Here are some of the prophecies that will be fulfilled during the kingdom age.

Psalms 72:11 – *Yes, all kings shall fall down before Him; all nations shall serve Him.* (NKJV)

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.*

Isaiah 60:21 – *Your people shall all be righteous; they shall possess the land forever, the branch of my planting, the work of my hands, that I might be glorified.*

One great prediction to be fulfilled is that a descendant of David will sit on Israel's throne.

An Old Testament prediction:

2 Samuel 7:16 – *And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before Me. Your throne shall be established forever.*

Two New Testament predictions:

Luke 1:32-33 – *He will be great and will be called the Son of the Highest. And the Lord God will give to Him the throne of his father David, (33) and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.*

Matthew 1:1, 5-6 – *The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, ... (5) and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, (6) and Jesse the father of David the king...*

To receive the answer to the model _____

Matthew 6:9-10 – *Pray then like this: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. (10) Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.*

This prayer will continue to be prayed until it is fully answered during the Millennium.

To re-emphasize the necessity of Christ's death due to wickedness of earth's _____

The Millennium will create the conditions necessary for the end of history, the final judgment, and the dawn of the eternal state. The Millennium will end with a cataclysmic event.

Revelation 20:7-10 – *And when the thousand years are ended, Satan will be released from his prison...*

Revelation 20:1-6 – *Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, holding in his hand the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain. (2) And he seized the dragon, that ancient serpent, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years, (3) 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.*

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(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.* (5) *The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were ended. This is the first resurrection.* (6) *Blessed and holy is the one who shares in the first resurrection! Over such the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ, and they will reign with him for a thousand years.*

Revelation 20:7-10 – *And when the thousand years are ended, Satan will be released from his prison (8) 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. (9) And they marched up over the broad plain of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city, but fire came down from heaven and consumed them, (10) and the devil who had deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and sulfur where the beast and the false prophet were, and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.*

*Gog = the leader of a group of rebel armies. Magog = the name given to a large group of rebel armies. They were names of ancient enemies of the Lord. Magog was the grandson of Noah (Gen 10:2) and founder of a kingdom located north of the Caspian and Black Seas. At the end of the Millennium, Gog will evidently lead a group of rebel armies, known collectively as Magog, against the land of Israel. They will be swiftly and soundly defeated by divine fire from heaven (v. 9; also, Ezekiel 38-39).

The Millennium's five-fold _____:

A time of _____

Psalms 72:7 – *In His days the righteous shall flourish; and abundance of peace.*

Micah 4:2-3 – *And many nations shall come and say, Come and let us go up to the mountain of Jehovah, and to the house of the God of Jacob. And He will teach us of His ways, and we will walk in His paths; for the Law shall go forth out of Zion, and the Word of Jehovah from Jerusalem. (3) And He shall judge between many peoples, and will decide for strong nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, And they shall not still learn war.*

Isaiah 11:6-9 – *The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them. (7) The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. (8) The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den. (9) They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.*

A time of _____

Ezekiel 34:26-27 – *And I will make them and the places all around my hill a blessing, and I will send down the showers in their season; they shall be showers of blessing. (27) And the trees of the field shall yield their fruit, and the earth shall yield its increase, and they shall be secure in their land. And they shall know that I am the LORD, when I break the bars of their yoke, and deliver them from the hand of those who enslaved them.*

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Ezekiel 36:29-30 – *And I will deliver you from all your uncleannesses. And I will summon the grain and make it abundant and lay no famine upon you. (30) I will make the fruit of the tree and the increase of the field abundant, that you may never again suffer the disgrace of famine among the nations.*

Amos 9:13 – *"Behold, the days are coming," declares the LORD, "when the plowman shall overtake the reaper and the treader of grapes him who sows the seed; the mountains shall drip sweet wine, and all the hills shall flow with it."*

A time of _____

Isaiah 66:23 – *From new moon to new moon, and from Sabbath to Sabbath, all flesh shall come to worship before me, declares the LORD.*

Zechariah 13:2 – *"And on that day, declares the LORD of hosts, I will cut off the names of the idols from the land, so that they shall be remembered no more. And also I will remove from the land the prophets and the spirit of uncleanness."*

A time of _____ life

Genesis 5:27 – *When Methuselah had lived 187 years, he fathered Lamech. (26) Methuselah lived after he fathered Lamech 782 years and had other sons and daughters. (27) Thus all the days of Methuselah were 969 years, and he died.*

Psalms 90:10 – *The years of our life are seventy, or even by reason of strength eighty; yet their span is but toil and trouble; they are soon gone, and we fly away.*

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.*

A time of _____ joy

Isaiah 9:3 – *You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil.*

Isaiah 12:3 – *With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.*

Isaiah 14:7 – *The whole earth is at rest and quiet; they break forth into singing.*

Isaiah 25:8-9 – *He will swallow up death forever; and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces, and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken. (9) It will be said on that day, "Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might save us. This is the LORD; we have waited for him; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation."*

During the thousand years, King Jesus will rule and reign on the throne of David, in the city of Jerusalem.

The Millennium is an overture of heaven. It's a snapshot of what heaven will be like. The Millennial earth will be a precursor of the new, eternal earth—not as perfect, but a Grade-A preview.

This Christmas when we sing "Joy to the World," we'll sing it as a Christmas carol, but remember the words as really being about the return of King Jesus and His reign on the earth during the Millennium.

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room,
And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.