

The Land of Israel during the Kingdom Age

Introduction

One topic that Scripture mentions a *great deal* is the subject of: **life in the next age**. In essence, many passages in the Bible tell us that believers will live again, after Jesus returns. Not only that, but Scripture also tells us where believers will live, in the next age. Consider the following passages, which speak about that very subject:

Psalm 37:29 (ESV):

²⁹ The righteous shall inherit the land and dwell upon it forever.

Psalm 115:16 (NET):

¹⁶ The heavens belong to the LORD, but the earth he has given to mankind.

Isaiah 65:9 (NAB):

⁹From Jacob I will save offspring, from Judah, those who are to inherit my mountains; My chosen ones shall inherit the land, my servants shall dwell there.

Isaiah 11:9 (ESV):

⁹ They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

Jeremiah 23:5 (ESV):

⁵ "Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land.

Zechariah 9:10 (ESV):

"The warriors bow shall be banished, and he shall proclaim peace to the nations. His dominion shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth."

Matthew 5:5 (ESV):

⁵ Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

Revelation 5:10 (NASB):

¹⁰ "You have made them *to be* a kingdom and priests to our God; and they will reign upon the earth."

Revelation 11:15 (ESV):

¹⁵ Then the seventh angel blew his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, “The kingdom of the world has **become** the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever.”

Of course, the above list is only a *small subset* of the many Scriptural passages that speak about the “ultimate fate” of believers. Scripture is quite clear about that subject – it states that believers will live forever, **on the earth!** In essence, when Jesus returns, he will establish the Kingdom of God, on the earth – and then resurrected believers will live forever, on the earth, with Jesus.

Israel in the Kingdom

As mentioned above, Scripture tells us that believers will live on the **earth**, during the next age. Of course, that raises *another*, “follow-up” question: During the Kingdom age, will there be any significance to the land of **Israel**, and to the city of **Jerusalem**? In other words, will anything “important” happen in Israel and Jerusalem, after Jesus returns to establish the Kingdom on the earth?

Given the **enormous** amount of passages in Scripture which talk about events in Israel, it certainly appears that Israel will be quite significant in the Kingdom. Basically, even a cursory examination of Scripture indicates that Israel and Jerusalem are *still* important parts of God’s overall plans – and that there are *still* important events that will take place there.

Some churches dispute that belief, however. Basically, some churches assert that Israel and Jerusalem have **no significance whatsoever** any longer. That is, those groups assert that Israel and Jerusalem have *nothing to do* with God’s plans any more. Those churches use the following passage, in order to try to substantiate that doctrine. That passage recounts a conversation between Jesus and a Samaritan woman:

John 4:19-24 (ESV):

¹⁹ The woman said to him, “Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet. ²⁰ Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you say that in Jerusalem is the place where people ought to worship.” ²¹ Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. ²² You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³ But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. ²⁴ God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.”

Of course, it is very unwise to base **any** doctrine on a single passage in Scripture. In other words, in order to ensure that a doctrine is Biblically sound, the doctrine in question needs to be supported by the whole of Scripture – not just by one passage.

So, let’s examine Scripture, to see if there are any prophecies which discuss the **future** of Israel – in order to determine if there is any significance to Israel and Jerusalem any longer. The following four sections contain a small sample, of the *many* prophecies that discuss that very subject.

Examples in Jeremiah

Jeremiah 16:14-15,19-21 (ESV):

¹⁴ “Therefore, behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when it shall no longer be said, ‘As the Lord lives who brought up the people of Israel out of the land of Egypt,’ ¹⁵ but ‘As the Lord lives who brought up the people of Israel out of the north country and out of all the countries where he had driven them.’ For I will bring them back to their own land that I gave to their fathers.

¹⁹ O Lord, my strength and my stronghold,
my refuge in the day of trouble,
to you shall the nations come
from the ends of the earth and say:
“Our fathers have inherited nothing but lies,
worthless things in which there is no profit.

²⁰ Can man make for himself gods?
Such are not gods!”

²¹ “Therefore, behold, I will make them know, this once I will make them know my power and my might, and they shall know that my name is the Lord.”

Jeremiah 30:1-3,8-10 (ESV):

¹ The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord: ² “Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: Write in a book all the words that I have spoken to you. ³ For behold, days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will restore the fortunes of my people, Israel and Judah, says the Lord, and I will bring them back to the land that I gave to their fathers, and they shall take possession of it.”

⁸ “And it shall come to pass in that day, declares the Lord of hosts, that I will break his yoke from off your neck, and I will burst your bonds, and foreigners shall no more make a servant of him.

