

## **The Gospel According to John**

**10-30-2019**

1. Earlier I taught Joh 6:69-71 by way of the *Doctrine of Peter the Apostle and the Doctrine of Judas Iscariot*. We are now ready to see what we can learn from Joh 7:1-10.

2. Before we begin that study, I want to give you opportunity to rebound.

Joh 7:1 After this, Jesus went around in Galilee, purposely staying away from Judea because the Jews there were waiting to take his life.

Joh 7:2 But when the Jewish Feast of Tabernacles was near,

Joh 7:3 Jesus' brothers said to him, "You ought to leave here and go to Judea, so that your disciples may see the miracles you do.

Joh 7:4 No one who wants to become a public figure acts in secret. Since you are doing these things, show yourself to the world."

Joh 7:5 For even his own brothers did not believe in him.

Joh 7:6 Therefore Jesus told them, "The right time for me has not yet come; for you any time is right.

Joh 7:7 The world cannot hate you, but it hates me because I testify that what it does is evil.

Joh 7:8 You go to the Feast. I am not yet going up to this Feast, because for me the right time has not yet come."

Joh 7:9 Having said this, he stayed in Galilee.

Joh 7:10 However, after his brothers had left for the Feast, he went also, not publicly, but in secret.

3. Let's begin tonight's study with a review of the *Doctrine of the Land of Israel*.

### **The Land of Israel**

1. The yearning for the land of Israel never left the Jewish people.

1.1 In other Words, the land of Israel was always a place in the minds of the Jews where national potential would one day be fulfilled.

2. But, as a practical reality, this did not begin to happen in a significant way until the birth of modern Zionism, not as a religious movement, but as a political movement. The national fulfillment did not take place until late in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

3. The re-birth of Israel is an unprecedented phenomenon in human history. Never before in the history of mankind has a people gone into exile, been dispersed and enslaved, and then many years later become a nation.

### **BRIEF OVERVIEW**

1. Before we discuss the Jews' return to their homeland, let us look back at history and review briefly what happened in the land of Israel after the Temple was destroyed by the Romans in A.D. 70.

2. Jerusalem was leveled, rebuilt on the Roman model, and re-named Aelia Capitolina translated "Capitol of Asia." The land of Israel was later re-named Palestine (after the extinct Philistines, one of the worst enemies of the Jews from ancient times). From c. A.D. 70 to c. A. D. 95, Jews were barred from the land.

3. The Byzantine Empire (the Constantinople-based Christian version of the Roman Empire) continued the earlier policy of barring entrance of Jews for some 500 years. Jews were not allowed into Jerusalem until the Muslims conquered the Byzantines in 638 B.C.

4. Once the Muslims took over the land of Israel, they held it with the brief exception of the period of the Crusades. The Turkish Ottoman Empire held power: from 1518 to 1917. Yet, during all this time, the Muslims generally treated the Holy Land as a backwater province.

4.1 There was no attempt to make Jerusalem, which was quite run-down, an important capital city and only a few Muslim dynasties attempted to improve the land. Similarly, only limited building went on in the rest of the land, which was barren and un-populated.

5. Mark Twain who visited Israel in 1867 described it like this in his book *Innocents Abroad*:

“We traversed some miles of desolate country whose soil is rich enough but is given wholly to weeds - a silent, mournful expanse... A desolation is here that not even imagination can grace with the pomp of life and action. We reached Tabor safely... We never saw a human being on the whole route. We pressed on toward the goal of our crusade, the renowned Jerusalem.

“The further we went the hotter the sun got and the more rocky and barren, repulsive and dreary the landscape became ... There was hardly a tree or a shrub anywhere. Even the olive and the cactus, those fast friends of a worthless soil, had almost deserted the country.

No landscape exists that is more tiresome to the eye than that which bounds the approaches to Jerusalem ... Jerusalem is mournful, dreary and lifeless. I would not desire to live here. It is a hopeless, dreary, heartbroken land... Palestine sits in sackcloth and ashes.”

6. Absent thus far in this paper is any mention of Palestinians. That is because they lived variously in places like Jordan, Tunisia and Gaza. No Palestinians attempted to rescue the barren, mournful, dreary and lifeless land until Jews from Eastern Europe and Spain returned as refugees. Various payments for the land were made to various absent land owners. Many of the land owners resided in Continental Europe and Great Britain. More information concerning who a few of the principle landlords were will be discussed later.

