# A Glimpse at the Future Kingdom

**(Selected Scriptures in Isaiah)**
11-8-2023



*The Kingdom will be a time of...*

1. **Global Worship at Mount Zion** (Isaiah 2:1-3)

*The Kingdom will be a time of...*

2. **Perfect Justice and International Peace *(No War or Weapons)*** (Isaiah 2:4)

*The Kingdom will be a time of...*

3. **Viewing Jesus the Messiah as Beautiful and Glorious** (Isaiah 4:2)

*The Kingdom will be a time of...*

4. **Holiness and Spiritual Purity among God's People** (Isaiah 4:3-4)

*The Kingdom will be a time of...*

5. **A supernaturally produced canopy for shade and refuge over Zion** (Isaiah 4:5-6)

*The Kingdom will be a time of...*

6. **Governmental Rule resting squarely on the shoulders of the Messiah** (Isaiah 9:6-7; 11:1-5)

*The Kingdom will be a time of...*

7. **A peaceful coexistence between animals and people *(the curse is removed)*** (Isaiah 11:6-9)

*The Kingdom will be a time of...*

8. **A universal knowledge of Jesus as Jehovah God and a re-gathering around Him** (Isaiah 11:9b-12)

*The Kingdom will be a time of...*

9. **Rest and safety as Lucifer (Satan) is bound up in Hell** (Isaiah 14:7-15)

*The Kingdom will be a time of...*

10. **Righteousness and Justice** (Isaiah 32:1-5)

*The Kingdom will be a time of...*

11. **Renovation for the Earth and Restoration of Health** (Isaiah 35:1-8; Compare Is.40:1-5; Is. 55:10-13)

*The Kingdom will be a time of...*

12. **The appearance of the brilliant Light of Christ's glorious radiance** (Isaiah 60:1-3; 19-20)

*The Kingdom will be a time of...*

13. **Justice, Restoration, Peace, Joy & Universal Worship of YAHWEH!** (Isaiah 60:21-22; 62:1-5; 65:17-25; 66:22-24)

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(Isaiah 35:1-8; Compare Is.40:1-5; 9-11; Isaiah 55:10-13)

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13. **Justice, Restoration, _____ of YAHWEH!**

(Isaiah 60:21-22; 62:1-5; 65:17-25; 66:22-24)

# A Glimpse at the Future Kingdom

**(Selected Scriptures in Isaiah)**

11-8-2023

ILLUS: of the times we have all said: "I can't wait" -- "I can't wait till school's done"; "I can't wait till I grow up"; "I can't wait till this job's finished"; "till I get married and have children [then many say, "I can't wait till they're grown, married, and out of my house."]

We live in a world of "can't waits."

In Romans 8:18-25, we find an attitude of "I can't wait for the glory to come."

*"For many centuries, man has dreamed of a "Golden Age," a "utopia" in which the human race will be free from war, sickness, and even death. Men have tried to achieve this goal on their own and have failed."* (Wiersbe, p. 620)

Revelation Chapter 20 is like the calm after the storm. This chapter is the second main section of Revelation -

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1) | Tribulation | (ch. 4 - 19) |
| 2) | Millennium & New Jerusalem | (ch. 20 - 22) |

The phrase ***"thousand years"*** occurs 6 times in only 10 verses (v. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7).
God does not waste words. He is emphasizing a point. The point is that there is coming a <u>thousand year</u> kingdom (which is merely the <u>first stage</u> of Christ's <u>eternal</u> kingdom).

The Greek word ***"thousand"*** is "chilioi" which always refers to a <u>literal</u> thousand years. It is <u>never figurative</u> in the N.T. (II Pet. 3:8; Rev. 11:3, 12:6, 14:20, 20:2-7).
Our English word "Millennium" is the Latin translation of "chillioi" ["Mille" meaning "thousand" and *"annum"* meaning "years"] Note: Christ's kingdom will be eternal (Ezek. 37:24-28; Dan. 2:44); the Millennium is simply the <u>first stage</u> of His eternal Kingdom.

