THE MILLENNIUM

Introduction:
A vast portion of OT and NT revelation refers to the Millennial Kingdom. It is the subject of extensive prophecies in the OT and constant references in the NT. Only in the book of Revelation do we discover its duration, 1000 years. But the Millennial Kingdom is but the threshold to the eternal kingdom that follows it. Most of the curse is removed during the Millennial kingdom but not death. Life is longer but it is not eternal except for those in their resurrection bodies.

The believers of all ages from Adam on will be resurrected to enter and enjoy this Millennial Kingdom.
Jesus Himself said to the Pharisees: Mt 13:28

28“In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, but yourselves being thrown out.
29“And they will come from east and west and from north and south, and will recline at the table in the kingdom of God.

The raptured and resurrected Church will return from heaven with Christ at His Second Coming to rule and reign with Him.
Jesus promised His disciples:

28 And Jesus said to them, “Truly I say to you, that you who have followed Me, in the regeneration when the Son of Man will sit on His glorious throne, you also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.
29“And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or farms for My name’s sake, will receive many times as much, and will inherit eternal life.

11 It is a trustworthy statement:
For if we died with Him, we will also live with Him;
12 If we endure, we will also reign with Him;
If we 
\text{b}deny Him, He also will deny us;
13 If we are faithless, He remains faithful, for He cannot deny Himself.
Living saints, both Jews and Gentile will enter the Kingdom in normal human, unglorified bodies. All of the saints through the ages will enter the kingdom in glorified bodies to rule and reign with Christ.

At first there will be more rulers than there are people to be ruled. However, after unprecedented multiplication and long life the population will grow astronomically during the 1000 years. Without a shortened lifespan, without most illnesses, and war, death will be rare. Abundant food and provision for man and nature will allow the population to expand and man’s knowledge and discovery to increase exponentially. Poverty will be erased, no individual will be exploited by others, and righteousness and real justice will be enforced. Nearly all crime will disappear and men will dwell in safety. Those who dare to commit crimes will be swiftly and justly punished by the enforcers and the death penalty will be used often. Wickedness will not be tolerated as the media will have to write the truth and a great deal of what passes for literature today will not be tolerated in the perfectly righteous kingdom of our Lord.

**HOW COULD BOTH GLORIFIED AND NORMAL HUMANS EXIST TOGETHER IN THE EARTHLY KINGDOM?**

Those who object to the mingling of glorified persons among those still in normal human bodies must object to Jesus and his post-resurrection appearances. He ate with his disciples. He was seen and touched by them. He walked with them, talked with them, and interacted with them, yet he could materialize and dematerialize at will. He could apparently travel great distances almost instantly. He could appear in a room with locked doors defying all known physical laws. He could hear what others said when he was apparently not there. This will make it difficult, if not impossible, for criminals to plan without discovery. The kingdom of God on earth will be an all-powerful, all knowing, just and perfect King, ruling with an iron hand and his saints will be his enforcers – obeying his will and carrying out his orders. Gone will be freedom of speech, freedom of religion, freedom of the press, & the freedom to sin. All those freedoms are necessary to defend as long as sinful man is in charge of government. But the perfect King will be the answer to all man’s longings for righteousness and justice.
Passages divide into four aspects of the Millennial Kingdom
1. The Geographical & Environmental Conditions on earth in the Kingdom
2. The Government structure in the Kingdom
3. The Spiritual Life in the Kingdom
4. The Social-Economic Life in the Kingdom

WHAT DOES ISAIAH HAVE TO SAY ABOUT THE FUTURE KINGDOM?

1. Isaiah 1:26-28 Righteousness will characterize the kingdom

26 “Then I will restore your judges as at the first, And your counselors as at the beginning; After that you will be called the city of righteousness, A faithful city.”

27 Zion will be redeemed with justice, And her repentant ones with righteousness. 28 But transgressors and sinners will be crushed together, And those who forsake the LORD shall come to an end.

2. Isa 2:2-3 Jerusalem will be the political and religious capital of the world. “Church and State are combined. All three aspects of government are combined in One Divine Person in the Kingdom: Executive, Legislative and Judicial

2 Now it will come about that In the last days, The mountain of the house of the LORD Will be established as the chief of the mountains, And will be raised above the hills; And all the nations will stream to it. 3 And many peoples will come and say, “Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, To the house of the God of Jacob; That He may teach us concerning His ways, And that we may walk in His paths.” For the law will go forth from Zion, And the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

This suggests geographical changes in Palestine. The nations of earth will worship the Lord at Jerusalem and from there the word of the Lord will go forth. “The law” does not necessarily imply a return to the exact Mosaic code, but the Law of the Messiah’s “rod of iron” rule.

