

MILLENNIAL JERUSALEM PART 1: THE TEMPLE

SESSION 15 - INTRO TO BIBLE PROPHECY SERIES (3/28/21)

I. INTRODUCTION

- A. God is highlighting the topic of hope throughout this teaching series. He wants to renew your soul with hope in His power to deliver and restore the entire earth. We are called to “rest our hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you all the revelation of Jesus Christ.” God wants to produce an “eager waiting” within us as the details of the millennial kingdom become more clear.
- B. The Bible is filled with clear promises about Jesus’ 1,000 year kingdom. We grow in understanding by reading the Word with prayer and fasting in community with others. Actively pursue revelation instead of waiting for it to come to you. The Holy Spirit is inviting us to experience the spirit of prophecy in the Word of God, not just in the gifts of the Spirit. The Prophet Daniel modeled this approach.

II. JERUSALEM’S ETERNAL DESTINY – WHY THIS SPECIFIC CITY?

- A. God chose to have His Name, or His manifest glory and throne, rest in the city of Jerusalem in context to a 24/7 worship sanctuary (Deuteronomy 12:4-5; 2 Chronicles 6:6). God chose Abraham and Israel to lead the nations in building God a physical resting place on the earth that would bless the nations of the earth. Abraham was promised a specific location of land and was called to be a father of kings and nations from that place.
- B. I believe that Jerusalem is God’s chosen headquarters because it is the location of the garden of Eden and that the New Jerusalem was connected to the earth in the region of the Middle East before the fall of Man.

***You shall not worship the LORD your God with such things. But you shall seek the place where the LORD your God chooses, out of all your tribes, to put His name, for His dwelling place; and there you shall go.* (Deuteronomy 12:4-5)**

***Yet I have chosen Jerusalem, that My name may be there, and I have chosen David to be over My people Israel.* (2 Chronicles 6:6)**

***In that time a present will be brought to the LORD of hosts from a people tall and smooth of skin....to the place of the name of the LORD of hosts, to Mount Zion.* (Isaiah 18:7)**

***Get out of your country, from your family and from your father’s house, to a land that I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name great; and you shall be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse those who curses you; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.* (Genesis 12:1-3)**

As for Me, behold, My covenant is with you, and you shall be a father of many nations.... I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. (Genesis 17:4, 6)

- C. King David had the revelation of Jerusalem's calling to be God's resting place and governmental headquarters (Psalm 132; 110; 2). He conquered the city and established worship in the city as a partial fulfillment of Jerusalem's destiny to be God's headquarters on the earth through prayer and worship. David received a covenant with God that established Jerusalem as God's capital city and David's son as the eternal King of Israel from Jerusalem. Jesus will fulfill His covenants with Abraham and David by ruling in Jerusalem over all of Israel and the nations.

III. MILLENNIAL TEMPLE

- D. Heaven is called the New Jerusalem because of its deep connection to the earthly Jerusalem during Jesus 1,000 year earthly reign. Jesus is going to build a glorious worship sanctuary, with His throne right in the middle, and create a divine portal between Jerusalem and the heavenly Jerusalem (John 1:51). Jerusalem will be the holy of holies of the earth.
- E. Jerusalem will be on the highest mountain on the earth. The end-time judgments will lower or remove every or most mountains, and Jesus will altar the topography around Jerusalem. A 30 mile area will be raised up, and the areas surrounding Jerusalem will be turned into a flat plain.

All the land shall be turned into a plain from Geba (6 miles north of Jerusalem) to Rimmon (35 miles south) of Jerusalem. Jerusalem shall be raised up and inhabited in her place. (Zechariah 14:10)

- F. Ezekiel (40-48) saw and heard the detailed plans of the millennial temple complex. The complex itself will be a mile in each direction. The entire mountain top will include **the temple** (1 mile x 1 mile – Eze. 42:15-20; 45:2), **Jerusalem** (10 miles x 10 miles – Eze. 48:16, 30-35), an **area surrounding Jerusalem** for the tribes of Israel (50 miles x 50 miles – Eze. 48:20-21), and an area for the priests (50 miles x 20 miles – Eze. 45:1-3).

In the visions of God He took me into the land of Israel and set me on a very high mountain; on it toward the south was something like the structure of a city. (Ezekiel 40:2)

1. Jesus will build a temple in Jerusalem and branch out from there. The temple will be His throne room. He will release His kingly power through intimacy- prayer and worship.