*The time period <u>after</u> the 70th week but <u>before</u> the initiation of the Millennial Kingdom.*

After the 1,260 days of the second half of the 70th week, Daniel 12:11-12 describes two additional blocks of time.

1,260 days (Rev.12:6) 30 45

1,290 days (Dan.12:11)

1,335 days (Dan.12:12)

1. The additional **30 days** apparently involve:

   a. The **REGATHERING** of Israel to Jerusalem (Is. 11:11-12, 15-16; Ezek. 20:37-38)
   Note: All nations (Gentiles) will also be gathered (Mt. 25:32; Joel 3:1-2)

   b. A time of **JUDGMENT** for those still living (but not raptured) after the Tribulation [Note the chronology of Mt. 25:1-13 [Rapture] and Mt. 25:14-46 [Judgment])

      1) The **Nature** of this Judgment
      This judgment involves the separation of the sheep (God's people redeemed after the Rapture) from the goats (the unsaved) (Mt. 25:31-46)
      2) The **consequences** of this Judgment
         a) The saved are accepted into the Millennial Kingdom in mortal bodies (Mt. 25:31-40)
         b) The unsaved are rejected, and are slain, to await resurrection unto damnation (Ezek. 20;37; Mt. 25:41-46)
      No unsaved person will enter the Millennial Kingdom.

2. The additional **45 days** (which transpire before the Millennium) apparently involve:

   a. The **leveling** of Palestine's **topography** (Is. 35; Is. 40:4-5; Zech. 14:10; Is. 26:15)

   b. The **building** of the Millennial **Temple** in Jerusalem (Ezek. 40-48)

   c. The **purifying** of the earth and **preparing** for the Kingdom

      1) Weapons will be beaten into farming tools (Is. 2:4)

      2) Jerusalem will become a source for fresh (good, drinkable) water from the Dead Sea and Mediterranean Sea (Zech. 14:8)

   d. The **binding** of Satan will conclude this time period just prior to the 1,000 year Kingdom (Rev. 20:1-3; Ezek. 28:13-19; Is. 14:4-17).

      During the Millennium, "all outward sources of temptation must be removed so that man will demonstrate what he (really) is apart from Satanic influence" (Pentecost, p. 477)
      The depravity of mortal man will be evident, as his only source of temptation will be *"the flesh"* (not the world system or the devil)

# 3 Views of the Millennium:

1. **Post-Millennialism** - (social gospel view) Man through social reform will usher in a utopian period of peace on earth, after which time Christ will return

2. **A-Millennialism** - (covenant theology view) There is no 1,000 year kingdom. The 1,000 years of Rev. 20:1-7 are only figurative. They symbolize the time period from the cross until the imminent return of Christ. The "Millennium" refers to the church age of Christ's present rule from Heaven. At the cross Jesus defeated Satan and the Devil has been bound ever since.

This view which must employ an allegorical interpretation of Prophecy actually alters the literal meaning of words & phrases. This "spiritualizing" of the Bible strips the Scriptures of actual, literal meaning, generally discards rules of grammar and context, and imposes virtually any "hidden mystic" meaning into the Sacred Text. As someone has said: *"if the plain sense makes good sense, seek no other sense or you will have non-sense."*

## A-Millennialism has it's roots in...

**Greek Philosophy**, Ancient Gnosticism or more specifically in "Neo-Platonic Mysticism"
(This Satanic philosophy taught that anything which was physical (material) was evil)

**Philo** (of Alexandria – a contemporary of the Lord Jesus Christ) taught that the Scriptures had two levels of meaning. The literal reading was some sort of a code that had to be decoded to determine the more significant and the hidden meaning.

**Origen** (185-254 A.D. - A Greek Philosopher who introduced the allegorical & typological method of interpreting Scripture; For example, he rejected the idea of a physical resurrection)

**Dionysius** (Died 264 A.D. - Due to his influence, the Greek church rejected Premillenialism)

**Jerome** (345-420 A.D.) and **Ambrose** (339-397 A.D.) brought New Alexandrian Theology to the West.

**Augustine** (354-430 A.D. - Baptized by Ambrose, then became the Bishop of Hippo) Augustine changed from a Premillennialist by developing his new view known as Amillennialism.
"In his book, *The City of God*, he became the first person to teach the idea that the organized Catholic (universal) Church is the Messianic Kingdom, and that the Millennium began with the first coming of Christ" (Israel My Glory, Oct. 1986, citing Harnack, "Millennium," XVI, 317)

The **Roman Catholic Church** maintained Augustine's amillennial view throughout the Middle Ages.

