

Trinity Reformed Church of Northwest Connecticut

Biblical, Traditional, Congregational

Lord's Day Worship for
November 10, 2024

*"Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors
through him that loved us." – Romans 8:37 (KJV)*



trinityreformedct.org

“*” = Please stand if you are able.

Welcome, Greeting & Announcements

Call to Worship – Hebrews 2:9-15

Leader: *But we do see Him who was made for a little while lower than the angels,*

People: **Namely, Jesus,**

Leader: *Because of the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor,
so that by the grace of God*

People: **He might taste death for everyone.**

Leader: *For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things,*

People: **And through whom are all things,**

Leader: *In bringing many sons to glory,*

People: **To perfect the author of their salvation through sufferings.**

Leader: *For both He who sanctifies and those who are sanctified are all from one Father;*

People: **For which reason He is not ashamed to call them brethren,**

Leader: *Saying, “I will proclaim Your name to My brethren,*

People: **In the midst of the congregation I will sing Your praise.”**

Leader: *And again, “I will put My trust in Him.” And again,*

People: **“Behold, I and the children whom God has given Me.”**

Leader: *Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood,*

People: **He Himself likewise also partook of the same,**

Leader: *That through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death,*

People: **That is, the devil,**

Leader: *And might free those who through fear of death*

People: **Were subject to slavery all their lives.**

Prayer of Invocation and Confession

Gospel Absolution Text – Ephesians 1:18-20

***Hymn #281** (red hymnal) – “I Know That My Redeemer Lives – Glory Hallelujah!”

Scripture Reading – Luke 10:17-24; Colossians 2:6-15

Ancient Creedal Reading – Apostles Creed (pg#845 in the red hymnal)

Offerings Presented

[Please put your tithe/offering in the plates before or after the service – Thank you!]
[Gifts labeled “Deacon’s Fund go to aid those in need in the congregation.]

*Doxology #731 (red hymnal)

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

*Prayer of Dedication

*Sung Psalm #98B (red hymnal) – “To the Lord O Sing a New Song”

Prayers of the Church & Lord’s Prayer (sins)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Reformation Creedal Reading – Westminster Larger Catechism, #53.

Leader: How was Christ exalted in His ascension?

People: In that having after His resurrection

*Leader: Often appeared unto and conversed with His apostles,
speaking to them of the things pertaining*

People: To the kingdom of God,

Acts 1:2-3

Leader: And giving them commission to preach the gospel

People: To all nations,

Matt 28:19-20

*Leader: Forty days after His resurrection, He, in our nature,
and as our Head,*

Heb 6:20

People: Triumphant over enemies,

Eph 4:8

Leader: Visibly went up into the highest heavens,

Acts 1:9-11

People: There to receive gifts for men,

Eph 4:10; Ps 68:18

Leader: To raise up our affections thither,

Col 3:1-2

People: And to prepare a place for us,

John 14:3

Leader: Where He Himself is, and shall continue

People: Till His second coming at the end of the world.

Acts 3:21

Ministry of the Word

Prayer of Illumination

***Sermon Text** – Revelation 20:1-6

***Gloria Patri #735** (red hymnal)

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning,
is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.*

Sermon – “Amillennialism”

(A Sermon Series on Revelation 4-7)

***Hymn #439 (red hymnal)** – “Christ Shall Have Dominion”

***Benediction** – Numbers 6:24-26

All are welcome for Fellowship & Food downstairs after Worship

Upcoming Special Events

- The **Annual Meeting** will be held after church on November 17th.
 - There will be **no Coffee Hour** that Sunday.
 - The **Annual Report is available** on the greeting table.
- TRC is doing **Operation Christmas Child** this year. If you are interested, please bring items for the shoe-boxes by November 24th, including: toys, toiletries, school supplies, clothing, etc., and if possible, a \$10 donation to cover shipping. OCC is a mission by the Christian nonprofit Samaritan's Purse which gives out shoe-boxes as gifts to unreached, underprivileged children throughout the world. Through these gifts, children and partake in The Greatest Journey, a 12 week course about the gospel of Jesus. If you have any questions, please contact Mason Goodell at 860-806-6437 or goodellmas@gmail.com.
- The 2nd Annual Calvinist **Christmas Party** will be at the Grange on Friday, Dec 6th starting at 6:30 PM. It is a pot-luck, so if you could bring a dish it would be helpful.