## **EARLY MIGRATIONS**

1. Jews started to migrate to Israel following their expulsion from Spain in 1492. Jews arriving from Spain are known today as Sephardic Jews. Spain was infamous for its persecutions of its Jewish population.

2. In the 16th century, large numbers of Jews migrated to the northern city of Safed which soon became the home of the largest Jewish population in Israel.

3. In the mid-1700s a student of the Ba'al Shem Tov by the name of Gershon Kitover started the first Hassidic community in Israel. (Hasidic Jews are a Jewish religious group founded in Poland). The Hasidic Jews were responsible for the growth of a large Jewish community in the early 19th century.

4. Between 1808 and 1812 three groups of disciples numbering about 500 people, came to the land of Israel. Their arrival revived the presence of Ashkenazi Jewry in Jerusalem (Ashkenazi Jews are Jews who immigrate from Eastern Europe).

4.1 Jerusalem for over 100 years had been mainly Sephardi and the Sephardi had a huge impact on the customs and religious practices of the religious community in and around Jerusalem.

4.2 By 1880, there were about 40,000 Jews, living in the land of Israel among some 400,000 Muslims. One of the major figures of this time period was Moses Montefiore (1784 to 1887). Montefiore was the first Jew to be knighted in Britain.

4.3 Sir Montefiore had made his fortune during the Napoleonic Wars. Montefiore used carrier pigeons to communicate market information.

4.3.1 For example, he knew about the victory at Waterloo before anyone else; using his pigeons he made a fortune in the English stock market relying upon "insider pigeon trading information."

4.4 With his fortune made by age 40, Montefiore embarked on a career in philanthropy, becoming a tireless worker and financial benefactor for the Jewish community of Israel.

4.5 Montefiore built the first settlement outside the walls of the Old City, called “Yemin Moshe” in 1858.

5. Besides Montefiore, another extremely important personality in this period of time was Baron Edmond de Rothschild (1845 to 1934).

Rothschild was a man who more than anyone else, financially made the re-settlement of Jews in the land of Israel possible.

6. During his lifetime he spent 70 million francs of his own money on various agricultural settlements (Rosh Pina, Zichron Yacov, Pardes Hannah to name but a few) and business enterprises such as the Carmel Winery.

7. So important and generous was Rothschild that he was nicknamed *HaNadiv HaYaduah*, “The Famous Contributor.” He made it possible for thousands of Jews to return to the land.

## **EARLY POLITICAL ZIONISM**

1. We did not see political Zionism until late in the 19th century as a reaction to the intolerable persecution of the Jews of Russia.

2. The early political Zionists, being largely secular did not feel a special yearning for Israel rooted in tradition or religion.

3. Instead they felt that the land of Israel was the only place where Jews could create a national identity, regain their pride and productivity, and hopefully escape the horrible anti-Semitism, of Czarist Russia.

4. One of the main organizations involved in early political Zionism was Hibbat Zion “the love of Zion” founded in 1870. (Its members were called Hovevei Zion, “lovers of Zion.”)

5. A major personality among the Hovevi Zion was Judah Leob Pinsker (1821-1891). A Polish doctor, Pinsker started out as one of the *Maskilim*, a group which wanted their fellow Jews to drop Judaism and merge with Russian culture in the hope that if Jews were socially accepted, then Russian anti-Semitism would disappear.

6. But after the pogroms following the assassination of Czar Alexander in 1881, he and many other of the *Maskilim* came to the conclusion that their efforts were futile and anti-Semitism was never going to disappear.

7. He came to believe the only solution was for Jews to live in their own national homeland. Pinsker published his ideas in a pamphlet called “Auto-Emancipation.” In it he penned these memorable words: “We must reconcile ourselves to the idea that the other nations, by reason of their inherent natural antagonism, will forever reject us.”

## FIRST ALIYAH

1. In 1882, another important organization was formed in Russia. It was called *Bilu*, an acronym of the opening words from a verse in Isa 2:5:

*Beit Yaacov lechu Venelech* meaning, “House of Jacob, come, let us go...

