"The New Heaven and the New Earth: **Comparing the Millennium and the Eternal Kingdom"**Isaiah 65:17-25

"The Fall of Genesis 3 brought death and a curse that impacts mankind and all creation. In Christ, God is pursuing the restoration of people and nature." (cf. Acts 3:21; Colossians 1:20; Matthew 19:28)

• Thrones:

- One of the ways that The Millennial Kingdom and the Eternal Kingdom are distinguished is by their thrones.
 - Millennial: The throne of David is established in Jerusalem (Jeremiah 17:25). The Messiah will sit on that throne (Psalm 132:11-12). This throne is referenced in Luke 1:32-33; Matthew 25:31-32a; Matthew 19:28; 1 Corinthians 15:24 and is distinct from the Father's throne (Revelation 3:21).
 - Eternal: It is a shared throne as we see in Revelation 22:3. In the Millennial Kingdom Jesus rules with a rod of iron over nations and the earth (Revelation 19:15); nations can be punished (Zechariah 14:17-18); and sin and death can occur (Isaiah 65:20). But in the Eternal kingdom all those things pass away (Revelation 21:3-4) and the nations maintain harmony (Revelation 22:2). Also, during this time the nations will bring cultural contributions into the New Jerusalem (Revelation 21:24; 26).

• Isaiah 65:17-25

- "For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth": The Millennial Reign of Christ is the beginning of the "new heavens and new earth." It is the beginning of the "making of all things new" (Revelation 21:5).
- "For behold, I create Jerusalem to be a joy, and her people to be a gladness": Christ will reign from Jerusalem and the Nation of Israel will be a blessing to all the nations of the earth (Jeremiah 33:8-9,14-16)
 - The Abrahamic, Davidic, and New Covenants have all their physical, spiritual, national, and international significance fulfilled.
- "No more shall there be in it an infant who lives a few days....": The effects of the curse on pregnancy will be reversed (Genesis 3:16).
- "No more shall there be in it...an old man who does not fill out his days.": The effects of sickness and disease will be greatly diminished because of the reign of Christ (Isaiah 35:5-6).
- "Neither shall they learn war anymore" (Isaiah 2:4): During the Millennial Reign of Christ there will be peace internationally.
 - Christ will be worshiped and served by the nations (Psalm 2:7-12).
- "My chosen shall enjoy the work of their hands": The effects sin had on work will be reversed as well (Genesis 3:17-19).
 - There will be agricultural prosperity during the Millenial Reign of Christ (Psalm 72:16; Joel 2:24; Zechariah 8:12).
- "They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit": The
 way of life will be very similar during the Millennium as it is now, except the effects of sin will less
 and less (Matthew 19:28-30).
- "The wolf and the lamb shall graze together": The animal kingdom will drastically be affected by the reign of Christ. There will be no more violence in the animal kingdom (Isaiah 11:6-9; Hosea 2:18)

Announcements:

- ★ DONATIONS: Throughout the month of July we are collecting monetary donations for the Lamb family, who live and serve in Papua New Guinea, working to translate the Bible into the many languages of that country. There is a container on the back table for your monetary donations, or you can give on Venmo, please make sure to note that it is for the Lambs.
- ★<u>CEDAR POINT:</u> Christina is organizing a group trip to Cedar Point on August 17th. Group Admission tickets are \$48 each (minimum of 15 people). Please contact Christina if you would like to go or you have any questions! Christina's phone number is 740-755-6512.
- ★ MEMBERS MEETING: We are having a Members Meeting THIS Sunday, July 21st, immediately following the worship service. This will be a quick meeting to vote on the By-Law Additions. If you are currently a church member, please plan on staying for this meeting.
- ★BAPTISMS: Our next Baptism service will be on Sunday, July 28th. If you are interested in or have any questions about baptism, please see Pastor Jeremey or one of the other Elders.
- ★<u>CHURCH NIGHT OF PRAYER:</u> Our monthly Church Night of Prayer will be on Sunday, July 28th, from 5:30-7pm. If you would like to participate in this, we have a sign-up list on the table in the entryway. We have that hour and a half broken up into 15 minute increments, you are welcome to sign up for as many time slots as you would like to. During this prayer time we will be praying for specific prayer requests within the church body.