⁹ But they shall serve the Lord their God and David their king, whom I will raise up for them.

¹⁰ “Then fear not, O Jacob my servant, declares the Lord, nor be dismayed, O Israel; for behold, I will save you from far away, and your offspring from the land of their captivity. Jacob shall return and have quiet and ease, and none shall make him afraid.

Examples in Isaiah

Isaiah 2:1-4 (ESV):

¹ The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

² It shall come to pass in the latter days
that the mountain of the house of the Lord
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be lifted up above the hills;
and all the nations shall flow to it,

³ and many peoples shall come, and say:
“Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,

to the house of the God of Jacob,
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths.”
For out of Zion shall go the law,
and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.
⁴ He shall judge between the nations,
and shall decide disputes for many peoples;
and they shall beat their swords into plowshares,
and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war anymore.

Isaiah 56:6-8 (ESV):

⁶ “And the foreigners who join themselves to the Lord,
to minister to him, to love the name of the Lord,
and to be his servants,
everyone who keeps the Sabbath and does not profane it,
and holds fast my covenant—
⁷ these I will bring to my holy mountain,
and make them joyful in my house of prayer;
their burnt offerings and their sacrifices
will be accepted on my altar;
for my house shall be called a house of prayer
for all peoples.”
⁸ The Lord God,
who gathers the outcasts of Israel, declares,
“I will gather yet others to him
besides those already gathered.”

Examples in Ezekiel

Ezekiel 36:6-11 (ESV):

⁶ Therefore prophesy concerning the land of Israel, and say to the mountains and hills, to the ravines and valleys, Thus says the Lord God: Behold, I have spoken in my jealous wrath, because you have suffered the reproach of the nations. ⁷ Therefore thus says the Lord God: I swear that the nations that are all around you shall themselves suffer reproach.

⁸ “But you, O mountains of Israel, shall shoot forth your branches and yield your fruit to my people Israel, for they will soon come home. ⁹ For behold, I am for you, and I will turn to you, and you shall be tilled and sown. ¹⁰ And I will multiply people on you, the whole house of Israel, all of it. The cities shall be inhabited and the waste places rebuilt. ¹¹ And I will multiply on you man and beast, and they shall multiply and be fruitful. And I will cause you to be inhabited as in your former times, and will do more good to you than ever before. Then you will know that I am the Lord.

Ezekiel 37:1-6,11-14 (ESV):

¹ The hand of the Lord was upon me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. ² And he led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. ³ And he said to me, “Son of man, can these bones live?” And I answered, “O Lord God, you know.”
⁴ Then he said to me, “Prophesy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word

of the Lord. ⁵ Thus says the Lord God to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶ And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the Lord.”

¹¹ Then he said to me, “Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are indeed cut off.’ ¹² Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. ¹³ And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴ And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the Lord; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the Lord.”

Ezekiel 37:21-28 (ESV):

²¹ Thus says the Lord God: Behold, I will take the people of Israel from the nations among which they have gone, and will gather them from all around, and bring them to their own land. ²² And I will make them one nation in the land, on the mountains of Israel. And one king shall be king over them all, and they shall be no longer two nations, and no longer divided into two kingdoms. ²³ They shall not defile themselves anymore with their idols and their detestable things, or with any of their transgressions. But I will save them from all the backslidings in which they have sinned, and will cleanse them; and they shall be my people, and I will be their God.

²⁴ “My servant David shall be king over them, and they shall all have one shepherd. They shall walk in my rules and be careful to obey my statutes. ²⁵ They shall dwell in the land that I gave to my servant Jacob, where your fathers lived. They and their children and their children’s children shall dwell there forever, and David my servant shall be their prince forever. ²⁶ I will make a covenant of peace with them. It shall be an everlasting covenant with them. And I will set them in their land and multiply them, and will set my sanctuary in their midst forevermore. ²⁷ My dwelling place shall be with them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ²⁸ Then the nations will know that I am the Lord who sanctifies Israel, when my sanctuary is in their midst forevermore.”

