

**The Millennial Kingdom  
Matt 25:31-46**

1. Last message we talked about the contrast: Faithful vs Foolish
  - a. Three parables - Service – Salvation - Stewardship - that Jesus taught to communicate that we should be ready for His return at any moment!
  - b. Today we talk about what happens *when* He returns!

**The Entrance of the King**

31 "When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory.

2. If you like to underline words in your bible, the word “When” would be a good one!
  - a. Jesus doesn’t say “if” but “when” – in other words it is an established fact that He will return!
  - b. His first coming was humble – He had no riches, no army, no entourage... He died without even a house to call His home.
  - c. Yet His second coming will be completely different...
    - i. He will come in GLORY – which means with dignity, and majesty. As we said before, His coming will be preceded by cataclysmic signs in the heavens, and not one human being will wonder who He is!
    - ii. He will come “with all the holy angels with Him” – He will be accompanied by legions of angels, no doubt proclaiming His power and majesty.
    - iii. He will sit on the “THRONE of His glory” – He will come to rule and reign – the King of all Kings and the Lord of Lords!
3. But one question always comes up when discussing the end times and the tribulation period: Will anyone survive the Great Tribulation? Lets take a look...
4. Based on what the bible teaches, the population of the earth will be greatly reduced by several factors:
  - a. The rapture of the church will take many millions of believers from the earth.
  - b. one-quarter of the world’s population will be eliminated when the fourth seal is broken
  - c. one-third will die when the sixth trumpet sounds
  - d. Worldwide martyrdom of Christians
  - e. 2/3’s of the Jews are killed
  - f. The complete destruction of Mystery Babylon

- g. The devastation of a worldwide earthquakes
  - h. The complete annihilation of the Russian-Islamic Alliance (Ezekiel 38 & 39)
  - i. Wormwood – water is poisoned
  - j. The Battle of Armageddon 200 million will die
5. Nevertheless, even with the greatness of all these events, there will still be **many people** – perhaps 500M – 2B people still remaining on the earth at the end of the last seven-year period and **after** Jesus returns in power and glory.
- a. So there will be survivors, but I would not gamble on trying to survive – only 10-20% of the population will make it!
6. So what happens to all these people?

### **The Judgment of the Nations**

32 All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats. 33 And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left.

7. It is apparent that Jesus is expecting there to be many people – nations – who will survive the tribulation period, and at His return they will be gathered together before the true King, separated, and judged.
8. Now don't confuse this event with the "Judgment Seat of Christ" which is when believers will be rewarded, nor the "Great White Throne Judgment", which is when unbelievers will be judged.
9. This seems to be a distinct and different event from both...
- a. It happens at a **different time**. The Great White Throne judgment of Revelation 20:11-15 clearly happens ***after*** the 1,000-year reign of Jesus Christ and His saints.
    - i. The Judgment of the Nations of Matthew 25 happens immediately after the glorious return of Jesus .
  - b. It happens at a **different place**. The Great White Throne judgment of Revelation 20 happens in heaven; the Judgment of the Nations of Matthew 25 happens on earth.
  - c. It happens unto **different subjects**. The Great White Throne judgment of Revelation 20 emphatically includes all unredeemed men and women.
    - i. The Judgment of the Nations seems only to include the ***nations*** – that is Gentiles who survive the tribulation.
  - d. It happens on a **different basis**. The basis for this judgment is described in the next section:

34 Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: 35

for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; 36 I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.'

37 "Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? 38 When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You? 39 Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?' 40 And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.'

**10. Are you wondering why Jesus is going to judge these people on the basis of their “good works” as opposed to placing their faith in Christ? It is a little confusing so let’s look at the context...**

- a. Prior to the tribulation, believers are caught up in the rapture.
- b. Most of this who are saved during the tribulation are killed because they refuse to take the mark of the beast (maybe not all – but most)
  - i. All of these people make up *the church*, who will rule and reign with Christ in glorified bodies (1 Jon 3:2, 1 Cor 15:51, Rev 20:6))
- c. 2/3 of all Jews are killed during the tribulation – Satan, just as he has in past times, tries his best to exterminate the Jewish nation during the second half of the tribulation.
- d. There will be another great rise of anti-Semitism, outright hostility towards the Jewish people. This is aided by the mark of the beast – no one can buy or sell without it.

**11. So how will the Jewish remnant survive? In the same way that they did during the Nazi Holocaust; gentiles will come to their aid.**

- a. Listen to Jesus words – He is judging the surviving population based on whether they assisted “my brethren”, the Jewish people, during this terrible time of persecution.