Regular Weekly Events

<i>Sunday</i>	9:00 – c.10:00 AM	Sunday School Children's curriculum: KVB Publications Women's Study: Baucham's <u>Expository Apologetics</u> Adult Study: Westminster Larger Catechism
	10:30 – c.11:40 AM c.11:40 AM	Worship (Lord's Supper on the 1 st Sunday of the month) Coffee Hour Fellowship
<i>Tuesday</i>	10:30 AM – Noon	Tuesday Study (Evangelism in Acts) at Pastor Doug's house
<i>Wednesday</i>	6:30 – 8:00 PM	Wednesday Study (on Exodus) at Pastor Doug's house
<i>Friday</i>	6:30 - ??? PM	Young Adult Discussion Group at Pastor Doug's house (1 st & 3 rd Fridays)
<i>Saturday</i>	morning	Prayer Group at the Gabelmann's. (Please call Sheryl to confirm if the group is meeting that day, 860-309-7250.)

ONLINE RESOURCES

TRC's Webpage:	TrinityReformedCT.org
TRC's Facebook Page:	facebook.com/people/Trinity-Reformed-Church/61554974150922/
TRC's Youtube Channel:	youtube.com/@TrinityReformedCT
Pastor Doug's	youtube.com/simplyreformed
Youtube Channels:	youtube.com/@PilgrimsOfPlunder

INTERNET PRAYER CHAIN

If you have any prayer requests for our prayer chain, please email them to Donna Ensminger at: trcnwprayer@gmail.com. (If you would like to join the Prayer Chain, also see Donna.)

LEADERSHIP

Elders:	Rev. Douglas Aldrich, pastor	860-379-1147	douglas_aldrich@sbcglobal.net
	Bob Ensminger	860-485-8738	robert.ensminger@arthurgrussell.com
	Rich Gabelmann	860-605-7852	rgabelmann0415@gmail.com
	Rev. Jonathan Haulenbeek	203-709-0784	jhaulenbeek@icloud.com
Deacons:	David Mattson (chair), Carl Bierce, Caleb Goodell, Mason Goodell, Dean Winters		
Sunday School:	Verna Aldrich, Mason Goodell	Music Coordinator:	Cindy Rines
Clerk:	Sheryl Gabelmann	Treasurer:	Cindy Rines

Trinity Reformed Church of Northwest Connecticut
Worship Starts At: 10:30 AM (9:30 AM in the summer)
Sunday Worship At: Winchester Grange (100 Newfield Rd; Winchester Center, CT 06098)
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 343; Riverton, CT 06065 – Phone: (860) 238-7399
Webpage: trinityreformedct.org – Email: trinityreformedct@gmail.com

Sermon Notes

Revelation 20:1-6
“Amillennialism”
A Sermon Series on Revelation 4-7
November 10, 2024

Introduction

- 1) The theme of Revelation, arguably, is that we (the church) are “*More Than Conquerors*” Rom 8:37 even during times of great persecution.
- 2) We are now going into Revelation, chapter 6 – the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse.
- 3) This is where the debate on how to interpret Revelation really ramps up.
 - a) Everyone agrees Revelation 4-5 is about God enthroned and worshiped in heaven and that only Christ can execute God’s plan by opening the sealed scroll.
 - b) When the events described in the scrolls occur, and what they mean, however, there is much debate.
 - i) Is the First Rider on the white horse Christ or the antichrist?
 - ii) Do the seals mostly focus on the:
 - Past, about the destruction of the Temple in 70 AD?
 - Future, about the Great Tribulation?
 - Or, mostly about this current present age?
- 4) In order to preach through Revelation, the preacher has to take an interpretative stance.¹
 - a) I have been arguing for an “**Idealist**” reading of Revelation.
 - i) That the events/images of Revelation usually represent the “ideal” of a thing, not a particular event or person.
 - ii) For example, I believe the second horseman, on the red horse in Rev 6:1-2, represents war which will continue throughout this age, and where the church will face persecution, as the Lord Jesus taught, until Christ’s return at the end of age.