Examples in Zechariah

Zechariah 8:1-8 (ESV):

¹ And the word of the Lord of hosts came, saying, ² “Thus says the Lord of hosts: I am jealous for Zion with great jealousy, and I am jealous for her with great wrath. ³ Thus says the Lord: I have returned to Zion and will dwell in the midst of Jerusalem, and Jerusalem shall be called the faithful city, and the mountain of the Lord of hosts, the holy mountain. ⁴ Thus says the Lord of hosts: Old men and old women shall again sit in the streets of Jerusalem, each with staff in hand because of great age. ⁵ And the streets of the city shall be full of boys and girls playing in its streets. ⁶ Thus says the Lord of hosts: If it is marvelous in the sight of the remnant of this people in those days, should it also be marvelous in my sight, declares the Lord of hosts? ⁷ Thus says the Lord of hosts: Behold, I will save my people from the east country and from the west country, ⁸ and I will bring them to dwell in the midst of Jerusalem. And they shall be my people, and I will be their God, in faithfulness and in righteousness.”

Zechariah 8:20-23 (ESV):

²⁰ “Thus says the Lord of hosts: Peoples shall yet come, even the inhabitants of many cities. ²¹ The inhabitants of one city shall go to another, saying, ‘Let us go at once to entreat the favor of

the Lord and to seek the Lord of hosts; I myself am going.’²² Many peoples and strong nations shall come to seek the Lord of hosts in Jerusalem and to entreat the favor of the Lord.²³ Thus says the Lord of hosts: In those days ten men from the nations of every tongue shall take hold of the robe of a Jew, saying, ‘Let us go with you, for we have heard that God is with you.’”

Zechariah 14:16-19 (ESV):

¹⁶ Then everyone who survives of all the nations that have come against Jerusalem shall go up year after year to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, and to keep the Feast of Booths.¹⁷ And if any of the families of the earth do not go up to Jerusalem to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, there will be no rain on them.¹⁸ And if the family of Egypt does not go up and present themselves, then on them there shall be no rain; there shall be the plague with which the Lord afflicts the nations that do not go up to keep the Feast of Booths.¹⁹ This shall be the punishment to Egypt and the punishment to all the nations that do not go up to keep the Feast of Booths.

Common Objections

The prophecies listed above provide *quite a bit* of evidence that Israel and Jerusalem are still very much a part of God’s plans – and that important events will occur there, during the Kingdom age. However, some groups try to “explain away” those prophecies – i.e., those groups claim that the above prophecies actually do **not** refer to events in Israel during the Kingdom.

Basically, there are two different “types” of objections that some churches raise, about the prophecies listed above. The sections below describe those two types of objections.

The “Literal vs. Figurative” Objection

Some groups claim that in the prophecies listed above, Israel and Jerusalem are just “figurative” terms – rather than the *literal* Israel and Jerusalem. In other words, those groups assert that the above prophecies are not speaking about the *actual* land of Israel, and the *actual* city of Jerusalem, that exist on the earth. Instead, those groups claim that the prophecies are referring to a “spiritual” Israel and Jerusalem, in *heaven*.

So, let’s examine some excerpts from the above prophecies, in order to determine if they are referring to a “spiritual” Israel in heaven; or if they are referring to the literal land of Israel on the earth – i.e., the land that God promised to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob:

Jeremiah 30:3 (ESV):

³ For behold, days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will restore the fortunes of my people, Israel and Judah, says the Lord, and I will bring them back to the land that I gave to their fathers, and they shall take possession of it.”

Zechariah 8:4 (ESV):

⁴ Thus says the Lord of hosts: Old men and old women shall **again** sit in the streets of Jerusalem, each with staff in hand because of great age.

Ezekiel 37:25 (ESV):

²⁵ They shall dwell in the land that I gave to my servant Jacob, where your fathers lived.

Plainly, those prophecies are speaking about the literal Israel and Jerusalem, on the earth – the very **same** land of Israel that God promised to the patriarchs!

The “Already been Fulfilled” Objection

There is one *other* common objection to the above prophecies as well. In essence, some groups claim that those prophecies have already been fulfilled.

Basically, those groups recognize that the prophecies refer to **literal** Israel – but they assert that all of those prophecies were already accomplished, *thousands* of years ago. As a result, those groups believe **no other** prophetic events will ever occur in the land of Israel – because they believe that **all** of those events have *already* come to pass.

So, let’s take a look at some excerpts from the above prophecies – in order to determine if all of the prophesied events have *already* come to pass or not:

Isaiah 2:4 (ESV):

⁴ He shall judge between the nations,
and shall decide disputes for many peoples;
and they shall beat their swords into plowshares,
and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war anymore.

Jeremiah 16:10 (ESV):

¹⁰ “Then fear not, O Jacob my servant, declares the Lord,
nor be dismayed, O Israel;
for behold, I will save you from far away,
and your offspring from the land of their captivity.
Jacob shall return and have quiet and ease,
and none shall make him afraid.

