

# God's Revelation of the Future

Community Baptist Church  
Lesson 12 Supplement

Adult Bible Fellowship  
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The following extended quotations, the one regarding the millennial kingdom and the other the defeat of Satan, are summaries taken from Renald Showers book *What on earth is God doing?*

## An Overview of the Earthly Kingdom

After Christ has completed the work associated with His second coming, He will establish the promised, theocratic kingdom (Revelation 20:4-6). The entire world will come under the rule of Christ, who, as a man born of woman, will govern the earth for God in accordance with His divine will (Psalm 2:7-8; Revelation 11:15). As a descendant of David, He will rule as King over Israel (Isaiah 9:6-7; Luke 1:31-33). As King of Kings and Lord of lords, He will rule over all the Gentile monarchs and their nations (Revelation 19:16). Thus, once again the world will enjoy a theocratic government; once again it will be a province of the universal kingdom of God.

When He establishes the theocratic kingdom, Christ will begin to reverse many of the tragic consequences of man's rebellion in Eden. He will make all animals tame again (Isaiah 11:6-9; 65:25); heal all diseases and deformities (Isaiah 33:24; 35:5-6); eliminate hazards (Ezekiel 34:25-29); increase the lifespan of man (Isaiah 65:20,22); cause a great abundance of trees and fruit (Isaiah 55:13; Ezekiel 47:12; Joel 2:21-22), fish (Ezekiel 47:9-10), and grain and wine (Joel 2:24; Amos 9:13); control the environment for the benefit of man (Ezekiel 34:26-27); heal the effects of pollution (Ezekiel 47:1-12); and abolish war and injustice (Isaiah 2:2-4; 9:6-7; 11:2-5; Jeremiah 23:5; Zechariah 9:9-10; Micah 4:1-3). All these changes will constitute what Christ and Peter called "the regeneration," the "seasons of refreshing," and "the times of restoration of all things" (Matthew 19:28; Acts 3:19-21). Truly, this will be the present earth's golden age.

During the theocratic kingdom, Israel finally will fulfill the spiritual role that God originally intended for her (Exodus 19:5-6). As a kingdom of priests, she will lead the rest of the

world in true worship. Every year all the nations will come to Jerusalem to worship Christ (Zechariah 14:16-21).

The saints of all previous ages of history will constitute the total population of the theocratic kingdom in its beginning. No unsaved people will enter the kingdom from the seventieth week. As time progresses, however, those saints who survive the seventieth week alive and entered the kingdom with mortal bodies, will give birth to unregenerate children. No doubt many of these children will become saved as they grow up, but many others will reject Christ throughout their lives. This rejection will take place in spite of the glorious presence of Christ, the near-perfect conditions of the world, and the total absence of Satan's influence. Thus, these people will demonstrate that, since the Fall, human rebellion against God really has not been the result of Satan's influence, bad world conditions, or the invisibility of God. Instead, it has been the result of man's own, sinful nature.

These unsaved will chafe under the iron-hand rule of Christ. They will be irritated by the absolute justice and inflexible righteousness that He will enforce incessantly throughout the whole world (Isaiah 11:3-5; 9:7). Any who rebel outwardly or sin blatantly in the open will be punished immediately with physical death (Psalm 72:1-4; Isaiah 11:4; 29:20-21; Jeremiah 31:29-30). Rather than suffer death, many will hide their rebellion inwardly, hoping for an opportunity to overthrow Christ's reign.

-- Showers, *What on earth is God doing?*, pp. 113-114.

## **Satan's Final Defeat**

As Satan remains bound in the abyss for 1,000 years, he will have plenty of time to think over all the mistakes he made in his war against the kingdom of God. Having learned much about God's strategy through defeat, he will reflect on what he could have done better to overcome that strategy. Through time he will deceive himself into thinking that, if only he could have one more chance, he could beat the sovereignty of God.

In order to demonstrate that there is absolutely no way in which His sovereign rule can be overthrown, God will afford Satan the opportunity to try his best-laid plan. Satan will be set free from the abyss for a brief period of time after 1,000 years of the theocratic kingdom have ended (Revelation 20:3,7). Through deception he will gather together all the malcontents of the kingdom who have been hiding their hatred of Christ's righteous reign inwardly (Revelation 20:8). As they begin to make war against the saints, God will crush this revolution immediately by destroying them with fire from Heaven (Revelation 20:9). This time Satan will be cast into the lake of fire to be tormented with Antichrist and the false prophet forever (Revelation 20:10). No doubt all of Satan's angels will be cast in with him. This will be his final defeat. Never again will he challenge the sovereignty of God.

-- Showers, *What on earth is God doing?*, pp. 114-115.