2. *Bilu* was very active in the early settlement movement, what came to be called the “First *Aliyah*”—the first large migration of Jews from Russia and Romania to the Land of Israel.

3. *Aliyah* means “ascent.” To migrate to Israel—to make *aliyah* —means to come from a low place and to “go up.” (In antiquity the term *Aliyah* referred to a trip to Jerusalem to visit the Temple, usually during one of the pilgrim festivals.

4. The year 1882 marked the first such *aliyah*, when Jews began to arrive in the land of Israel in droves—some 30,000 Jews came in two waves between 1882-1891 and founded 28 new settlements.

5. Hundreds of thousands of acres were purchased by these early Zionists from absentee Arab landowners who lived elsewhere.

6. The majority of the lands purchased were in areas that were neglected and considered “un-developable.



7. Amazingly, and with much effort, these early settlers made the barren land bloom again. Like President Trump they also drained the swamps.

8. What drove many of these early immigrants was an idealism that was captured by Zev Dugnov, a member of Bilu:

“My final purpose is to take possession of Palestine and to restore to the Jews the political independence for which they have now been denied for two thousand years. Don’t laugh. It is not a mirage. It does not matter if that splendid day will come in 50-years’ time or more. A period of 50 years is no more than a moment of time for such an undertaking.”

9. In fact, it would take 66 years. Meanwhile, Jews would continue to come, reclaim the land and build a strong political movement demanding international and national independence.

### **The Feast of Tabernacles**

1. This Feast began on 15 October or the 15<sup>th</sup> day of Tishri (October) and continued for seven days.

1.1 On the first day no work was done and a sacrifice was made unto the Lord. The Jew was to dwell during these seven days in “booths,” to remind them of their sojourning in the wilderness.

2. There were special offerings taken during the week, these were over and above the tithe. As best we can tell, the Feast was also a picture of the millennial Reign of Christ. Zec 14:16-21; Rev 21:3

Zec 14:16 Then the survivors from all the nations that have attacked Jerusalem will go up year after year to worship the King, the LORD Almighty, and to celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles.

Zec 14:17 If any of the peoples of the earth do not go up to Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD Almighty, they will have no rain.

Zec 14:18 If the Egyptian people do not go up and take part, they will have no rain. The LORD will bring on them the plague he inflicts on the nations that do not go up to celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles.

Zec 14:19 This will be the punishment of Egypt and the punishment of all the nations that do not go up to celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles.

Zec 14:20 On that day HOLY TO THE LORD will be inscribed on the bells of the horses, and the cooking pots in the LORD'S house will be like the sacred bowls in front of the altar.

Zec 14:21 Every pot in Jerusalem and Judah will be holy to the LORD Almighty, and all who come to sacrifice will take some of the pots and cook in them. And on that day there will no longer be a Canaanite in the house of the LORD Almighty.

Rev 21:3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God.

3. Moses received instruction from the Lord to celebrate the Feast of the Tabernacles: Lev 23:33-43; Deu 16:13-15

Lev 23:33-43

“And the Lord spoke unto Moses, saying, “Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, the fifteenth day of the seventh month shall be the Feast of the Tabernacles for seven days unto the Lord. On the first day shall be a holy convocation: ye shall do no servile work therein.”

“Seven days ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto the Lord. On the eighth day shall be a holy convocation unto you; and ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto the Lord: it is a solemn assembly; and ye shall do no servile work therein.”

“These are the Feasts of the Lord, which ye shall proclaim to be holy convocations to offer an offering made by fire unto the Lord, a burnt offering, and a meal offering, a sacrifice, and drink offering, everything upon this day; besides the Sabbaths of the Lord and beside your gifts, and beside all your vows, and beside all your free will offerings, which ye give unto the Lord.

“Also, in the fifteenth day of the seventh month, when ye have gathered in the fruit of the land, ye shall keep a feast unto the Lord seven days. On the first day shall be a Sabbath and on the eighth day shall be a Sabbath. And ye shall take on the first day the boughs of goodly trees, branches of palm trees, and the boughs of thick trees, and willows of the brook; and ye shall rejoice before the Lord your God seven days.

“And ye shall keep it a feast unto the Lord seven days of the year. It shall be a statute forever in your generations: ye shall celebrate it in the seventh month. Ye shall dwell in booths seven days; and all that are Israelites born shall dwell in booths. That your generations may know that I made the children of Israel to dwell in booths, when I brought them out of the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God.”