Zechariah 14:16-17 (ESV):

¹⁶ Then everyone who survives of all the nations that have come against Jerusalem shall go up year after year to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, and to keep the Feast of Booths. ¹⁷ And if any of the families of the earth do not go up to Jerusalem to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, there will be no rain on them.

Ezekiel 37:12 (ESV):

¹² Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel.

From the excerpts above, we see that the following events were prophesied:

- The passage in Isaiah states that “nations will not learn war any more” – in other words, that there will not be any wars between nations, ever again. Has that prophesy already been fulfilled? No, of course not – wars between nations are still **continuing** to this day.

- The passage in Jeremiah states that “Jacob will have quiet and ease, and none shall make him afraid” – that is, that there will not be any violence directed against the nation of Israel any longer. Has that prophesy already been fulfilled? No, of course not – kidnappings, rocket attacks, suicide bombings, etc. **continue** to be executed against Israel even now.

- The passage in Zechariah states that all of the nations that attacked Jerusalem will have to go up to Jerusalem every year, to keep the Feast of Booths – or else their nations will not receive any rain. Has that prophesy already been fulfilled? No, of course not – there has never been **any** time in which defeated enemies of Israel needed to keep the Feast of Booths, in order to receive rain. In fact, there has never been *any* case in history, in which any gentile nation was required to keep any of the festivals listed in the Torah (let alone the Feast of Booths).

- The passage in Ezekiel states that God will **resurrect** dead Israelites from their graves; and then He will bring them into the land of Israel. Has that prophesy already been fulfilled? No, of course not – **all** of the Israelites who have died – other than Jesus – are still dead and in their graves today. In fact, in Acts 2:29, the apostle Peter mentioned that a very *famous* Israelite – King David – is **still** dead and in his tomb.

From the above information, it is clear that the above prophesies have not been fulfilled yet. As a result, those prophesies **will** be fulfilled, in the future – *and* all of those prophesies deal with Israel and Jerusalem!

What about John 4:19-24?

As demonstrated by numerous prophesies, Israel and Jerusalem are still very much a part of God’s plans. That is, there are very important events that will occur in Israel – even *after* Jesus returns.

So, how does John 4:19-24 “fit in” with all of the rest of the information listed in this article? Does that **one** passage “disagree” with the *numerous* clear prophesies in Scripture, about the future of Israel and Jerusalem?

Here are the two specific verses from that passage, which some churches “key in” on:

John 4:21,23 (ESV):

²¹ Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father.

²³ But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him.

Those verses tell us the following:

- Verse 21 states that at **some** point in the future, people will *not* worship God on Mount Gerizim, or in Jerusalem.

- Verse 23 states that right now, true worshipers will worship God in spirit and truth.

From those two verses, some churches come to the conclusion that there is no longer any significance to Israel and Jerusalem. So, is that conclusion warranted? In other words, is that a *logical* conclusion, given what those verses say?

First of all, both of the above verses **only** speak about worship. That is, those verses do **not** have *anything* to say, about *any other* event. With that in mind, take a look at some of the events that are prophesied about Israel and Jerusalem, in the passages listed in this article:

- God will raise the Israelites from the dead;
- God will bring the Israelites back to the Promised Land;
- God will defeat the nations that are attacking Jerusalem;
- God will allow the Israelites to live in peace and security;
- God will cause the land of Israel to produce abundant food.

Of course, the events listed above do not have *anything to do* with **worship**! As mentioned, John 4:19-24 only speaks about worship – and therefore, that passage is not relevant to any of the prophesied events above.

As a result, it is completely unwarranted to conclude that Israel has *no significance at all* any longer, based on John 4:19-24 – because the above events are significant; and John 4:19-24 does not have *any relevance* to the above events.

In other words, Israel and Jerusalem plainly are still “significant” – as shown by the above prophesied events – and John 4:19-24 does not address any of those events at all. So, that passage definitely does *not* “disagree” with any of the above prophesied events.

Now let’s move on to the issue of worship, itself. In verse 21, Jesus tells us that at **some** point in the future, people will not worship in Jerusalem. Then, in verse 23, he states that right now, true worshipers will worship in spirit and truth. Some churches look at those two verses, and then make the following assertion:

“In John 4:19-24, Jesus said that from **that moment forward**, Jerusalem would never be the designated place for worship, ever again.”

In other words, those groups claim that starting from the time that Jesus spoke those words, Jerusalem would *never again* be used for worship.

