THE 1,000-YEAR REIGN

Shalom, child of God! Welcome as we study the Holy Scriptures. As the Bible says in Psalm 119:105 (ESV):

> “Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.”

This means the Word of God is our guide. If we know God’s Word, even if we lack everything else, we will still live. Amen.

Today, we will study the 1,000-year reign. What is the 1,000-year reign?

It is a future period on earth when our Lord Jesus Christ will reign with His chosen ones. Scripture indicates that we will not dwell in heaven forever immediately; rather, we will spend seven years there before returning to rule on earth for 1,000 years. After this

period, time as we know it will end, and eternity will begin.

The Rapture and the Beginning of the Tribulation

The Church is currently awaiting the Rapture, which is very near. The saints who have died in the Lord will be resurrected and join the living saints to ascend and reign with Christ in heaven. This heavenly celebration is likened to a wedding feast (Revelation 19:7-9, KJV), a joyous event beyond human imagination.

While this heavenly feast is taking place, the Antichrist will rise on earth, beginning his reign over seven years. In the first 3½ years, he will deceive the world with a false message of peace, persuading many to receive the mark of the beast (Revelation 13:16-17, ESV).

After the first 3½ years, the remaining 3½ years will bring severe tribulation for those who refuse the mark. At the end of this period, there will be 75 days of intensified judgment (Daniel 12:12, ESV), corresponding to the pouring out of God’s wrath described in the seven bowls (Revelation 16, ESV) and culminating in the Battle of Armageddon.

The Great Judgment and Destruction

Following God’s judgment and the Battle of Armageddon, many on earth will die. Scripture says:

> “Therefore I will make the heavens tremble; and the earth shall be shaken out of her place, at the wrath of the Lord of hosts in the day of His fierce anger.” *(Isaiah 13:13, KJV)*

Those who accepted the mark of the beast will face eternal punishment in the lake of fire (Revelation 14:9-10, ESV). The righteous will reign with Christ for 1,000 years, while the wicked remain in hell awaiting resurrection and final judgment.

God’s Restoration of the Earth

God never truly destroys; He restores and renews. Just as a person healed is returned to full health, the earth will be restored to its original glory after judgment. The curse on the earth caused by humanity’s fall will be removed, and the world will be healed,

returning to a state like Eden.

During the sixth trumpet, Armageddon will occur (Revelation 16:12-16, ESV). Nations will gather against Israel, not realizing they are opposing Christ Himself, who reigns with the saints in heaven. Jesus will destroy them with His word, as God's angel did in the days of King Hezekiah (2 Kings 19:35, KJV).

The Millennium: A Reign of Peace

After these catastrophic events, the 1,000-year reign begins. Those who survived will live in peace, and Satan will be bound, unable to deceive for 1,000 years (Revelation 20:1-3, KJV).

During this reign:

- The earth will be fertile; there will be no more pain in childbirth or labor (Isaiah 65:20,25, ESV).
- Animals will live peacefully together, as in Eden (Isaiah 11:6-9, ESV).
- Humanity will multiply in harmony, filling the earth.

The resurrected saints who reign with Christ will have glorified bodies, immortal and incorruptible, like angels (Luke 21:18, ESV).

Those born during the millennium will have natural bodies and will live under Christ’s peaceful rule.

Authority and Reward

The faithful will govern cities and nations as Christ’s co-rulers (Luke 19:16-19, ESV; Matthew 19:28, ESV). God’s judgment will be perfect, rewarding each person according to their works.

The Final Judgment

At the end of the millennium, Satan will be released briefly to test the nations (Revelation 20:7-10, ESV). Those who follow him will perish in the lake of fire, while the faithful remain victorious.

Then comes the Great White Throne Judgment (Revelation 20:11-15, ESV). The dead are resurrected, books are opened, including the Book of Life, and each is judged according to deeds. Those not found in the Book of Life will be cast into the lake of fire.

After this, God will create new heavens and a new earth, free of

sorrow, death, and suffering (Revelation 21:1-8, ESV). The New Jerusalem will descend, and God will dwell among His people.

Key Theological Points

1. The Millennium is literal and peaceful: Satan bound, saints reigning with Christ.
2. Restoration of creation: Earth renewed to Edenic conditions.
3. Resurrection and judgment: Two resurrections (the righteous first, the wicked later), followed by the Great White Throne Judgment.
4. Final victory and eternity: God’s kingdom fully established, all creation reconciled to Him.

Grace and peace be with you as you study and prepare for the coming kingdom. Maranatha!

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