

Book of Revelation



29. The Reign of Jesus on Earth

Revelation 20

Introduction

The second coming of Jesus is a long awaited event! When He returns He will reign as King over the earth from the City of Jerusalem. The Bible says that this will be for a period of 1000 years, often referred to as the 'millennium'. (The word millennium is from a Latin word meaning 'one thousand years'.) Revelation 11:15 describes that period of time in this way: "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of Christ, and He will reign forever and ever."

Scripture Reading: Revelation 20:4-6



What are the characteristics of this one thousand year period? Revelation 20:2-3
Also see Isaiah 2:2-5, 4:2-6 and Zechariah 14:16.

During this 1000 year period and beyond into eternity God's people will rule and reign with Him. We don't understand the full implications of this, but let us see what the Word of God does reveal to us.



What do the following verses show us about the role of the saints in the ages to come?
Revelation 20:4, Revelation 2:26-27, 3:21, 1 Corinthians 6:2-3

We have a high and holy calling. Our life on earth now is a time of preparation for God's purposes in the ages to come. Although we often struggle with temptations and experience times of testing, this is part of the maturing process. It is important we know what God's plans are for us, so we do not give up when we face temptation or disappointment. Let's focus now on this time of preparation.



Jesus promised His disciples positions of authority in His future kingdom. What qualities was Jesus looking for in His disciples then, and continues to look for in us today? Luke 22:24-30, Matthew 19:28-30



Share an experience you have gone through when you have felt 'humbled' by other people but later realized that God was using that to bring about a change in your life. Is anyone going through such an experience right now? Gather around and pray for that person.

Conclusion

As we look ahead to the future, we have the glorious hope of being raised from the dead, and ruling and reigning with Christ. In 1 Corinthians 15:58, after speaking about the resurrection, the apostle Paul says: "Therefore my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain." We may go through difficult experiences, but as we allow Him to use these difficulties in our lives, we will be prepared for the future.