However, that is **not** what Jesus actually stated. As listed, in verse 21, Jesus stated that at some point in the future, people would not worship in Jerusalem – he did not say that that time was *already* here. In fact, we know that Jerusalem was **still** used for worship, **after** Jesus stated verse 21 – because Jesus *himself* still worshiped in Jerusalem, after that time.

The item that Jesus said is already here is the fact that true worshipers will worship in “spirit and truth”. Of course, that is a *different* item than whether people worship in Jerusalem or not. In other words, it is possible to worship God in spirit and truth, while one is **in** Jerusalem! To put it another way, those two items are **not** “mutually exclusive”.

The reason why this is important is because there are many prophecies about the Kingdom Age, in which God *requires* people to worship Him in Jerusalem! For example, as shown in Zechariah 14:16-17, above, God will **require** nations to worship Him in Jerusalem, during the Feast of Booths.

Even more importantly, Ezekiel chapters 40-48 explicitly state that the temple will be *rebuilt* in Jerusalem! The temple described in those chapters has not been built yet; its dimensions, and many of its internal features, are significantly *different* than those of the previous two temples. So, that temple will certainly be built in the future. Not only that, but those chapters also state that people will **worship God** in the rebuilt temple. So, worship will still continue in Jerusalem, into the future.

Finally, take a look at this prophecy, about who, exactly, will rebuild the temple:

Zechariah 6:12-13 (ESV):

¹²And say to him, ‘Thus says the Lord of hosts, “Behold, the man whose name is the Branch: for he shall branch out from his place, and he shall build the temple of the Lord. ¹³It is he who shall build the temple of the Lord and shall bear royal honor, and shall sit and rule on his throne. And there shall be a priest on his throne, and the counsel of peace shall be between them both.”’

The above passage tells us that the man referred to as “the Branch” will build the new temple, in the future. So, who is this man known as “the Branch”? He is the *descendant* of David, who will reign as king in Israel, with righteousness:

Jeremiah 23:5-6 (ESV):

⁵“Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely. And this is the name by which he will be called: ‘The Lord is our righteousness.’”

The man who will build the new temple is none other than Jesus!

So, we can see that worship of God will take place in Jerusalem for some time, even *after* Jesus returns to the earth. This is especially true because Jesus, himself, will evidently oversee the construction of the new temple, which will be built in Israel.

There is one other item to note about this overall issue. As we know, Jesus will *personally* rule over the entire earth, for 1000 years – the period of time called the “millennium”. After the millennium, God Himself will also be with us; and we will then live with God and Jesus for eternity. The reason why this is important is because a number of events are prophesied to happen, *after* the millennium is over. In particular, consider the following passage, which describes events after the millennium:

Revelation 21:1-4,22-25 (ESV):

¹Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ²And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of

heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. ⁴ He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”

²² And I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb.

²³ And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb. ²⁴ By its light will the nations walk, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it, ²⁵ and its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there.

Evidently, the new Jerusalem – which will be present **after** the millennium – does not have a *physical* temple in it. As a result, it *appears* that “formalized” temple worship will not take place, *after* the millennium is over. So, this may be what Jesus was referring to, in John 4:21. In other words, when Jesus stated that “a time is coming when you will not worship in Jerusalem”, he may have been referring to the new Jerusalem, which appears **after** the millennium – because evidently there will not be a physical temple in that city.

In any case, Scripture is explicitly clear that there will be a temple in Jerusalem, during the millennium – and that Jerusalem **will** be the designated place for worship during the millennium. So, worship will still be conducted in Jerusalem, for *many years* into the future.

Conclusion

There is an *enormous* number of prophecies in Scripture, which attest to the fact that Israel and Jerusalem are *central parts* of God’s overall plans for the Kingdom. That is, quite a few prophesied events will occur in Israel, during the unfolding of the Kingdom of God on the earth.

Some groups claim that there is no significance to Israel *at all* any longer. Those groups base that belief on one passage – John 4:19-24. In that passage, Jesus states that at some point in the future, people will not worship God in Jerusalem. However, that passage only speaks about worship – not about any of the *other* important prophesied events. Also, even for worship, Jesus stated that in the future people will not worship in Jerusalem – he does **not** say that that is *already* the case! In fact, Scripture explicitly states that during the millennium, people will be **required** to worship God *in Jerusalem*!

It may be that *after* the millennium is over, there will not be any “formalized” temple worship in the new Jerusalem. However, we can certainly be assured that in these end times – and during the millennium – we will see a great many significant prophesied events come to pass, within the land of **Israel** and the city of **Jerusalem**!