The **Lutheran, Reformed** and **Anglican reformers** maintained Amillennialism and still teach it today.

*3. **Pre-Millennialism** - (dispensational view) Christ will literally return for judgment and then will establish the promised, long-awaited Messianic Kingdom.

***Proofs for the literal establishment of the Millennial Kingdom:***

a. The Scriptures **teach** it (Rev. 20:1-7)

b. Christ **promised** it (Mt. 26:29)

***Matthew 26:29***
*But I say unto you, I will not drink henceforth of this fruit of the vine, until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom.*

***Proofs for the literal establishment of the Millennial Kingdom:***

c. The Apostles **expected** it (Acts 1:6-7)

**Acts 1:6-7**
When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel? [7]And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power.

d. We are expected to **pray** for it to come (Mt. 6:10)
(This implies that it hasn't come yet)

e. God **detailed** it (Is. 11, etc)

f. Creation **awaits** it (Rom. 8:19-22)

# The Millennium

**The Earth anxiously Awaits the Future Deliverance it will experience in the Future (See: Romans 8:19-22)**

**The CREATION anxiously awaits the believer's future glorification (v. 19-22)**

## A. An Expectant Wait (v. 19)

**"Creature"** = that which has been created; creation (same word as in v. 22)

**"Earnest expectation"** = lit. to intently watch with an outstretched head (EX: People sticking their heads out of the window anticipating the parade to begin).

Creation is pictured as being anxious for what is about to take place.

**"Waiteth"** = to wait it out with expectancy.

Creation is wiser than most men. Natural man does not expect God to reconstruct the present world system. Creation, however, knows it is absolutely certain; it is inevitable!

**"Manifestation"** = revealing (unveiling) as in v. 18.

Creation, as it were, sympathizes with us. Physical nature itself longs for the transformation of its inhabitants (Compare - the idea of the land of Canaan vomiting out its wicked inhabitants - Lev. 18:25 - "the land itself vomiteth out her inhabitants"; cp. the idea of the stones crying out in praise - Lk. 19:40).

**"The sons of God"** - glorified saints of all ages. When the saints are all in glorified bodies, the resurrection will have taken place and the Messianic Kingdom will be established. At that time Satan will be bound (Rev. 20:1-3) and the curse removed from the earth. (Isaiah 11:6-9; 35:1-8; 40:3-4; Ezek. 47:1-12)

**"The revealing of the sons of God"** -

*I Jn. 3:1-2 - "Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not. Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when He shall appear, we shall be like Him; for we shall see Him as He is."*

*Col. 3:4 - "When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with Him in glory."*

### B. A Long Wait (v. 20)

**"Vanity"** = futility; an inability to reach a desired goal.

Creation had an original ability to reproduce perfectly.

--The apple trees never produced a bad apple
--The orange groves never bore dried-out oranges
--The fields of grain, corn, strawberries, etc., never needed insecticide.
--The animal realm never reproduced deformed offspring.
--Mosquitoes were not flying vampires
--Snakes, rats, and cockroaches were among man's best friends.
--Thorns did not invest the ground
--Viruses and diseases did not exist.

Earth was a utopia; a perfect paradise until sin came. Since then, the earth has been longing for liberation from the curse.

**"Not willingly"** = Creation (outside of man) did nothing to deserve the corruption that it was subjected to.

The earth received a curse from God as the direct result of man's sin (SEE Gen. 3:17-19).

Everything we see, hear, smell, taste, and touch has been tainted by human sin.

The present conditions on earth (like the destruction of the ozone layer, oil spills, earthquakes, etc.) all point to the fact that things are not what they once were, nor are they what they shall be.

