

The Millennial Kingdom

Revelation 20

Millennial Positions

- ◆ **Amillennialists** believe that the term “1,000 years” should be **allegorically** or **spiritually** understood.
- ◆ **Postmillennialists** believe that Christ reigns **through His church** and that He will **return at the close** of the thousand years.
- ◆ **Premillennialists** believe the return of Christ **precedes** and **inaugurates** a literal thousand-year reign of peace with Christ on earth.
- ◆ **Panmillennialists** believe it will **all pan out** in **the end**.

The Millennium commences when **evil is purged from the earth**.

📖 Revelation 19:21–20:3 (NIV84) “The rest of them were killed with the sword that came out of the mouth of the rider on the horse, and all the birds gorged themselves on their flesh. ¹ And I saw an angel coming down out of heaven, having the key to the Abyss and holding in his hand a great chain. ² He seized the dragon, that ancient serpent, who is the devil, or Satan, and bound him for a thousand years. ³ He threw him into the Abyss, and locked and sealed it over him, to keep him from deceiving the nations anymore until the thousand years were ended. After that, he must be set free for a short time.”

📖 Isaiah 11:6–9 (NLT) “In that day the wolf and the lamb will live together; the leopard will lie down with the baby goat. The calf and the yearling will be safe with the lion, and a little child will lead them all. ⁷ The cow will graze near the bear. The cub and the calf will lie down together. The lion will eat hay like a cow. ⁸ The baby will play safely near the hole of a cobra. Yes, a little child will put its hand in a nest of deadly snakes without harm. ⁹ Nothing will hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain, for as the waters fill the sea, so the earth will be filled with people who know the Lord.”

The Millennium continues as **saints take on roles of authority**.

📖 Revelation 20:4 (NIV84) “I saw thrones on which were seated those who had been given authority to judge. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony for Jesus and because of the word of God. They had not worshiped the beast or his image and had not received his mark on their foreheads or their hands. They came to life and reigned with Christ a thousand years.”

📖 1 Corinthians 6:2a (NIV84) “Do you not know that the saints will judge the world?”

📖 2 Timothy 2:11–12 (NLT) “This is a trustworthy saying: If we die with Him, we will also live with Him. ¹² If we endure hardship, we will reign with Him. If we deny Him, He will deny us.”

📖 Revelation 20:5-6 (NIV84) “(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 are those who have part in the first resurrection. The second death has no power over them, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years.”

The Millennium closes when **Satan is released from prison**.

📖 Revelation 20:7–9a (NIV84) “When the thousand years are over, Satan will be released from his prison ⁸ and will go out to deceive the nations in the four corners of the earth—Gog and Magog—to gather them for battle. In number they are like the sand on the seashore. ⁹ They marched across the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of God’s people, the city he loves.”

📖 Revelation 20:9b–10 (NIV84) “...fire came down from heaven and devoured them. ¹⁰ And the devil, who deceived them, was thrown into the lake of burning sulfur, where the beast and the false prophet had been thrown. They will be tormented day and night for ever and ever.”

The Millennium concludes with **the Great White Throne judgment**.

📖 Revelation 20:11–12 (NIV84) “Then I saw a great white throne and Him who was seated on it. Earth and sky fled from His presence, and there was no place for them. ¹² And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life. The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books.”

📖 Revelation 20:13–15 (NIV84) “The sea gave up the dead that were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead that were in them, and each person was judged according to what he had done. ¹⁴ Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. The lake of fire is the second death. ¹⁵ If anyone’s name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.”

Digging Deeper: In today’s message, is there a promise to trust, a command to obey, a truth to embrace, a warning to heed, or an encouragement to rest in? What did you learn about God, about yourself, or about the world today? Is there one verse or thought that stands out?

