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The Millennium

A thousand year period is mentioned six times in the 20th chapter of the book of Revelation. In Latin, the term is "mille", meaning "1,000", and "annum", meaning "year". "Mille" "annum" is where we get the term "Millennium". It is what we call the thousand year reign of Christ on this earth that will take place after the Second Coming when the Antichrist and the False Prophet are locked up at the end of chapter 19.

During this time, Israel will finally inhabit the land that was promised to her. This is called the "*restoration of all things*" referred to in Acts 3:19-21. It is also during this time that Isaiah 11:6-8 says that "*The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, The leopard shall lie down with the young goat, The calf and the young lion and the fatling together; And a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze; Their young ones shall lie down together; And the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play by the cobra's hole, And the weaned child shall put his hand in the viper's den.*"

One of the greatest things about this time is that the Bible says that we, the redeemed throughout all time, will be ruling and reigning with Christ. Our level of rule will greatly depend upon our faithfulness in this present life according to the parable that Jesus told of the minas in Luke 19.

There are some other characteristics of the Millennium that are worth noting. First, the human race will continue in that people will be born and continue to die. Isaiah

65:20 *"No more shall an infant from there live but a few days, nor an old man who has not fulfilled his days; for the child shall die one hundred years old, but the sinner being one hundred years old shall be accursed."*

Secondly, we see from this verse that people will continue to sin. They will continue to struggle with the temptations that come from three areas: lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes, and the pride of life. This is interesting in that they will not be able to blame this on the Devil as that he has been locked in the bottomless pit to not be released until the end of the thousand years.

And yet, how many times have I heard in counseling that, "The Devil made me do it!" The Bible does not teach that the Devil can make anyone do anything at anytime. On the contrary, James teaches in chapter 1, verses 14-15 that, *"...each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death."*

Even during this glorious age, the perfect society, man is still a sinner. It will be a time of utopia in that there will be no pornography, drugs, or alcohol, because King Jesus is in charge. So the world won't be a temptation. This only proves that man's greatest enemy, besides the Devil, is his own flesh. It really brings to light Romans 7:18 when it says, *"For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh) nothing good dwells;"* Amen!

However, at the end of the Millennium, the Devil will be released from his bottomless prison *"and will go out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle, whose number is as the*

sand of the sea.” according to Rev 20:8-9. This will be his last rebellion as that King Jesus will once and for all deal with him by casting him into the Lake of Fire where the Antichrist and the False Prophet await him.