Behold, the Man whose name is the Branch! From His place He shall branch out, and He shall build the temple of the LORD; yes, He shall build the temple of the LORD, He shall bear the glory, and shall sit and rule on His throne; so He shall be a priest on His throne. (Zechariah 6:12-13)

2. The surrounding nations will bring livestock for Israel to have and to use as sacrifices. The nations will also help supply the materials needed for the temple complex (cypress, pine, and box trees). His resting place will be beautiful and glorious. It's called God's sanctuary and the place of His feet.

All the flocks of Kedar shall be gathered together to you, the rams Nebaioth shall minister to you; they shall ascend with acceptance on My altar and I will glorify the house of My glory.....The glory of Lebanon shall come to you, the cypress, the pine, and the box tree together, to beautify the place of My sanctuary; and I will make the place of My feet glorious. (Isaiah 60:7, 13)

3. Zechariah prophesied several times about the millennial temple in Jerusalem.

Therefore thus says the LORD: I am returning to Jerusalem with mercy; My house shall be built in it,” says the LORD of hosts. (Zechariah 1:16)

I will return to Zion, and dwell in the midst of Jerusalem. Jerusalem shall be called the City of Truth, the Mountain of the LORD of hosts, the Holy Mountain. (Zechariah 8:3)

4. The nations will come to encounter Jesus in Jerusalem. He will make them joyful because in His presence is the fullness of joy and pleasure. There will be animal sacrifices, not as substitutes to Jesus’ blood, but as reminders of the cross.

Even them I will bring to My holy mountain and make them joyful in My house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on My altar; for My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations. (Isaiah 56:7)

5. The Gentiles shall seek God in Jerusalem, and His temple complex will be decorated and filled with His manifest glory.

And in that day there shall be a Root of Jesse, who shall stand as a banner to the people; for the Gentiles shall seek Him, and His resting place shall be glorious. (Isaiah 11:10)

6. God will make a covenant of peace with Israel and cause them to all be radically saved. The nations will see God’s mercy towards Israel when He delivers them and builds His sanctuary in Jerusalem.

Moreover I will make a covenant of peace with them, and it shall be an everlasting covenant with them; I will establish them and multiply them, and I will set My sanctuary in their midst forevermore. My tabernacle also shall be with them; indeed I will be their God, and they shall be My people. The nations also will know that I, the LORD, sanctify Israel, when My sanctuary is in their midst forevermore. (Ezekiel 37:26-28)

7. Kings will bring presents to the temple in Jerusalem. Psalm 68 details Jesus’ worship parade into the millennial temple. His parade will be more extravagant than David’s parade of the ark into the tabernacle of His day. God will establish 24/7 singers and musicians once again because it’s His eternal pattern.

Because of Your temple at Jerusalem, kings will bring presents to You. (Psalm 68:29)

They have seen Your procession, O God, the procession of my God, my King, into the sanctuary (millennial temple). The singers went before, the players on instruments followed after; among them were the maidens playing timbrels. (Psalm 68:24-25)

8. The river of life will flow from the temple to the nations and the bodies of water to heal them from natural brokenness and the results of the end-time judgments. Revelation 20 says there will be no more sea, but this after the 1,000 year kingdom.

Then he brought me back to the door of the temple and there was water flowing from under the threshold of the temple toward the east, for the front of the temple faced east; the water was flowing from under the right side of the temple, south of the altar. (Ezekiel 47:1)

Everything will live wherever the river goes....Along the bank of the river, on this side and that, will grow all kinds of trees used for food; their leaves will not wither, and their fruit will not fail. They will bear fruit every month, because the water flows from the sanctuary. Their fruit will be for food and their leaves for medicine. (Ezekiel 47:9, 12)

And in that day it shall be that living waters shall flow from Jerusalem, half of them toward the eastern sea (Dead Sea – no plants/animals live in it) and half of them toward the western sea (Mediterranean Sea – affected by judgments); in both summer and winter it shall occur. And the LORD shall be King over all the earth. (Zechariah 14:8-9)

And it shall come to pass in that day that the mountains shall drip with new wine, the hills shall flow with milk, and all the brooks of Judah shall be flooded with water; a fountain shall flow from the house of the LORD and water the Valley of Acacias (a dry region east of Jerusalem). (Joel 3:18)

There is a river whose streams shall make glad the city of God, the holy place of the tabernacle of the Most high (Jerusalem Temple). (Psalm 46:4)

9. The 3 ½ year Great Tribulation will cause many in the nations to seek the Lord when He fills the Jerusalem temple with glory.

“And I will shake all nations, and they shall come to the Desire of All Nations, and I will fill this temple with glory,” says the LORD of hosts. (Haggai 2:6)

