



"The Millennium" (Isaiah 9-11)

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Isaiah 9:1-7 gives us one of those "glimpses of glory," a future day when Jesus comes to reign on earth as He now reigns in heaven. Then Isaiah 9:8-10:19 takes us back to the reality of coming judgment, and the SUBSEQUENT purging of the people of Israel. See 9:8-13. After the past purging, God judged the very ones he used to accomplish the purging - the Assyrians. See 10:5-7, 12-13, 15. Remember now, it was the Assyrians that Judah was depending on to save them from Aram and Israel (refer back to 7:1-2; II Chron.28:15). Read Isaiah 10:20-25. This is a word of hope for "the remnant" (a small remaining quantity). These are the few who have heeded Isaiah's call to repentance. Though they would repent, they would have to go through some terrible times as a result of the majority who would not repent. So God's Word to them is hang on in faith, a new day is coming.

Just as God brought people like the Assyrians, Babylonians, etc. against Israel in the past, it is prophesied that he will bring nations against her in the final days of this age (see Ezekiel 38:1-9). We are living in perilous & yet exciting days. And at this juncture of prophesies of gloom and doom, God once again grants us a glimpse of glory. Read Isaiah 11:1-16. This text thrusts us forward to the second coming, and the thousand year reign of Christ, otherwise known as The Millennium. See Rev.19:19-20:6.

Who will populate planet earth during the Millennium? See Isaiah 4:2-6; Zech.14:16; Daniel 7:11-12.

* There is still some mystery in my mind as to the Jewish survivors of The Tribulation. It appears that there will Jews who are saved, and yet do not receive their resurrection bodies until after the Millennium (see Isaiah 65:19-20).

Now, what I think the Lord wants us to do in this study is simply take a look at what it's going to like during the thousand year reign of Christ. There may be more, but I want to point out eleven characteristics of the Millennial reign...

1. No one will get away with anything (11:3-5)

* What a frustrating thing it is to see people like O.J. Simpson get away with murder, etc.

* Note: People who get away with things in this life still have to answer to God!

* Heb.4: 13 Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

* One of the television programs I occasionally watch is called "Forensic Files," and in this show they use forensic science to build cases against criminals, usually murderers...

* Jesus will not need detectives, investigators, or forensic experts to determine who is guilty...

2. Jesus will solve the problems of the poor and needy

* Verses on God's heart for the poor and needy?

* Gal.2: 10 All they asked was that we should continue to remember the poor, the very thing I was eager to do.

* See Deut.10:17-18; 14:28-29; 24:17, 19-21; 15:11

* Note: One of the ways the church should be a taste of heaven on earth is that we seek to help the poor and needy. Ways we at CCSP are trying to do that?

3. There will be no fear of man in the animal kingdom, and no fear of the animal kingdom in man (11:6-9).

* It was right after the flood of Noah's day that things changed between man and the animal kingdom (Gen.9:1-6).

4. The World will have a United Nations that actually works (11:10)

* Jesus will be the head of the United Nations...see Isaiah 2:2-4

5. Jewish people throughout the earth will be gathered to the Lord, and to the land of Israel.

6. Israel's problems will disappear

7. Healing will be abundant (Isaiah 35:3-6a).

8. Broad will be the road that leads to life (Isaiah 35:8-10)

9. People will live longer (Isaiah 65:20).

10. Israel's prayers will be answered even before they pray them (Isaiah 65:24).

11. There will be unequalled & unending joy, praise, & thanksgiving for the people of God (Read Isaiah 12).

CONCLUSION

* The Bible prophesies a coming judgment that will purge Israel, & immediately thereafter a judgment upon the nations used to bring about the purging. The closer we get to those days, the tougher things will get on planet earth. Isaiah and the remnant of his day had to endure terribly tough times as a result of the unrepentant hearts of the people of Israel. In the same way, we who live in

these last days have to endure tough times as a result of the unrepentant hearts of our nation, and even the church (judgment begins with the people of God). So **we** must be very careful not to lose our focus (and as a result lose heart). We look forward to a day when our king will come, and righteousness will begin to reign! In that day the remnant of God's people will have only one response - unequalled & unending joy, praise & thanksgiving. But we don't have to wait until then to respond. We can respond now, BY FAITH!