Deuteronomy 16:13-15

“Thou shalt observe the Feast of Tabernacles seven days, after thou has gathered in thy grain and thy wine. And thou shalt rejoice in thy feast, thou and thy son, and thy daughter, and thy manservant, and thy maidservant, and the Levite, and the sojourner, and the fatherless, and the widow who are within thy gate. Seven days shalt thou keep a solemn feast unto the Lord thy God in the place which the Lord shall choose; because the Lord thy God shall bless thee in all thine increase, and in all the works of thine hands; therefore, thou shalt surely rejoice.”

Ezra 3:4

“They kept also the Feast of Tabernacles, as it is written, and offered the daily burnt offerings by number, according to` the custom, as the duty of every day required.”

4. As taught on several occasions the various feasts, like the liturgy of the Tabernacle/Temple were designed to teach certain events future, certainly to included the coming of the Messiah.

5. As noted above the Festival of Tabernacles was designed to teach of the Second Advent and the Lord’s role in the Millennium.

6. Accordingly, let’s review a summary of the events of the Millennium and Second Advent.

### ***Doctrine of the Millennium***

1. Many Old Testament and New Testament passages combine to teach that Christ will be the supreme ruler of the earth in an age called by many the Age of Christ, or the Millennium. The Apocalypse as you might imagine speaks to the subject in several places. Rev 20:1-11 summarizes His role.

Rev 20:1 And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand.

Rev 20:2 And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years,

Rev 20:3 And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season.

Rev 20:4 And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.

Rev 20:5 But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection.

Rev 20:6 Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.

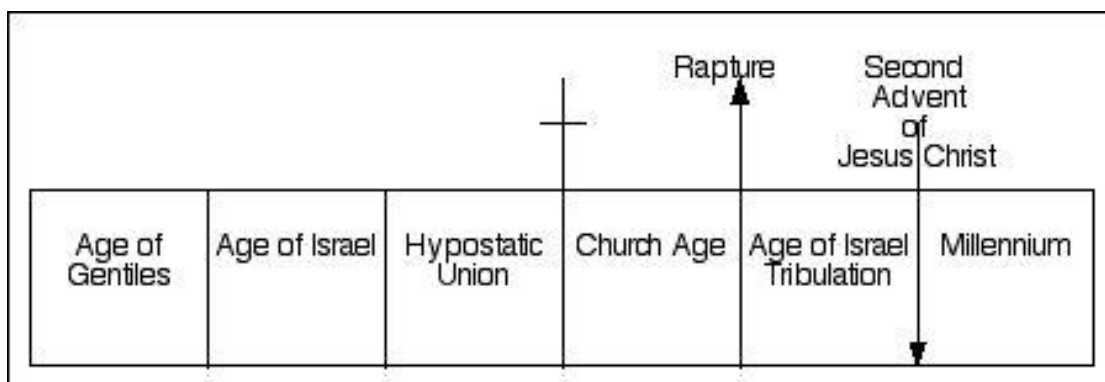
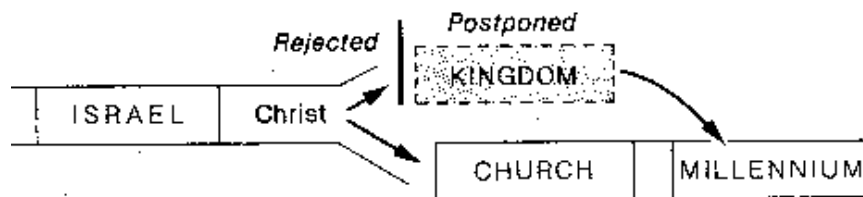
Rev 20:7 And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison,

Rev 20:8 And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog, and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea.

Rev 20:9 And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them.

