

## ***Session 9 Saints Ruling in the Millennium: What Will We Do?***

### **I. THE SAINTS WILL RULE WITH JESUS FOR 1,000 YEARS**

- A. The Millennium is the 1,000-year period in which Jesus will rule this world in partnership with resurrected saints (Rev. 20:4-6).

***<sup>4</sup>I saw thrones, and they [saints from Rev. 19:14] sat on them, and judgment [decision making] was committed to them...and they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years. <sup>6</sup>...but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years. (Rev. 20:4-6)***

1. Understanding the Millennium gives us insight into what the Lord is preparing His people for. What will resurrected saints do in relationship to people with natural bodies in the Millennium? How does one's eternal rewards affect one's role in the kingdom on earth?
2. Resurrected saints will rule over various parts of a nation over which they are given authority (Mt. 19:28; 20:21-23; 25:23; Lk. 19:17-19; 22:29-30; Rom. 8:17; 1 Cor. 6:2-3; 2 Tim. 2:12).

- B. Daniel saw the governmental thrones of the earth being given to the saints in the Millennium. Receiving the kingdom speaks of having governmental authority over the people, wealth, and national resources of the nations.

***<sup>18</sup>But the saints of the Most High shall receive the kingdom, and possess the kingdom forever, even forever and ever...<sup>22</sup>...and the time came for the saints to possess the kingdom. <sup>27</sup>Then the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdoms [national governments] under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people, the saints of the Most High. (Dan. 7:18, 22, 27)***

- C. The two functions most emphasized for the saints are *priests* and *kings* (Rev. 1:6; 5:10; 20:6).

***<sup>10</sup>“...have made us kings and priests to our God...we shall reign on the earth.” (Rev. 5:10)***

- D. *As priests*, resurrected saints will *worship*, *intercede*, and *communicate* the knowledge of God to others. The government of the millennial earth will flow from intercession.

- E. *As kings*, resurrected saints will judge, or *evaluate*, the past as part of ruling with Jesus. Ruling includes evaluating, determining future action plans, appointing people to positions in the societal infrastructure, and training and managing people and the national resources under their authority.

***<sup>2</sup>Do you not know that the saints will judge [evaluate] the world?...<sup>3</sup>Do you not know that we shall judge [evaluate] angels? (1 Cor. 6:2-3)***

- F. The personality of those in authority will be expressed in the judgments and decisions they make.

***<sup>28</sup>“In the regeneration [Millennium], when the Son of Man sits on the throne of His glory, you who have followed Me will sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.” (Mt. 19:28)***

***<sup>29</sup>“I bestow upon you a kingdom...<sup>30</sup>that you may eat and drink at My table in My kingdom, and sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.” (Lk. 22:29-30)***

## II. JESUS IS THE KING OVER ALL KINGS

- A. Jesus will rule a worldwide kingdom in partnership with two types of kings—*millennial kings* with natural, non-resurrected bodies and *resurrected kings* with physical, resurrected bodies. Together they will establish a godly social order that will transform every sphere of life in the Millennium.

<sup>16</sup>*He has...a name written: **KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.** (Rev. 19:16)*

<sup>5</sup>*Jesus Christ, the faithful witness...ruler over the **kings of the earth** [non-resurrected bodies].  
To Him who loved us...<sup>6</sup>and **made us** [resurrected saints] **kings and priests to God.** (Rev. 1:5-6)*

- B. Jesus reigns now at God's right hand over the kings of the earth, yet His leadership over these kings is not fully manifested to all. However, in the Millennium it will be fully manifested on the earth.
- C. In the Millennium, all the kings of the earth will be saved, worship Jesus, and base their national governments on the Scripture (Ps. 72:11; 102:15; 138:4; 148:11; Isa. 62:2; Rev. 21:24).

