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"Thy Kingdom Come, Thy Will Be Done"



By Steven J. Hogan

~ A Saturday Morning Post #130 ~

Life can be hard, very hard, sometimes seemingly impossible. There can be personal struggles, family conflicts, work difficulties, church problems, physical ailments, and even great persecution. What can encourage you and help keep you going is knowing and experiencing the love of God. In this post, my primary focus is how God will show you His love in the future, what we call hope. I've talked a lot about this hope, because far too many Christians don't know much about it. Hope for your life is essential. It's like flour for a cake, for if you don't have flour, you are not going to have a cake. And if you don't have hope, your Christian life will be flat, without the purpose, direction, drive and energy God wants you to have. Today I want to look at a major part of this hope, the millennial kingdom. What does God want you to know about it?

* **The millennial kingdom will last exactly one thousand years**, a fact which Revelation 20 repeats six times. Compared to the length of your present life on earth, this next age will last a very, very long time. To illustrate – if you live to the age of 80, your life during the millennial kingdom will be 12.5 times longer than your present life on earth. Or think about it this way – 80 years is only 8% of 1000 years. Revelation 20:1-7

* **Jesus Christ will reign as King over the earth during the millennial kingdom.** When you think about many of the bad leaders in today's world, this is extremely good news, for we will soon have a perfect Ruler, one who is holy, powerful, loving and sovereign over all things and all people. Yes, Christ is King now, but He's behind the scenes. But then, He will be King in a visible, personal, direct, and most glorious way. Zechariah 14:9, Psalm 2:7-9

* **Satan, that most evil devil, will be gone from the earth**, locked up for the entire 1000 years, which means he will have absolutely no influence on this earth. He won't be prowling around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. He won't tempt anyone to sin. He won't have his forces of darkness on earth, and therefore, won't be able to unleash his demons with all their sinful schemes and false teaching. Revelation 20:1-3

* **All believers from this present age will possess brand new bodies**, like that of Jesus Christ, Himself. These will be powerful bodies, immortal bodies, glorified bodies, and spiritual bodies. Completely free from sin and all manners of corruption, these perfect and magnificent bodies will enable you to be and do all that God wants. 1 Corinthians 15:40-42, Philippians 3:20-21

* **All glorified believers will be perfectly worshiping Jesus Christ.** Can you imagine being able to always love God with all your heart, mind, soul and strength? Think what it will be like to worship the Lord,

to sing to Him and give Him all the honor, praise and glory that He deserves. Think about being part of a heavenly choir that is perfectly and harmoniously singing praises to our Lord, Savior and King. *"Sing praises to our King, sing praises. For God is the King of all the earth."* Psalm 47:6-7, Revelation 5:13

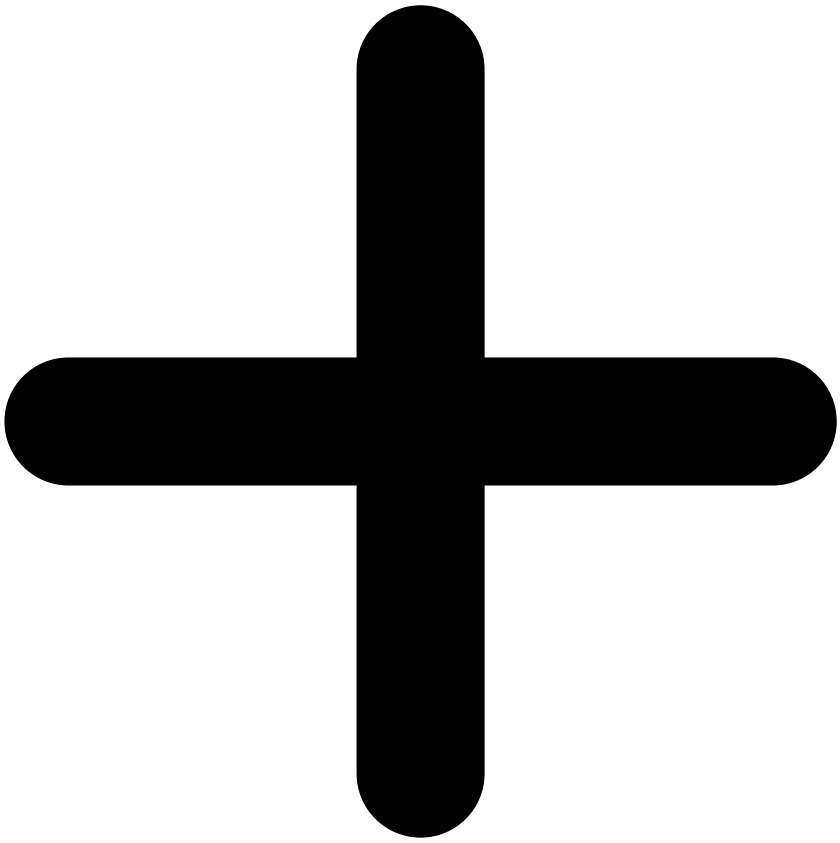
*** All glorified believers will be perfectly serving Jesus Christ.** You will be able to serve Christ during this kingdom age in much greater and more productive ways than you are doing now. *"You were faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many things"* (Matthew 25:21) *"You will be in authority over ten cities"* (Luke 19:17). *"He who keeps my deeds to the end, to Him will I give authority over the nations"* (Revelation 2:26). I am really looking forward to this time when we will, effortlessly and wholeheartedly, be working for Christ, fulfilling His purposes, and bringing Him glory. Ephesians 2:7-10

*** This kingdom age will be a good age.** Now we live in an evil age, which is the way it has been since Satan tempted Adam and Eve to sin. During this entire age, *"the whole world lies in the power of the evil one"* (1 John 5:19). But once Jesus Christ begins ruling, it will be a good age, for Satan will be gone, and the work, holiness, goodness and glory of Christ will be profoundly seen, dramatically affecting the whole world. Not only that, but you, I, and a great number of glorified believers will be assisting Christ, reigning with Him, serving Him, and fulfilling His purposes. Galatians 1:4, Revelation 5:10

*** There's this present age, the coming millennial kingdom age, and then the eternal kingdom age.** Do you see that we are getting close to the end of this age, and will soon be living during the millennial kingdom age? Be encouraged and very thankful that God *"has raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ, so that in the ages to come He might show the surpassing riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus"* (Ephesians 2:6-7). Let's pray: *"Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven... For Thine*

is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen." Matthew 6:10, 13

P.S. This post is for everyone, for we all need godly hope. But in particular, I am thinking of those who are hurting, who are ill, who have chronic ailments, who need present grace, but also, need the hope of future grace. Might we live for the Lord today, but be looking ahead to the glorious future that He has for all who believe in Him. There is more on this next week.



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