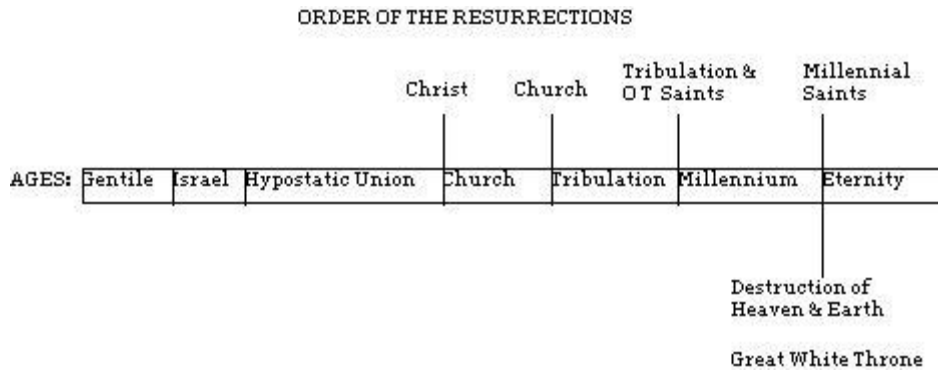
Rev 20:10 And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

Rev 20:11 And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them.



1.1 In Daniel 12:2 the two resurrections are also mentioned in connection with the resurrection of Israel to judgment at the Second Advent, when some are cast into the Lake of Fire and some are brought forward to live and reign with Christ in the Millennium. For example, in a message to Israel:

Dan 12:2 And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.



2. During the Millennium, Christ, as David's son, will sit on the throne of David and David will serve as Christ's executive officer.

Jer 30:9 Instead, they will serve the LORD their God and David their king, whom I will raise up for them.

Eze 34:23 I will place over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he will tend them; he will tend them and be their shepherd.

Eze 34:24 I the LORD will be their God, and my servant David will be prince among them. I the LORD have spoken.

Eze 37:24 "My servant David will be king over them, and they will all have one shepherd. They will follow my laws and be careful to keep my decrees.

Eze 37:25 They will live in the land I gave to my servant Jacob, the land where your fathers lived. They and their children and their children's children will live there forever, and David my servant will be their prince forever.

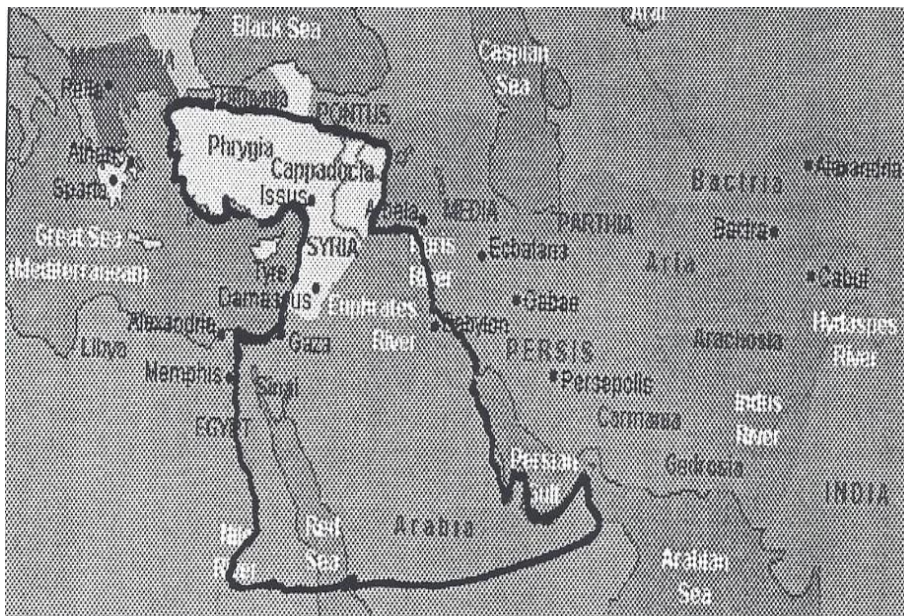
Hos 3:5 Afterward the Israelites will return and seek the LORD their God and David their king. They will come trembling to the LORD and to his blessings in the last days.

3. God's faithfulness to perform what He has promised to David and believing Israel is emphasized in Jer 33:20-21.

Jer 33:20 "This is what the LORD says: 'If you can break my covenant with the day and my covenant with the night, so that day and night no longer come at their appointed time,

Jer 33:21 then my covenant with David my servant--and my covenant with the Levites who are priests ministering before me--can be broken and David will no longer have a descendant to reign on his throne.