3. Isaiah 9:3-5 Israel will be delivered from national enemies
3 Thou shalt multiply the nation, Thou shalt increase their gladness; They will be glad in Thy presence As with the gladness of harvest, As men rejoice when they divide the spoil.
4 For Thou shalt break the yoke of their burden and the staff on their shoulders, The rod of their oppressor, as at the battle of Midian.
5 For every boot of the booted warrior in the battle tumult, And cloak rolled in blood, will be for burning, fuel for the fire.

The spoils of the armies gathered against Israel at Armageddon will be taken by the victorious nation. (See Zechariah 14:1 as well)

4. Isaiah 9:6-9 Messiah will reign on David’s earthly throne forever

6 For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; (Fulfilled)

(Future) And the government will rest on His shoulders; And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace. 7 There will be no end to the increase of His government or of peace, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, To establish it and to uphold it with justice and righteousness from then on and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will accomplish this.

[Amillennialists insist that Christ accomplished this at his first advent and is now reigning from heaven on the throne of God. But the Bible distinguishes between the throne of God and the throne of David and David’s kingdom on earth.]

5. Isaiah 11:1-2 Messiah will be born from the line of Jesse and the Spirit of the Lord will rest upon him. (fulfilled in 1st Advent)

6. Isa 11:3-ff Messiah will judge the poor and slay the wicked (fulfilled at His 2nd Advent)

7. Isa 11:6-9 The Ferocity of nature will be removed: (with the curse goes the dog eat dog world)

8. Isa 11:7 Meat-eating animals will become vegetarian (Changes made to the animal creation itself)
9. Isa 11:9 There will be World-wide knowledge of God
   (No religious competition to the Word of God)
   (No other religious beliefs will be tolerated whatsoever)

10. Isa 11:10 All Nations worship the Messiah (Jesus Christ)
    (All men will acknowledge that Jesus is Lord-Deity)

11. Isa 11:11-12 Israel to be re-gathered from all over the world

12. Isa 11:13 Israel will be united as one nation rather than divided into northern and southern kingdoms.

13. Isa 11:14 Israel will be victorious over surrounding enemies

    They will possess the Philistin plain (as they do today) Edom and Moab;
    And the sons of Ammon will be subject to them. (The Modern territory of East Jordan will be theirs)

14. Isa 11:15-16 There will be Miraculous drying up of waters by God as in the Exodus in Israel’s return after the Tribulation

The Bible Knowledge commentary says:

11:15-16. When Israel returns to her land at the beginning of the Millennium, God will prepare the way for her. The Gulf of Suez will be dried up to enable Israelites to return from Egypt and Cush (cf. v. 11), and the Euphrates River will be divided into shallow canals so that the people can return to Israel from the east. This drying of the waters will be reminiscent of the first Exodus when Israel crossed the Red Sea (lit., "Sea of Reeds") on dry land (Ex. 14:21-22). The return from Assyria (Isa. 11:16), perhaps representative of all places from which the remnant would come, will be like Israel's "exit" from Egypt. ¹

15. **Isaiah 12:1-2**  
Israel will be saved, spiritually, physically and politically

1 Then you will say on that day, “I will give thanks to Thee, O LORD; For although Thou wast angry with me, Thine anger is turned away, And Thou dost comfort me. 2 “Behold, God is my salvation, I will trust and not be afraid; For the LORD GOD is my strength and song, And He has become my salvation.”

16. **Isa 26:19-21**  
The righteous in Israel will rise from the dead

after the “indignation” has run its course and the Lord punishes the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity. (the Tribulation Period)  
Daniel 12:1-2 coincides with Revelation 20

17. **Isaiah 29:18-19**  
Miraculous healings will be commonplace

18 And on that day the deaf shall hear words of a book,  
And out of their gloom and darkness the eyes of the blind shall see.  
19 The afflicted also shall increase their gladness in the LORD,  
And the needy of mankind shall rejoice in the Holy One of Israel.  
**Isaiah 33:24**  
And no resident will say, “I am sick”;

**Isa 35:5-6**  
Then the eyes of the blind will be opened, and the ears of the deaf will be unstopped. Then the lame will leap like a deer, and the tongue of the dumb will shout for joy.

[Amill’s argue that Jesus fulfilled these Scriptures completely in his first advent. (See Matt 11:3 below). But Jesus’ miraculous works were but signs applied to a few during his first advent. They show what ability he has to bring those conditions worldwide at his Second Advent.]