### C. A Worth-while Wait (v. 21)

**"Delivered"** = freed from the slavery of deterioration into the same freedom that the children of God will experience.

When such a deliverance occurs, creation will rejoice (SEE Ps. 96:11-13; 98:7-9; cp. Rev. 5:13).

The Bible speaks of the coming "times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all His holy prophets since the world began" (Acts 3:21).

One such prophet was Isaiah, who described the hard-to-imagine utopian conditions of the coming kingdom (Is. 11:6-9; 35:1, 5-7).

### D. A Painful Wait (v. 22)

**"Whole creation . . . together"** = all aspects of creation and all things that have been created like an harmonious choir of lamenters let out, as it were, continual groans and agonizing sounds of suffering even up to the present day.

In Romans 8, God describes 3 groans: 1) Creation groans (v. 22); 2) Believers groan (v. 23); 3) The Spirit groans (v. 26).

**"Travaileth"** = the suffering of birth pains.

Like a pregnant woman in agony as she delivers her child, "Mother Nature" has longed for deliverance from the various forms of undesirable corruption that she bears.

Creation feels the burden (weight) of man's sin. (Pollution, natural disasters, the curse - weeds, thorns, poison ivy, dry deserts, disease, etc.).

What the earth needs is not merely the ecological improvements of man's efforts to clean up the air, waters, and natural habitats for wildlife, etc.

Nature needs the core of the problem to be solved. The problem is Man, and the answer is God's salvation and glorification before such utopian kingdom conditions can exist.

**The early Church preached Premillennialism**

**The Epistle of Barnabas** (120 A.D.) (Chapter 15)
**Justin Martyr** (100 -165 A.D.) Dialogue with Trypho, Chpt.80 & 81
**Irenaeus** (178 A.D.) Against Heresies, Book V, chpt. 33, section 3, I, 562-63
**Tertullian** (160-220 A.D.) Against Marcion, Book III, chpt. 25
**Lactantius** (240-320 A.D.) The Divine Institutes, Book VII, chpt.14
(The above cited from Israel My Glory, August, 1986 p.23-25.)

Isaiah is writing thematically not chronologically.

There are two themes that are repeated throughout the book:

1) Judgment and 2) Blessing

1) Chastisement of Israel and 2) Comfort for Israel

*The Kingdom will be a time of...*

**1. Global Worship at Mount Zion** (Isaiah 2:1-3)

*The Kingdom will be a time of...*

**2. Perfect Justice and International Peace *(No War or Weapons)*** (Isaiah 2:4)

In contrast to this, Joel 3:10 talks (in the context of the Battle of Armageddon) about beating "your plowshares into swords, and your pruninghooks into spears. . ."

The Millennium which follows will be the opposite of the Great Tribulation and the Day of the Lord's wrath. It will be a time of peace.

No more weapons of mass destruction. No more bombs, explosives, or terrorists.

*The Kingdom will be a time of...*

**3. Viewing Jesus the Messiah as Beautiful and Glorious** (Isaiah 4:2)

**"The branch of the LORD" =** the Messiah

The term "branch" speaks of the Messiah in:

Jeremiah 23:5-6
Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth. [6] In his days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely: and this is his name whereby he shall be called, THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.

Jeremiah 33:15
In those days, and at that time, will I cause the Branch of righteousness to grow up unto David; and he shall execute judgment and righteousness in the land.

Zech. 3:8

Hear now, O Joshua the high priest, thou, and thy fellows that sit before thee: for they are men wondered at: for, behold, I will bring forth my servant the BRANCH.

Zech. 6:12
And speak unto him, saying, Thus speaketh the Lord of hosts, saying, Behold the man whose name is The BRANCH; and he shall grow up out of his place, and he shall build the temple of the Lord:

**"Beautiful and glorious"** – For many today Jesus Christ is "despised and rejected of men," but one day He will be the centerpiece attraction for the entire world.

Those Israelites who "escape" from the Antichrist's corruption and from death during the Day of the Lord will enter the Kingdom alive in mortal bodies to experience the glory of the Messiah and His utopia.