4. Israel's boundaries will be extensive, far beyond the boundaries of any prior kingdom of David, and it will be a forever kingdom.



Gen 15:18 In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates:

Gen 15:19 The Kenites, and the Kenizzites, and the Kadmonites,

Gen 15:20 And the Hittites, and the Perizzites, and the Rephaims,

Gen 15:21 And the Amorites, and the Canaanites, and the Girgashites, and the Jebusites.

Dan 2:44 "In the time of those kings, the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that will never be destroyed, nor will it be left to another people. It will crush all those kingdoms and bring them to an end, but it will itself endure forever.

Dan 2:45 This is the meaning of the vision of the rock cut out of a mountain, but not by human hands--a rock that broke the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver and the gold to pieces. "The great God has shown the king what will take place in the future. The dream is true and the interpretation is trustworthy."

5. Christ's reign will be a universal rule.

Mic 4:1 In the last days the mountain of the LORD'S temple will be established as chief among the mountains; it will be raised above the hills, and peoples will stream to it.

Mic 4:2 Many nations will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob. He will teach us his ways, so that we may walk in his paths." The law will go out from Zion, the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

6. Christ will rule with a rod of iron in absolute power.

Psa 2:8 Ask of me, and I will make the nations your inheritance, the ends of the earth your possession.

Psa 2:9 You will rule them with an iron scepter; you will dash them to pieces like pottery."

Rev 19:15 Out of his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations. "He will rule them with an iron scepter." He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty.

7. All who oppose Him will be punished. Christ's government shall be one of righteousness and peace.

Isa 11:2 The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him--the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD--

Isa 11:3 and he will delight in the fear of the LORD. He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, or decide by what he hears with his ears;



Isa 11:4 but with righteousness he will judge the needy, with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth. He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth; with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked.

8. These unusual characteristics are made possible in part because Satan is bound and rendered inoperative. The only source of evil in the world will be the sin nature residing in unbelievers.

Rev 20:1 And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand.

Rev 20:2 And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years,

Rev 20:3 And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season.

9. The Millennium will begin with believing adults transformed by the application of the New Covenant. However, there will be unbelieving children born into this age with old sin natures.

9.1 Children who are born during this Age of Christ will be subject to the righteous rule of Christ. Many will not believe, and, if deemed appropriate by Christ, they may even be executed. Such capital punishment will be summarily executed by Christ if their manifest sin or evil adversely affects perfect environment.

9.2 Volition will remain a divine institution and some number of progenies will reject the "Christ." This unbelieving ilk will produce both sin and evil.

10. "Open sin and evil" will be punished; no one will be permitted to disrupt perfect environment.

Zec 14:16 Then the survivors from all the nations that have attacked Jerusalem will go up year after year to worship the King, the LORD Almighty, and to celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles.

Zec 14:17 If any of the peoples of the earth do not go up to Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD Almighty, they will have no rain.

Isa 11:4 but with righteousness he will judge the needy, with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth. He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth; with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked.

11. Israel will enjoy a place of privilege and special blessing as God's priest nation.

11.1 Many passages bear on this subject. In the Millennium the Israelites will be re-gathered and restored to their Promised Land.

Jer 30:3 The days are coming,' declares the LORD, 'when I will bring my people Israel and Judah back from captivity and restore them to the land I gave their forefathers to possess,' says the LORD."

Jer 31:8 See, I will bring them from the land of the north and gather them from the ends of the earth. Among them will be the blind and the lame, expectant mothers and women in labor; a great throng will return.

Jer 31:9 They will come with weeping; they will pray as I bring them back. I will lead them beside streams of water on a level path where they will not stumble, because I am Israel's father, and Ephraim is my firstborn son.

Eze 39:25 "Therefore this is what the Sovereign LORD says: I will now bring Jacob back from captivity and will have compassion on all the people of Israel, and I will be zealous for my holy name.

Eze 39:26 They will forget their shame and all the unfaithfulness they showed toward me when they lived in safety in their land with no one to make them afraid.

Eze 39:27 When I have brought them back from the nations and have gathered them from the countries of their enemies, I will show myself holy through them in the sight of many nations.

Eze 39:28 Then they will know that I am the LORD their God, for though I sent them into exile among the nations, I will gather them to their own land, not leaving any behind.

## **End Lesson**

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