<sup>11</sup>*Yes, **all kings shall fall down before Him; all nations shall serve Him.** (Ps. 72:11)*

## III. THE RESURRECTED SAINTS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE KINGS OF THE EARTH

- A. Jesus will establish social and political infrastructures in partnership with resurrected saints.
- B. The resurrected saints will oversee the work in the nations. I assume this will include the work of training nations, restoring cities and the land, establishing justice and businesses, and judging sin.
- C. **Training the nations:** Both the resurrected saints and those with non-resurrected bodies will continue to learn. As wisdom is gained and applied, many areas of life will progressively improve. I assume that there may be training institutions that will systematically teach Jesus' ways (political, economic, educational, agricultural, family, media, arts, technology, etc.).

<sup>3</sup>*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 [Jesus] will teach us His ways, and we shall walk in His paths.**"  
**Out of Zion shall go forth the law...the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.** (Isa. 2:3)*

- D. **Restoring cities:** Many cities of the earth that were destroyed in the Tribulation will need to be restored (Isa. 62:8-9; 65:21-23; Jer. 31:5; Ezek. 48:18-19).

<sup>36</sup>*"Then the nations which are left all around you shall know that I, the LORD, have **rebuilt the ruined places and planted what was desolate.**" (Ezek. 36:36)*

<sup>4</sup>*They shall **rebuild the old ruins, they shall raise up the former desolations, and they shall repair the ruined cities, the desolations of many generations.** (Isa. 61:4)*

- E. **Restoring the land:** The Lord will greatly bless agriculture and animal life (Deut. 28:3-12; Isa. 11:6-8; 35:1-8; 51:3; 65:21, 25; Ezek. 34:29; 36:35; 47:6-12; Hos. 2:18-22; Amos 9:13-14; Joel 3:18).

<sup>3</sup>*He will make her wilderness like **Eden, and her desert like the garden of the LORD.** (Isa. 51:3)*

<sup>13</sup>*"Behold, the days are coming...when the plowman shall overtake the reaper." (Amos 9:13)*

- F. **Establishing justice:** Justice will be established in every sphere of life (Isa. 9:7; 11:3-5; 10:22; 28:17; 32:16; 42:1-4). The saints will oversee the establishing of *judges* and *governors* (Jer. 30:21; cf. Isa. 24:23; 32:1; Ezek. 45:8-9; Mt. 19:28; Lk. 19:12-28; 22:30).

<sup>1</sup>*A king [Jesus] will reign in righteousness, and princes will rule with justice. (Isa. 32:1)*

<sup>8</sup>*“My princes [in the Millennium] shall no more oppress My people.” (Ezek. 45:8)*

- G. **Establishing businesses:** Many kingdom businesses on the millennial earth will generate great financial resources. Some businesses and financial resources will survive the shaking of the end times (Isa. 60:1-14). Thus, there will be wealth at the beginning of the Millennium. Israel will prosper and will be the model nation that demonstrates how other nations can prosper.

<sup>2</sup>*For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth...but the LORD will arise over you [Jerusalem]...<sup>5</sup>the wealth of the Gentiles shall come to you...<sup>9</sup>And the ships of Tarshish will come...their silver and their gold with them...He has glorified you [Jerusalem]...<sup>11</sup>Your gates shall be open continually...that men may bring to you the wealth of the Gentiles. (Isa. 60:2-11)*

- H. **Judging sin:** Sin continues in the Millennium among those with natural bodies (Isa. 65:20; 66:24). There will be a godly legal system that will severely punish criminals, described as a “rod of iron” (Ps. 2:9; 72:9-11; Isa. 11:4; 66:20, 24; Zech. 13:2-4; 14:16-19). The kings who served the Antichrist will be judged (Ps. 110:6). Perhaps the Nuremburg trials of 1945–46 give us insight into this.

<sup>20</sup>*“No more shall an infant from there live but a few days...but the sinner being one hundred years old shall be accursed.” (Isa. 65:20)*

<sup>24</sup>*“They shall go forth and look upon the corpses of the men who have transgressed against Me.” (Isa. 66:24)*

<sup>9</sup>*“You shall break them [the nations] with a rod of iron; You shall dash them to pieces.” (Ps. 2:9)*

<sup>26</sup>*He [the believer] who overcomes...to him I will give power over the nations—<sup>27</sup>He shall rule them with a rod of iron; they shall be dashed to pieces like the potter’s vessels. (Rev. 2:26-27)*

<sup>6</sup>*He shall judge the nations...and shall execute the heads of many countries. (Ps. 110:6)*

1. **Rod of iron:** Nations who sin will be punished severely with a plague from the Lord.

