

The Hebrew Scriptures Display a Consistent Last-Days Pattern

Return

Judgment

Utopia

- In every Old Testament passage, the return of the Jews to the Promised Land is shown as a last-days event.
- In every Old Testament passage, the “day of Jacob’s trouble” is a day of God’s wrath upon the sinful Jewish nation.
- In every Old Testament passage, that day of wrath is immediately followed by utopian days in which the Messiah reigns supremely in their midst.
- A few examples;
 - Amos 9:9-13
 - Jeremiah 30:4-11
- The Jewish people call the coming utopia the *Messianic Age*.

The Characteristics of the Millennium

- The physical reign of Christ on earth is the most distinguishing fact of the Millennium.
 - Amos 9:11
 - Isaiah 16:5
 - Zechariah 2:10
- The Millennium will be a time in which Satan is not on the prowl.
 - Revelation 20:2-3
 - There will be no spiritual blindness or deception
 - It will be a day of walking by *sight*, not *faith* (because “faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things unseen” -Heb 11:1).
- The Millennium will be a time in which there is no war.
 - Isaiah 2:4

- The history of man outside the garden is the history of war, by necessity.
- Every peace initiative has failed, and will continue to fail.
- The millennium will be a time of economic prosperity, including a total lack of scarcity.
 - Every economic theory today depends on the presence of *scarcity*: there is not enough for everyone.
 - In the millennium, there is always plenty for everyone, in part because the *curse on the earth* (Genesis 3:17-19) will be removed.
 - The removal of the curse will cause the earth to pour forth provisions.
 - Isaiah 35:1-2
 - Isaiah 30:23-24
 - Amos 9:13
- The millennium will be a time of perfect harmony in the created order, including the animal kingdom.
 - Beginning with Genesis 9:2, the animal kingdom had a *fear* and *terror* of mankind.
 - In the millennium, this age-old fear will be removed – Isaiah 11:6-9.
- The millennium will be the end of physical weakness.
 - Disease: Isaiah 33:24
 - Disability: Isaiah 29:18, 35:5-6
 - Early death: Isaiah 65:20

There is no better word for the millennium than *utopia*.

- Ezekiel 34:23-31
- What mankind has tried to do for 6,000 years, Jesus will do in a day!
- How will this take place?
 - Zechariah 4:6 – *not by might*
 - Isaiah 9:7 – *the zeal of the Lord of hosts shall accomplish this*
- Until that time, we pray, “*thy Kingdom come!*”