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## The Millennial Reign of Jesus Christ (Part Two)

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## THE MILLENNIAL REIGN OF JESUS CHRIST—PART TWO

“ . . . and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years” (Rev. 20:4)

Some 250 years ago, Isaac Watts wrote a hymn based on the truths found in Psalm 98. The name of this world-famous hymn is “*Joy to the World!*” At Christmas it is sung all across the world by millions of Christians and non-Christians alike. But a close study of the words of this hymn reveal that Watts did not have in mind the Bethlehem coming of Christ, but rather the millennial coming of our Lord! Observe his words:

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

*No more let sins and sorrows grow,  
Nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make his blessings flow,  
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.*

Dr. J. Dwight Pentecost writes:

A larger body of prophetic Scripture is devoted to the subject of the millennium, developing its character and conditions, than any other one subject. The millennial age, in which the purposes of God are fully realized on the earth, demands considerable attention. An attempt will be made to deduce from the Scriptures themselves the essential facts and features of this theocratic kingdom. While much has been written on the subject of the millennium, that which is clearly revealed in the Word can be our only true guide as to the nature and character of that period. (*Things to Come*, Dunham Press, 1959, p. 476)

Thus, in a nutshell, the word *millennium* is a Latin term which signifies “a thousand years.”

- The scriptural record involved

No less than nineteen Old Testament and New Testament books give testimony to the millennial reign of Christ.

### A. Old Testament

1. Psalms 2:6-8; 98:4, 9

2. Isaiah 2:2-4; 9:6, 7; 11:6-9; 25:8; 29:18, 19; 30:23-26; 35:5-10; 40:4, 5, 10, 11; 42:16; 45:6; 49:10, 11; 55:13; 60:1, 3, 11, 19, 20, 22; 65:19, 20, 25
3. Jeremiah 23:5, 6
4. Ezekiel 34:23, 24
5. Daniel 2:44; 7:13, 14
6. Joel 3:18
7. Amos 9:11, 13
8. Micah 4:1-6
9. Zephaniah 3:9
10. Zechariah 6:12, 13; 8:3-5; 14:8, 9, 16, 20

#### B. New Testament

1. Matthew 19:28; 25:31
2. Luke 1:31-33; 22:30
3. Acts 2:30
4. Romans 8:21
5. First Corinthians 15:24-28
6. Philippians 2:10, 11
7. Second Timothy 2:12
8. Hebrews 1:8
9. Revelation 3:21; 5:13; 11:15; 19:15; 20:4-6

#### C. Selected key passages

1. *“Shout joyfully to the LORD, all the earth; Break forth in song, rejoice, and sing praises. For He is coming to judge the earth. With righteousness He shall judge the world, and the peoples with equity” (Psa. 98:4, 9).*
2. *“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” (Isa. 2:2-4).*
3. *“Every valley shall be exalted and every mountain and hill brought low; the crooked places shall be made straight and the rough places smooth; the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,*

*and all flesh shall see it together; for the mouth of the LORD has spoken. 'Behold, the Lord GOD shall come with a strong hand, and His arm shall rule for Him; behold, His reward is with Him, and His work before Him' (Isa. 40:4, 5, 10).*

4. *"Arise, shine; for your light has come! And the glory of the LORD is risen upon you" (Isa. 60:1).*
5. *"Behold, the days are coming," says the LORD, "That I will raise to David a Branch of righteousness; a King shall reign and prosper, and execute judgment and righteousness in the earth" (Jer. 23:5).*
6. *"Then to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and His kingdom the one which shall not be destroyed" (Dan. 7:14).*
7. *"And the LORD shall be King over all the earth. In that day it shall be—"The LORD is one, and His name one" (Zech. 14:9).*
8. *"So Jesus said to them, 'Assuredly I say to you, that in the regeneration, when the Son of Man sits on the throne of His glory, you who have followed Me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel'" (Matt. 19:28).*
9. *"And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end" (Luke 1:33).*
10. *"Then the seventh angel sounded: And there were loud voices in heaven, saying, 'The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!'" (Rev. 11:15).*