*The Kingdom will be a time of...*

**4. Holiness and Spiritual Purity among God's People** (Isaiah 4:3-4)

**4:4**
The Lord Jesus Christ shall cleanse the earth of its wickedness and wicked devices by causing the elements to melt with fervent heat. The earth and the works thereins hall be burned up.

God desires to cleanse sin (just as a mother would wash the filth of her children's clothing, so God wants to wash away the filth of sin).

*The Kingdom will be a time of...*

**5. A supernaturally produced canopy for shade and refuge over Zion** (Isaiah 4:5-6)

The Lord Himself will be this protective shield.

Isaiah 25:4
For thou hast been a strength to the poor, a strength to the needy in his distress, a refuge from the storm, a shadow from the heat, when the blast of the terrible ones is as a storm against the wall.

Isaiah 32:1-2
Behold, a king shall reign in righteousness, and princes shall rule in judgment. [2] And a man shall be as an hiding place from the wind, and a covert from the tempest; as rivers of water in a dry place, as the shadow of a great rock in a weary land.

Just as God protected and directed Israel as she fled Egypt by a cloudy pillar by day and a pillar of fire by night (in the wilderness) so He will do again.

*The Kingdom will be a time of...*

**6. Governmental Rule resting squarely on the shoulders of the Messiah**

(Isaiah 9:6-7; 11:1-5)

For once a perfect governemnet will be established where truth and justice will reign.

Isaiah 9:6-7

> For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. [7] Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.

"Peace" = Shalom - a full peace - <u>spiritual</u> peace (for a sin-sick soul) and <u>social</u> peace (man to man).

Outside of Christ there is no peace with <u>self</u> (Is. 26:2 - "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee."

Outside of Christ there is no peace with <u>others</u> ("h is our peace" - Eph. 2:14).

Outside of Christ there is no peace with <u>God</u> (Man only has "peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ" - Rom. 5:8 - cp. Is. 53:5).

Jesus offers peace <u>from</u> God (Rom. 1:7); peace <u>with</u> God (Rom. 5:1); and the peace <u>of</u> God (Phil. 4:7).

There is no lasting peace between governments until the "Prince of peace" returns.

Until Jesus returns and the government is set on His shoulders, wars and fighting will continue.

We say with Isaiah "Lord, <u>thou</u> wilt ordain peace for us" (Is. 26:12).

**V. 7**

Christ's government and its peace will <u>expand</u>, not end.

The millennial kingdom will flow right into the eternal state, and never end.

Hymn - "Like a river glorious is God's perfect peace . . . perfect yet it floweth fuller every day, perfect yet it groweth deeper all the way."

Luke 2:14 - "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

*The Kingdom will be a time of...*

**7. A peaceful coexistence between animals and people *(the curse is removed)*** (Isaiah 11:6-9)

**11:6**

--Wolves don't live with lambs – they eat them.

--Leopards don't lie down next to baby boats – they eat them.

--Lions do not co-mingle with baby cows – they eat them.

But one day carnivorous animals will be herbivores.

When was the last time you heard of a child walking his pet lion?

**11:8**
**"The suckling (nursing) child" –** There will be children born to the mortals who missed the Rapture and entered the Kingdom alive (Note: longevity of life will be one characteristic of the Millennium - Zech. 8:4)

**"Asp" =** cobra snake

**"Cockatrice" =** venomous viper

*The Kingdom will be a time of...*

**8. A universal knowledge of Jesus as Jehovah God and a re-gathering around Him** (Isaiah 11:9b-12)

**11:9**
**"The earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord" -** All who enter the Millennium will know Jesus as Jehovah God.

**11:10**
Christ came from the line of David (Jesse was David's father).

**"Ensign" -** A rallying point; a banner or standard to which even the Gentiles who live in the Kingdom will gather.

**11:11**
**"The second time to recover" –** The first time was after the Babylonian captivity under Zerubbabel in 537 BC. The second time will be after the Great Tribulation and Day of the Lord.

Compare Rev. 20:1-10.

