

INTRODUCTION

It was Charles Wesley Burns that said concerning war:

“A warless world comes as men develop warless hearts”

I'm here to tell you today, that will not happen until Christ returns at the second advent to establish His kingdom upon the earth. The establishment of His kingdom will occur in the Dispensation of the Fullness of Times, known as the Millennial Kingdom. Today, we will consider the character of this kingdom. We will find from Scripture that it will be characterized not only by peace, but by righteousness and holiness.

- I. THE MILLENNIAL KINGDOM WILL BE A TIME OF RIGHTEOUSNESS.
 - A. Righteousness has varying terms in the Hebrew and the Greek.
 1. Righteousness in the Hebrew is the word tsedeq
 2. Righteousness is seen in Scripture as acting right. cf. Tit. 3:5
 - B. The Lord's reign shall be in righteousness. Dan. 9:24
 1. His kingdom is characterized by righteousness. Heb. 1:8-9; Is. 11:5
 2. The kingdom is righteous because the king personifies righteousness. Ps. 36:6; 45:7
 - C. Those desiring righteousness during the Tribulation Period will experience it. Matt. 5:6
 - D. Righteousness will be enforced by strict judgment. Matt. 13:41-43
 1. “Offend” is the Greek word for skandalon -- to cause offense. cf. Matt. 5:29-30
 2. “Iniquity” is “lawlessness -- to behave with complete disregard for the laws or regulations of a society. cf. 1st John 3:4; Matt. 7:23
 - E. Righteousness produces peace. Is. 32:17
- II. THE MILLENNIAL KINGDOM WILL BE A TIME OF PEACE.

- A. There are several words for peace listed in Scripture.
 - 1. The Hebrew word for peace is shalom which means completeness, soundness; a cessation from fear; from fighting; . cf. Gen. 43:23; Josh 9:2,15; 10:1
 - a) Peace is seen in the Old Testament between men.
 - b) Old Testament saints could experience a kind of inner peace. if they observed the law. Ps. 119; 165
 - c) A kind of peace could be had with God. cf. Is. 26:3
 - d) There was no peace that could be had by the wicked. Is. 48:22
 - 2. The Greek word for peace is eirene -- is a state of inward ease and comfort in the midst of trying circumstances. cf. Matt. 10:34

- B. Peace will be in abundance during the Millennial Kingdom. Is. 9:6,7
 - 1. Christ is seen as the Prince of Peace. vs. 6
 - 2. He establishes peace through two things:
 - a) Judgment -- mishpat -- rendering what is in conformity to a case -- Holladay Lexicon. cf. Det. 16:18 (of Israel's judges rendering judgment among the people); cf. Ez. 39:21
 - b) Righteousness -- cf. Jer. 4:2; Is. 5:16

- C. Nations will not be at war any more. Micah. 4:1-3; Is. 2:4
 - 1. "Plowshares" were cutting instruments of iron, similar to an axe. -- Brown Driver and Briggs lexicon cf. 1st Sam. 13:20,21
 - 2. "Pruninghooks" were vine-knives used to prune vines. cf. Is. 2:4

III. THE MILLENNIAL KINGDOM WILL BE A TIME HOLINESS.

- A. The usages of holiness in Scripture are:
 - 1. Hebrew -- quodesh -- that which is withheld from ordinary use, treated with special care, belonging to the sanctuary, e.g. priest & his garments. -- Holladay cf. Ex. 3:5
 - a) Often used of things in Scripture. Ex. 26:33; 28:2,4,38; 39:30
 - b) Used of God. Ps. 22:3; 51:11; 89:18; Is. 6:3; 10:20
 - c) Used of individuals who abstain from prohibited things. cf. Ex. 22:31; Lev. 20:7,26; 21:7
 - 2. Greek -- hagios -- to be set apart; distinct.
 - a) Positionally-- 1st Co. 1:30
 - b) Practically -- 1st Pet. 1:15; 3:11
 - 3. Holiness is the opposite of that which is profane -- to pollute or defile. cf. Lev. 19:8 (illustrated in the improper eating of a peace offering)

- B. Scripture is complete with admonitions for God's people to appreciate His

holiness.

1. Israel was to consider His holiness.
 - a) God is seen as glorious (expressing an opinion that is greater than other gods) Ex. 15:11
 - b) Knowledge of God's holiness was to inspire worship among Israel. 1st Chron. 16:29
2. Judah profaned God's holiness through idolatry. cf. Mal. 2:11
 - a) "Profane" is the Hebrew word chalal which means **to take into common use -- treat with contempt; disregard**. cf. Lev. 21:4; Ez. 20:9
 - b) "Strange god" is a foreign god. cf. Ps. 81:9 -10(Israel warned against)
3. Believers in the Dispensation of Grace are called to an appreciation of the holiness of God. 1st Thess. 4:7; Heb. 12:14

C. The New Jerusalem is seen as holy. Ps. 48:1-2; Rev. 21:2

D. Things in the kingdom will be dedicated to Jehovah.

1. The government will be Holy. Ps. 2:6; Is. 11:9; Zech. 8:3
2. The capital city will be Holy. Zech. 2:12
3. Israel to serve Jehovah in. Lk. 1:75
4. Pots and bells shall be. Zech. 14:20-21

CONCLUSION