Matt 10:34; 24:6;
John 15:20; 16:33;
Rom 8:35; 1Cor 4:12;
2 Cor 4:9; 2Tim 3:12;
James 1:2-4; 1Pet 2:19-25
 - iii) So, an Idealist would believe the First Horseman, on a white horse, represents Christ and His Gospel going out throughout this age.

¹ The four major schools of interpretation of Revelation are:

Preterist = Revelation is about the past and especially the destruction of the Temple in 70 AD by the Romans.

Historicist = Revelation is a chronological timeline from Christ’s 1st Advent (birth) to His 2nd Advent (return at the end).

Futurist = Revelation is mostly about the future end of the age.

Idealist* = Revelation is mostly about the current church age. (This is Pastor Doug’s approach.)

Pastor Doug’s favorite commentary on Revelation is: More Than Conquerors: An Interpretation of the Book of Revelation by William Hendriksen (Baker, 1940). For a good overview of the major interpretative schools see: Revelation Four Views: A Parallel Commentary edited by Steve Gregg (Thomas Nelson, 1997).

- b) This means I believe Revelation is a collection of seven different visions that describe the unfolding of history, from this present age until the end of the age. With each vision repeating the timeline.²
- 5) So, in this section about the Four Horsemen, I believe the 1st Rider is the Lord Jesus going out to spiritually conquer, and the next three horsemen represent war, famine and, death which will lead to martyrs during this age, which is the millennium.
- a) You might be now saying, “What?! You think we are in the millennium right now?!”
 - i) Or maybe some of you are saying, “What is a millennium?”
 - ii) Both are great questions!
 - b) This requires me to explain that almost all **Idealists** are also **Amillennialists**.

Amillennialism?

- 1) “Millennialism” is about the meaning of the “1,000” year reign of Christ in Revelation 20:2-7. (From the Latin word “*mille*” meaning “thousand”.)
- 2) Amillennialists believe that we are in the millennium right now.
 - a) That we have perfect peace with God through Christ right now.
 - b) Even though the church will face persecution for this.
 - c) The “millennium” is not a literal 1,000 years but represents a long period of time between Christ’s two advents.
 - i) **1st Advent:** Two thousand years ago where the Lord Jesus took on human flesh (Christmas), died for our sins (Good Friday), rose again from the dead (Easter), ascended into heaven (Ascension) and sent His Spirit to be with us in a special way (Pentecost).
 - ii) **2nd Advent:** Christ’s return in power and glory in the future at the end of this age.
- 3) Amillennialists believe this age will see good and evil continually go back and forth.
 - a) Instead of history always getting better (as the post-millennialists believe).
 - b) Or that history is just getting worse (as many pre-millennialists believe).
 - c) Though most amillennialists do believe in the Great Tribulation where it will get really bad right before Christ’s return at the end of this age.
- 4) Amillennialists tend to focus on Christ’s 1st Advent and the implications of the cross and His heavenly reign right now, instead of focusing on His 2nd Advent (which they do believe in).
- 5) Amillennialism is one of the most ancient ways to understand the end times going back to the earliest beginnings of the church³ and has been one of the major ways to understand the end times, especially since its great defender: Augustine of Hippo (354-430 AD).
- 6) Let me show you an amillennial reading of the famous millennium text of Revelation 20:1-6, which I think is the simple plain reading of the text. (Though one can disagree.)

² Below is how Hendriksen divides the various visions in Revelation:

	<u>Vision 1</u>	<u>Vision 2</u>	<u>Vision 3</u>	<u>Vision 4</u>	<u>Vision 5</u>	<u>Vision 6</u>	<u>Vision 7</u>
<i>Present Church Age:</i>	1:1-3:22	4:1-6:11	8:1-12	12:1-13:18	15:1-16:12	17:1-18:24	20:1-6
<i>Tribulation - End of this Age:</i>	---	6:12-7:8	8:13-11:14	14:1-13	16:12-16	---	---
<i>Perfect Final Age to Come:</i>	---	7:9-17	11:15-19	14:14-20	16:17-21	19:1-21	20:7-22:21

³ For an interesting, though technical, read about this see: *Regnum Caelorum: Patterns of Millennial Thought in Early Christianity* by Charles E. Hill (Eerdmans, 2001).