<sup>18</sup>*If the family of Egypt will not come up and enter in, they shall have no rain; they shall receive the plague with which the LORD strikes the nations who do not come up to keep the Feast of Tabernacles. <sup>19</sup>This shall be the punishment of Egypt and the punishment of all the nations that do not come up to keep the Feast of Tabernacles. (Zech. 14:18-19)*

2. **Rod of iron:** People who prophesy falsely will be put to death (Zech. 13:3).

<sup>3</sup>*It shall come to pass that if anyone still prophesies, then his father and mother... will say to him, “You shall not live, because you have spoken lies in the name of the LORD.” (Zech. 13:3)*

#### IV. TWO LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT: NATURAL AND SUPERNATURAL

- A. The saints will occupy the *highest position* of government on earth in the Millennium. This will be parallel to the position and role of angels in the government of the nations in this age.
- B. Currently the nations are governed by people who can be affected by both angels and demons. Daniel referred to the princes of Persia and Greece warring against Michael and another mighty angel. The princes of Persia and Greece were demonic principalities who influenced the human kings of Persia and Greece. The mighty angel (Dan. 10:5-6) and Michael the archangel warred against the demonic principalities in a way that influenced the political leaders in Daniel’s day.  
<sup>20</sup>*Now I [a mighty angel] must return to **fight** with the [demonic] **prince of Persia**; and when I have gone forth, indeed the [demonic] **prince of Greece** will come...<sup>21</sup>*No one upholds me against these, except **Michael your prince** [archangel]. (Dan. 10:20-21)*  
<sup>12</sup>*For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against **principalities**, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age...in the heavenly places. (Eph. 6:12)**
- C. God’s purpose is carried out in part by angels who have authority or charge over cities.  
<sup>1</sup>*Then He [the Lord] called out...“Let those [angels] who have **charge over the city** draw near, each with a deadly weapon in his hand.”<sup>2</sup>*Suddenly **six men** [angels] came from the direction... which faces **north**, each with his battle-ax in his hand. (Ezek. 9:1-2)**
- D. The saints’ residence will be in the New Jerusalem, not in a “mansion” on the millennial earth. The saints ruling with governmental responsibilities on earth can be compared in part to senators who live in their home states, yet rule in part from government offices in Washington, DC.
- E. We see an aspect of the natural and the supernatural dimensions operating together when Jesus appeared in His resurrected body to teach the apostles for forty days (Jn. 20-21; Acts 1:3).
- F. The only resurrected saints who will share in the government of the millennial earth are those who are *considered faithful* during their life in this age (Rev. 2: 26-27; 3:21; 5:10; 20:4-6; 22:5; cf. Mt. 19:28; 20:21-23; 25:23; Lk. 19:17-19; 22:29-30; Rom. 8:17; 1 Cor. 6:2-3; 2 Tim. 2:12)—faithful to be diligent in *difficult ministry assignments* (very little impact, affirmation, resources, etc.), to resist *sinful temptations* (immorality, bitterness, covetousness, etc.), and to stand for *unpopular truths*.  
<sup>17</sup>*“Because you were **faithful** in a **very little**, have **authority over ten cities**.” (Lk. 19:17)*  
<sup>23</sup>*“You have been **faithful** over a **few things**, I will make you **ruler over many**.” (Mt. 25:23)*  
<sup>26</sup>*He who **overcomes**...I will give **power over nations**. (Rev. 2:26)*  
<sup>21</sup>*To him who **overcomes** I will grant to **sit with Me on My throne**. (Rev. 3:21)*
- G. The Lord will select His “leadership team” who will work with Him to bring the nations to obedience in the Millennium, and He will choose those who consistently valued obedience in this life. Being faithful now in “a few things” will lead to ruling over “many things” in the age to come. I compare life to a 70-year internship, preparing us for our assignment on earth in the age to come.