**Gen 12:3**

*I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you...*

**12. Remember this is not heaven, this is the Millennial Kingdom. Jesus is allowing these people who helped the Jews to enter into the Millennial Kingdom.**

- a. Now are these people saved? Perhaps so, as why else would they help the Jewish people, risking their lives in the process?
- b. As well, Jesus notes in V46 that they are entering into eternal life.

**13. But what of those who stood by and did nothing...**

41 "Then He will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels: 42 for I was hungry and you gave Me no food; I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink; 43 I was a stranger and you did not take Me in, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.'

44 "Then they also will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to You?'

45 Then He will answer them, saying, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.' 46 And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

**14. Now before we say that Jesus is being unfair, condemning these people to hell for the sin of omission, we must also remember that these are people who have rejected the gospel message. (7 years to decide!)**

**a. See – the sin of omission is still sin...**

**James 4:17**

*Therefore, to him who knows to do good and does not do it, to him it is sin.*

**b. Even the city of Sodom was not destroyed only because of it's sexual sins...**

**Ezek 16:49-50**

*Look, this was the iniquity of your sister Sodom: She and her daughter had pride, fullness of food, and abundance of idleness; neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and needy. And they were haughty and committed abomination before Me; therefore I took them away as I saw fit.*

**15. So far we've see how Christ returns, His first act is to determine who will enter into the Millennial Kingdom – but what else?**

### **The Millennial Kingdom**

**16. What this section does is assure us that Jesus will come, and He will establish His kingdom here on earth**

**a. And those who have lived for Christ will rule and reign with Christ**

**b. And there will be an judging of the nations**

**c. The unworthy will be sent into eternal damnation, and the worthy will be allowed in Jesus' Millennial Kingdom.**

**17. All in all, there are more than 400 verses in more than 20 different passages in the Old Testament which deal with this time when Jesus Christ rules and reigns personally over planet earth.**

**18. Lets look at what scripture says the millennium will look like!**

**19. During the Millennium, Israel will be the "superpower" of the world.**

- a. It will be the leading nation in all the earth, and the center of Israel will be *the mountain of the LORD's house* – the temple mount, which will be the “capital” of the government of the Messiah.
- b. *All nations shall flow to the “capital” of the government of Jesus,*

**Isa 2:2-4**

*Now it shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established on the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow to it. Many people shall come and say, "Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, To the house of the God of Jacob; He will teach us His ways, and we shall walk in His paths." For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and rebuke many people; 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.*

**20. During the Millennium, there will be peace and security for Israel and the world**

**Isa 32:16-18**

*Then justice will dwell in the wilderness, And righteousness remain in the fruitful field. The work of righteousness will be peace, And the effect of righteousness, quietness and assurance forever. My people will dwell in a peaceful habitation, in secure dwellings, and in quiet resting places,*

**21. During the Millennium, the way human and animals relate to each other will change:**

**Isa 11:6-9**

*"The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze; their young ones shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play by the cobra's hole, and the weaned child shall put his hand in the viper's 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.*

**22. During the Millennium, there will be a rebuilt temple and service**

**Ezek 37:26-28**

*26 Moreover I will make a covenant of peace with them, and it shall be an everlasting covenant with them; I will establish them and multiply them, and I will set My sanctuary in their midst forevermore. My tabernacle also*

*shall be with them; indeed I will be their God, and they shall be My people. The nations also will know that I, the LORD, sanctify Israel, when My sanctuary is in their midst forevermore."''*

**(read Ezekiel 40-47 for a complete description of the Millennial temple)**

**23. During the Millennium, King David will have a prominent place in the millennial earth, ruling over Israel**

**Jer 30:8-9**

*'For it shall come to pass in that day,' says the LORD of hosts, 'that I will break his yoke from your neck, and will burst your bonds; foreigners shall no more enslave them. But they shall serve the LORD their God, and David their king, whom I will raise up for them.*

**Ezek 34:23-24**

*I will establish one shepherd over them, and he shall feed them -- My servant David. He shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the LORD, will be their God, and My servant David a prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken.*

**24. During the Millennium, saints, you and I. in their resurrected state will be given responsibility in the Millennial Earth according to their faithful service.**

**2 Tim 2:11-12**

*For if we died with Him, we shall also live with Him. If we endure, we shall also reign with Him.*

**Rev 5:8-10**

*Now when He had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each having a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. And they sang a new song, saying:*

*"You are worthy to take the scroll, And to open its seals; For You were slain, And have redeemed us to God by Your blood Out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation, And have made us kings and priests to our God; And we shall reign on the earth."*

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