7) For (most) amillennialists, Revelation 20:1ff covers three time periods:

- a) *Revelation 20:1-3* = In the **past** about Christ's 1st Advent.
- b) *Revelation 20:4-6* = This **present** age about Christ's church.
- c) *Revelation 20:7ff* – to the end of the book = The **future** about the end of this age and the eternal perfect age to come.

Revelation 20:1-3 – In the Past

1) John sees an “angel coming down from heaven, holding the key of the abyss and a great chain in his hand.” – Rev 20:1b

- a) The angel takes hold of the dragon, which Revelation directly tells us is “*the devil and Satan* (the name of the devil that means ‘the adversary/accuser’) Gen 3:1; 1Chr 21:1; Is 27:1; Zech 3:1-2; Job 1:6-12; 2:1-7; 3:8; 41:1; Rom 16:20; 2Cor 11:3,14; Rev 2:9; 12:9; 20:2,7
- b) The devil is thrown into the abyss⁴, which is shut and sealed, thus binding Satan “*for a thousand years.*” – Rev 20:2b

2) *Critical Question*: How long is a “**thousand years**”, the millennium, in Revelation?

- a) As Protestants, we correctly default to the “literal”, or to use a better term “plain” reading of Scripture over an “allegorical” approach.
- b) We are desiring to know the original meaning of the author as read in context.
- c) However, you read apocalyptic literature (such as Daniel, Ezekiel and Revelation) which use symbolic and figurative language, especially with regards to numbers, as symbolic and figurative.⁵
- d) The literal way to read “1000” in Revelation 20 is that it is a symbolic number that means a long period of time.

- i) Throughout the Bible “1000” is used to represent a generically large number. Ex 20:6; Deut 7:9; Josh 23:10; Ps 50:10; 90:4; 91:7; Ps Ecc 6:6; Ezek 47:3ff; Hos 8:12; 1Cor 14:19; 2Pet 3:8; Rev 7:4-8; Rev 12:6; 14:1,3
- ii) As the Lord said to the rebellious northern kingdom of Israel/Ephraim: “*Though I wrote for him ten thousand precepts of My law, They are regarded as a strange thing.*” – Hosea 8:12

3) *Next Critical Question*: When is the 1,000 years / millennium?

- a) The 1000 years is the time between Christ's 1st advent and His 2nd. These “last days” began with the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost. Acts 2:16-17; Heb 1:2; 1Pet 1:20
- b) We see this language in 2Peter 3:3,7-9.

- 3 *Know this first of all, that in the last days (starting 2,000 years ago with the 1st Advent) mockers will come with their mocking, following after their own lusts (evil will continue throughout this age),*

⁴ “Abyss”, or the “bottomless pit”, in the general sense it is the “deep” where the primordial waters come from. (Gen 1:2; 7:11; 8:2; Ps 33:7; 148:7; Ezek 26:19; Jon 2:5). Here in Revelation, it is more in the spiritual sense, a place of darkness and death. (Luke 8:31; Rom 10:7; Rev 9:1-2,11; 11:7; 17:8; 20:1,3).

⁵ For example: Do we think that Old Testament of Israel, from which the Messiah will come, is literally a woman clothed with the sun? (Rev 12:1) Or that, there are seven Holy Spirits or One? (Rev 3:1; 4:5; 5:6). Or that, the Lord Jesus is literally a Lamb with seven horns and seven eyes, or that He literally has a sword for a tongue? (Rev 1:16; 2:16; 5:6) Of course not.

Think of the modern term “millionaire” which can mean “a very rich person” though many middle-class people this day and age have a million dollars worth of wealth and very rich people are actually billionaires.