*The Kingdom will be a time of...*

**9. Rest and safety as Lucifer (Satan) is bound up in Hell** (Isaiah 14:7-15)

Revelation 20:1-3

The **A**millennialist - Augustine said the "abyss" is not a literal location or place, but rather refers to the deep wicked hearts of unbelievers. He said that the binding and shutting up of Satan in the abyss "means his being more unable to seduce the Church." Augustine was convinced that this binding of Satan in the abyss is a reality during this present church Age. (Augustine, *The City of God*, Book XX, chpt.7, p.722 & chpt.8, p.723)

*If Satan is bound today as some claim:*

--Why do we need armor to defend ourselves against him? (Eph. 6:10ff)
--Why are we told to resist the devil? (Jms. 4:7)
--Why are we told to be aware of his tempting power? (I Cor. 7:5)
--Why should we be aware of his devices? (II Cor. 2:11)
--How did he fill Ananias and Saphira's heart to lie to the Holy Ghost? (Acts 5:3)
--How did he hinder Paul? (I Th. 2:18)
--How does he have such control that he can send "messengers" to buffet God's people? (EX: Paul - II Cor.11:7)
--How will he give the Antichrist his seat and his authority? (Rev. 13:2; II Th. 2:9-10)

Today, Satan is busy blinding men's eyes to the truth (II Cor. 4:4). He is busy opposing God's people (Rev. 2:10).

Satan has not been chained yet! Rather, he is "alive and well on planet earth" today.

I Pet. 5:8 - *"Be sober, be vigilant, because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion walketh about, seeking whom he may devour"*

*"If Satan is bound today, it must be with a terribly long chain!"* (Dr. James M. Gray)

Before the Kingdom begins, Satan will be bound

(SEE Is. 14:7-17).

**V. 1**

***"An Angel"*** - possibly God will give "Michael the Archangel" the honors (the deserved privilege) to bind Satan, especially since it has been Michael warring against him previously (Rev. 12:7; Jude 9; Dan. 12:1)

***"The key"*** - a key is no doubt given to the angel by Jesus Christ (Rev. 1:18).

***"The bottomless pit"*** - this is a reference to hell (a "prison house" of torment for the unbelieving dead and fallen angels - cp. II Peter 2:4).

--This pit is the abode of demons (Lk. 8:31; Rev. 9:1ff)
--This pit emits smoke (indicating a place of burning) (Rev. 9:2)
--This pit is that which the Antichrist will descend into when he is killed and ascend out of when resurrected (Rev. 11:7).

The "bottomless pit" stands in sharp contrast to the "Lake of fire." (19:20; 20:10).

***"A great chain"*** = not a physical chain, since Satan is a spirit-being; Satan will be literally bound up by this powerful chain.

God does not want us to miss the identification of the one to be bound, so He calls him:

1. ***"The dragon"*** - indicating the fierce nature of Satan (Rev. 12:3ff)

2. ***"That old serpent"*** the crafty nature of Satan (Gen. 3)

3. ***"the Devil"*** - the accusing character of Satan ("dia bolos" = to place in between" . . . he is one who divides the brethren)

4. ***"Satan"*** - the opposing character of Satan (He is the adversary (or enemy) of God and Christ, as well as the believer.

Satan, like an apprehended criminal, will be:

1) ***"laid hold"*** of (grabbed and taken into custody)
2) ***"bound"*** (hand cuffed)
3) ***"cast"*** (hurled into prison)
4) ***"shut him up"*** (locked up)
5) ***"set a seal"*** (securely restricted)
6) ***"loosed"*** (freed temporarily before final sentencing)

**V. 3**

***"A seal"*** - indicative of security. Satan will be securely bound for 1,000 years.
*"The purpose of sealing the entrance to a prison was to prevent any attempt at escape or rescue to pass unobserved"* (Reinecker, citing Swete, p. 857).

***"That he should deceive the nations no more"*** - Satan will be bound and sealed with the result that he will NOT deceive (lead astray) the nations any more until the 1,000 years are ended.

***"And after that he must be loosed"*** = Why a must? Answer: to fulfill prophecy. The destruction of Gog and Magog according to Ezek. 38-39 will be fulfilled as God has said.

