

Four Pastoral Thoughts: The Millennial Kingdom

March 4, 2012

1. The chronological structure of Revelation 19-22 in the matter of the Second Coming of Christ develops a well-ordered, OT/NT harmonized, two-phased Kingdom. *First*, an earthly, 1000-year Kingdom on the earth (which the OT prophets spoke), *and second*, an eternal, heavenly kingdom with a new heaven, new earth, and new Jerusalem. This harmonizes biblical revel.

- At times the prophets speak of “an everlasting kingdom;” YET, they also speak of a kingdom where babies are born/die
- In the Kingdom, Ezekiel writes of a massive temple area where the world worships God; YET, in the eternal kingdom there is said to be “no temple” at all.
- In the Kingdom, Zechariah writes that all the nations of the earth will worship the King in Jerusalem; YET, Zechariah also writes that some nations will balk at this worship and God will withhold rain on their crops
- In the Kingdom, Daniel 9 writes that “there will be an end of sin;” YET, Isaiah says, sinners will die in the Kingdom

2. What we learn in Revelation 19-22 is astounding – 10 items which John writes, “And I saw” [*kai opao – Aor Act Ind I sg*]

- (1) **19:11** – “And I saw” Christ returns with His wife to the earth, and Armageddon happens [“by the sword of His mouth”]
- (2) **19:17** – “And I saw” The great supper of God
- (3) **19:19** – “And I saw” The beast and the false prophet are thrown into Hell and all the armies of the earth are killed
 - *Armageddon is no battle, it is a Divine slaughter*
- (4) **20:1** – “And I saw” Satan is thrown into abyss for 1,000 yrs
- (5) **20:4** – “And I saw” The Kingdom of Christ is set, and the righteous reign with Christ on the earth for 1,000 yrs [*John’s focus is on resurrected Jew/Gen righteous of the Tribulation*]
 - When 1,000 yrs ends – 20:7-10: (a) Satan is released, (b) Satan deceives many nations (**again**), (c) Gog and Magog gather for war at Jerusalem (**again**), and are supernaturally defeated (**again**), and (d) Satan is condemned to hell and its torment night and day forever (v 10 – “where also the Beast and false prophet”).
- (6) **20:11** – “And I saw” The Great White Throne (cf. Jn 5:22-29)
- (7) **20:12** – “And I saw” The resurrection of the unrighteous of

all the ages stand at the G.W.T. to face Jesus, and to hear their sentence of eternal death in the Lake of Fire.

- (8) **21:1** – “And I saw” A new heaven and a new earth, and there is no more sea [*This is now the eternal phase of the Kingdom identified with the term “new,” and a significant difference from the Mill Kingdom, “no sea” – Ezekiel 47 is clear that the massive Millennial Temple area goes from the (Jordan) River to the (Mediterranean) Sea so that it can handle all the worshippers of the all the nations.*]
- (9) **21:2** – “And I saw” Literal trans: “The holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of Heaven from God, having been prepared as a bride having been adorned for her husband.”
- (10) **21:22-22:5** – “And I saw” things absent and things amazing!

3. Isaiah’s description of the Kingdom’s 1st phase (65:17-25)

<u>No.</u>	<u>Verse</u>	<u>Event</u>
1	17a	<u>I create</u> a new heavens and a new earth
2	17b	What God creates will include “human amnesia”
3	18	<u>I create</u> an atmosphere of total joy
4	19a	<u>I rejoice</u> in Jerusalem
5	19b	Weeping and crying are no longer
6	20a	Children born, men mature without fear of death
7	20b	Only those “accursed” will die (only the wicked)
8	21a	Houses will be established and remain secure
9	21b	Agriculture will explode and remain secure
10	22	Security is noted by illustration of a tree
11	23	The blessing of the Lord extends generations
12	24	Real spiritual life will dominate the world
13	25a	The animal kingdom will be changed (cf. 11:6-9)
14	25b	Jerusalem (“My Mountain”) will remain the center of activity without evil or war

4. What does this Kingdom Study do for us today?

- (1) Trust God’s Word (it is true) and persevere (no matter what)
- (2) For any without Jesus as their Savior, submit now to Him.
- (3) Keep a Kingdom perspective in our current life/circumstances
 - Study Matthew 5-7 – this will help you!
- (4) Obtaining earthly prestige and possessions are temporary and do not matter for Kingdom Life!
- (5) It helps us to know how to pray (Luke 11:1-2)