**Matt 11:3-6**  
Are You the Expected One, or shall we look for someone else?” 4 And Jesus answered and said to them, “Go and report to John what you hear and see: 5 the BLIND RECEIVE SIGHT and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the POOR HAVE THE GOSPEL PREACHED TO THEM. 6 “And blessed is he who keeps from stumbling over Me.”
18. Isaiah 35:1-2, 7 The Desert will blossom with abundant water

The wilderness and the desert will be glad, and the Arabah will rejoice and blossom; like the crocus. It will blossom profusely and rejoice with rejoicing and shout of joy… For waters will break forth in the wilderness and streams in the Arabah. …7 And the scorched land will become a pool, And the thirsty ground springs of water;
[Amills see this as “spiritually” fulfilled in the gospel age]

19. Isaiah 35:8-9 The Redeemed People will be Holy

And a highway will be there, a roadway, And it will be called the Highway of Holiness. The unclean will not travel on it, But it will be for him who walks that way, And fools will not wander on it. No lion will be there, nor will any vicious beast go up on it; These will not be found there. But the redeemed will walk there,
[Amills view this fulfilled figuratively in the Christian’s holy life]

Isaiah 61:1-7 Shows the past and future fulfillment of a single text
Jesus announced this was fulfilled in his first coming
The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, Because the Lord has anointed me To bring good news to the afflicted; He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to captives, and freedom to prisoners; To proclaim the favorable year of the Lord,… (and Jesus stopped reading)

The rest of the verse will be fulfilled in his Second Advent.
And the day of vengeance of our God; To comfort all who mourn, 3 To grant those who mourn in Zion, Giving them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, The mantle of praise instead of a spirit of fainting. So they will be called oaks of righteousness, The planting of the Lord, that He may be glorified.

20. Isa 61:4-7 Israel will be rebuilt and become the economic leader of nations

4 Then they will rebuild the ancient ruins, They will raise up the former devastations, And they will repair the ruined cities, The desolations of many
generations. 5 And strangers will stand and pasture your flocks, And foreigners will be your farmers and your vinedressers.

6 But you will be called the priests of the LORD; You will be spoken of as ministers of our God. You will eat the wealth of nations, And in their riches you will boast. 7 Instead of your shame you will have a double portion, And instead of humiliation they will shout for joy over their portion. Therefore they will possess a double portion in their land, everlasting joy will be theirs.

These are representative of the spiritual, physical, moral, religious, political and economic conditions that will prevail during the 1000 year Millennial Kingdom of Christ.

WHAT DOES ZECHARIAH SAY ABOUT THE KINGDOM?

1. The same Lord whose feet will stand on the Mt of Olives in his return, (Zech 14:3-4) will be the unchallenged king of the whole earth Zech 14:9.

9 And the LORD will be king over all the earth; in that day the LORD will be the only one, and His name the only one.

2. Geographical changes around Jerusalem Zech 14:10

The city of Jerusalem will be lifted higher than all mountains Around it- Ezekiel says that water will trickle from beneath the Temple mount and go both East to the Dead sea and West to the Med. As it goes it gets progressively deeper and deeper and wider and wider and so abundant that men will fish along its banks as it flows down to the Dead Sea.

During the final Earthquake before Christ’s Return, the mountains all over the earth may fall or be lowered in altitude. If that happened, for example, on the Pacific West Coast of Oregon and Washington, it could change the weather patterns and make much more of Oregon as fertile as the Willamette Valley. The same could be true in the Sahara Desert if mountain ranges allowed moisture to fall inland. This itself could change weather patterns all over the world and lead to greater prosperity.
3. **Removal of at least part of the curse because of sin**  
   Zech 14:11  
   Think how much the curse upon the ground has caused in labor and toil in bringing forth food from the earth. If nature cooperated as it did before sin entered into the world, it would grow easily. Instead of thorns and poison ivy plants without harmful effects would multiply.

4. **Jewish Sacrifices and Feasts will be reinstituted in the Millennial Temple in the reign of Jesus the Messiah**  
   Zech 14:16-21; Ezekiel 40-48. The Millennial Temple will be built by our Lord in Jerusalem and sacrifices reinstituted not as the means of sin’s removal but as a memorial to the once for all sacrifice of Christ on the Cross.

   Representatives from surviving nations of the Tribulation will worship yearly in Jerusalem at the Feast of Booths in the Millennium or receive no rain on their country that year.  
   **Zech 14:18**

5. **All Nations will bring their wealth to Jerusalem** in honor of Jesus the King of Kings  
   **Hag 2:6-7**

6. Israel will be the head and not the tail. They will be given praise and renown among all the peoples of the earth  
   **Zeph 3:20**

7. War will be abolished and all training for war will cease

8. Prosperity will exist world wide- **Amos 9:13** /  
   Israel will be a garden of prosperity  
   **Joel 3:18**

9. A spring will go out from the house of the Lord to water the valley of Shittim (NE of the Dead Sea)

10. Israel will dwell securely and permanently in their land  
    **Amos 9:15**

11. The Lord will reign over them in Mt Zion. Their former dominion will return and this time will be world-wide  
    **Micah 4:8**
12. The ultimate ruler of Israel will go forth from Bethlehem of Judea. He will be great to the ends of the earth. *Micah 5:1-5*

Transition: Did Jesus really believe these predictions to be literal or did he understand them figuratively? To answer we have to look at what Jesus himself had to say about the kingdom.

**WHAT DOES JESUS HAVE TO SAY ABOUT THE KINGDOM?**