*The Kingdom will be a time of...*

**10. Righteousness and Justice** (Isaiah 32:1-3; 17-18)

**32:1**
God's people will rule and reign with Christ for 1,000 years (Rev. 20:4, 6).

*The Kingdom will be a time of...*

**11. Renovation for the Earth and Restoration of Health**
(Isaiah 35:1-8; Compare Is.40:1-5; 9-11; Isaiah 55:10-13)

Isaiah 55:10-13
God's word will achieve what it promised! Therefore God can be trusted and His word believed. Man's "way" is a promise but seldom a fulfillment. God's "way" is a promise with definite fulfillment.

God closes the section (v.6-10) in the same way that He ended the previous one (v.1-4). He again points to the future Kingdom to demonstrate His faithfulness. Just a God exemplified the faithfulness of His lovingkindness by calling attention to the Kingdom (when nations would run to Israel's call; v.5), He now exemplifies the faithfulness of His word by again calling attention to the future Kingdom (when mountains will sing to Israel and trees will applaud God's redeemed; v.12).

In verses 12-13 God gives a last reason why His word can be believed, that is, believed to be productive. One day the redeemed Israel will go out in Joy (as opposed to sorrow), and will be led (passive) by the Messiah their leader (Is.52:12; Micah 2:12,13) in peace (as opposed to trouble)(cp.Is.54:10).

The mountains and hills will ecstatically burst (break or shatter) in front of their faces with a song (cp. Is.52:9,42:13; Lk.19:40) and all the trees will clap (applaud with joyfulness - cp. Ps.98:8) with their hand for God's redeemed. This is the exact opposite action from the present description found in Romans 8:22, which says: "The whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain."

In God's Kingdom the curse of the fall (Gen.3:17-19) will be reversed, as evident by a transformation even of the desert. A cypress ("fir tree") will grow instead of the thornbush and a myrtle instead of a brier. "Thus the noble trees take the place of useless and offensive plants, and (it is likely)...the verb "will come up" hints at rapid growth"[1] This transformation will serve as a name (cp. Is.63:12,14; Jer.33:9). "It will be a name...in that it will ever call to mind and exalt the Name of it's Author."[2]

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1 [?]Young, p.385.

2 [?]Young, p.386.

This transformation will also serve as an everlasting sign or memorial (Cp.Is. 56:5) to the greatness of God. Emblems of the curse of sin will be replaced by symbols of the power and grace of God. This magnificent change (depicted by the trees) will stand as a memorial forever. "The language may have royal overtones. Human kings and conquerors erect memorials to testify of their mighty deeds. The king of kings also has a memorial, the redemption of creation. The inscriptions of human kings are often destroyed, or their letters become blurred like the inscription at the mouth of the Dog River in Syria. No later king, however, will ever undo the deeds of Israel's king, nor will any later conqueror ever erase His words."[3]

"This sign will serve as a perpetual commemoration of the Lord's glory in consummating His plan (His thoughts & ways; v.8-9) and in keeping His word (v.10-11)."[4] It (the transformation of the trees) will be a memorial that will never be cut down or rooted out!

Even the Dead Sea shall be rejuvenated (Ezek. 47:10)

*The Kingdom will be a time of...*

**12. The appearance of the brilliant Light of Christ's glorious radiance**
(Isaiah 60:1-3; 19-20)

*The Kingdom will be a time of...*

**13. Justice, Restoration, Peace, Joy & Universal Worship of YAHWEH!**
(Isaiah 60:21-22; 62:1-5; 65:17-25; 66:22-24)

62:4 – "Hephzibah" – "My Delight is in her" (God's delight in Zion)
"Beulah" – Married (Zion will be married to her people)

66:24 – A very intriguing way to end the book; Somehow, as people travel to and fro from worshipping Yahweh, there will be a transparent window into the abyss of the condemned. (These could be those who rebelled at the end of the Millennium, or also include the damned of all ages).

**The believer's response to the kingdom: Reverential Service and Respect**
"Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear" (Hebrews 12:28)

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3 [?]Young, p.386.

4 [?]Unger, p.1306.