- 7 *But by His word the present heavens and earth are being reserved for fire, kept for the day of judgment (end of the age) and destruction of ungodly men.*
- 8 *But do not let this one fact escape your notice, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years like one day (thousand being symbolic for a long time).*
- 9 *The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you (the receivers of the Letter of 2Peter two thousand years ago), *not wishing for any (all Christians throughout this age) to perish but for all (all the saints throughout the age) to come to repentance* (which is only possible because Christ has come).*
- c) So, we are in the millennium now, thus the name “amillennialism”, “in-the millennium.”
- d) What’s starts and ends the millennium? Answer: Christ!
- 4) *You might say:* Pastor this doesn’t feel like a time of perfect peace with Satan defeated?
- a) The Bible does clearly teach that Satan is very much active in this age and demonic activity will increase during the Great Tribulation, as taught in Revelation.⁶
- b) This is the teaching of the 4 Horsemen, that as Christ and His Gospel go forth, the works of darkness will increase too.
- c) The imagery of the devil being bound in Revelation 20 is one of limitation, like a chained mad dog. It is dangerous but limited,
- 5) There is no doubt, however, that is great victory with Christ’s first advent!
- a) In a general sense God has always restricted the fallen angels. Job 1:12; 2Pet 2:4; Jude 6
- b) Jesus has power over the devil. Matt 4:1-11; Luke 4:1-13; 10:18ff
- c) Jesus gave power to His disciples to cast out demons showing that the Kingdom has come. Matt 12:28-29; Mark 3:24-27
Luke 10:17-20; 11:20-22
- d) The New Testament clearly teaches that with Christ’s 1st Advent the devil is defeated, restrained and bound. Dan 7:13-14; Luke 10:17-20; John 12:31-33; Rom 8:37-39; 14:9; 16:20; Eph 1:20-22; Phil 2:9-11; Col 2:10-15; 2Thes 2:6-12; Heb 2:14; 1Pet 3:22; Rev 12:5-17
- 6) To give an example: Hebrews 2:14-15 – *“Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same (Christmas - 1st Advent), that through death (Good Friday - 1st Advent) He might render (an aorist active subjunctive verb – meaning a completed action in the past that has ongoing implications) powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, and might free those who through fear of death were subject to slavery all their lives.”*
- 7) Revelation 20 directly tells us the outcome of this binding!
- a) Revelation 20:3a– *“and he threw him into the abyss, and shut it and sealed it over him, so that he would not deceive the nations any longer . . .”*
- b) Before Christ’s 1st Advent how many nations received God’s Word?
Answer: One – Old Testament Israel.
- c) After Christ’s 1st Advent how many nations receive the Gospel?
i) Answer: All of them.

⁶ Matt 13:24-30,36-43; 16:23; Luke 4:13; 22:3; Acts 5:3; 10:38; 26:18; 1Cor 5:5; 7:5; 2Cor 2:11; 4:3-4; 11:14; 12:7; Eph 2:2; 4:27; 6:11,16; 1Thes 2:18; 2Thes 2:9; 1Tim 1:20; 3:5,7; 5:15; 2Tim 2:26; James 4:7; 1Pet 5:8-9; 1John 3:8,10; Rev 12:5-17; 17:8.

- ii) Matthew 28:18b-20 – *“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth (this starts with His 1st Advent!). Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”*
 - iii) Question: Did the Lord Jesus fail at this promise?
 - iv) No! We of all nations who live thousands of miles away from Jerusalem are a testimony about this! Gal 3:8
 - v) The millennium will end when the Gospel is preached to all the nations and all those God has ordained to be His. Matt 24:14; Mark 13:10
2Pet 3:8-9
 - d) Satan has been bound, he can no longer deceive the nations thus the Gospel is going forth conquering sinners of all nations, just as the Bible teaches. Ps 2:7,8; 72:8-11,17
Matt 11:27; 28:16-20; Luke 24:47
Acts 1:8; 14:16-21; 2Cor 4:3-6
- 8) It is true, at the end of this age, during the Great Tribulation, Satan will be released for a short period of time.
- a) As Revelation 20:3b teaches - *“... until the thousand years were completed; after these things he must be released for a short time.”*
 - b) The following verses, however, focus on the blessings we saints have right now, throughout the millennium.

Revelation 20:4-6 – In the Present

- 1) John sees thrones in heaven and sitting on them are the saints who have died in this age and are now in glory in heaven (i.e. the church triumphant) reigning with Christ, worshiping God and awaiting the final resurrection at the end of the age. Matt 19:28; Luke 22:29; Rom 5:17;
Rom 8:17; 1Cor 6:2-3; 15:25;
2Tim 2:11-13; 4:8; Rev 1:6;
3:21-22; 4:2-11; 5:10; 6:9-11
 - a) Judgment has been given the them.
 - b) Because the world will be judged by the saints. Dan 7:22; 1Cor 6:2
- 2) Revelation then puts a special focus on those who have been martyred for the faith.
 - a) Remember, Revelation’s original audience was the tiny persecuted new church.
 - b) All the saints are included - those who have true abiding faith and have not follow after the prince of this world (Satan, the beast).
 - c) Revelation 20:4a – *“Then I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was given to them. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded (the martyred) because of their testimony of Jesus and because of the word of God, and those (those who remained faithful – all true Christians) who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received the mark on their forehead and on their hand . . .”*
- 3) You are probably asking: Rev 13:16-17; 14:9-11; 16:2; 19:20
What is the “mark of the beast”?
 - a) The mark is not a visible outward sign, but those who reject God and belong to the devil. Matt 13:38; John 8:38-44;
Acts 13:10
 - b) Acts 13:9-10 – *“But Saul, who was also known as Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, fixed his gaze on him (Elymas the magician), and said, ‘You who are full of all deceit and fraud, you son of the devil, you enemy of all righteousness, will you not cease to make crooked the straight ways of the Lord?’”*

- c) To have the “mark of the beast” is to be spiritually dead, a child of Satan, and an enemy of God. Eph 2:1-3
- d) Satan’s image is all the things of this world and the flesh. Gal 5:19-21
- e) By the way, there is no middle neutral group: You are either in Christ or in darkness.
- 4) What happens to the faithful who die in Christ?
- a) Revelation 20:4b – *“and they came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.”*
- b) So, for the Christian who dies in this life goes to heaven and will reign with Christ until the end of this age.
- c) This is not the resurrection at the end of the age. Rev 20:7ff
- d) This is going to heaven spiritually, to be with the Lord, upon our death.
- e) Where we will be with God, and worship Him with the saints and the angels, as we reign on thrones.
- 5) What about those who are not in Christ?
- a) Revelation 20:5 – *“The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were completed. This is the first resurrection.”*
- b) The first resurrection is when we are made alive in Christ. John 5:24; 11:25; Rom 6:4-5,13
Eph 2:5-6; Col 2:13; 3:1; Rev 14:13
- c) The wicked do not have this new life, though everyone (the elect and the reprobate) will receive a new body at the end of the age when everyone is resurrected and stands before God for judgment.
- d) We see this in the next verse: Revelation 20:6a – *“Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection (put in Christ because of His resurrection); over these the second death (i.e. going to hell) has no power . . .”*
- e) The second death when the wicked are cast into hell forever after everyone is resurrected and judged by God at the end of the age. Dan 12:2; Matt 25:46;
Though Christians in this age will taste death (unless Christ returns) John 5:29; Acts 24:15;
the threat of the second death (going to hell) has no power. 1Thes 1:10;
Rev 2:11; 20:14; 21:8
- 6) What is heaven like right now?
- a) Revelation 20:6 – *“but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years.”*
- b) Note again: God (the Father) and Christ are different yet there is only one God!
- c) All Christians are priests and we will offer perfect sacrifices to God in heaven and reign with Christ until the end of the age!

Conclusion

- 1) You doubt we are in the millennium now?
(And/or have a different take on the millennium – That is okay!)
- 2) However, let me ask you:
Has not Christ already triumphed over death?
Is not His death perfect and sufficient to cover all sins?
Is not Christ, right now, reigning and ruling in heaven?
Interceding with the Father for His followers.
Sending His Spirit to guide and protect His people?

And right, now putting His enemies under His feet?
Do you not have perfect peace with God right now?
Does not Christ's sacrifice on the cross rightfully atone for all your sins?
Are you not fully justified, adopted and declared holy right now because of Christ?
Do you not receive all these blessings, right now, by faith alone?

- 3) We have victory with Christ right now! Dan 7:13-14; John 12:31-33; Rom 8:37-39;14:9; Eph 1:20-22; Phil 2:9-11; Col 2:10-15; 2Thes 2:6-12; Heb 2:14; 1Pet 3:22; Rev 12:5-17
- 4) *"What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him over for us all, how will He not also with Him freely give us all things? Who will bring a charge against God's elect? God is the one who justifies; who is the one who condemns? Christ Jesus is He who died, yes, rather who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? Just as it is written, 'For Your sake we are being put to death all day long; We were considered as sheep to be slaughtered.' Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him that loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." – Romans 8:31-39*