

Why Christians have a fervent desire for the promised future

Part 4

NKJV (John 3:16) 16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

In the previous article we talked about the persecution of the Christians, the new heaven and the new earth and why it is logical that the great multitude will be included in heaven.

Every (living) eye will see the sign of Jesus in heaven;

NKJV (Revelation 1: 7) 7 Behold, He is coming with clouds, and every eye will see Him, even they who pierced Him. And all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of Him.

John writes that *those* who pierced Him will see Him, those are the descendants of the royal house of David, the Jewish community:

NKJV (Zechariah 12:10) 10 "And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him.....

Although a Roman soldier has pierced Jesus (John 19:34), it is written in Acts 2:23 and 5:30 that the religious Jewish leaders were responsible for Jesus death. During Jesus' second coming, the Jewish community will also witness the sign, while they have not discerned the coming of the Messiah and the signs in His days. (Matt. 16: 3)

The theme of this article is the millennial kingdom, the New Jerusalem that will descend and the new temple that will be built.

- **1 The judgment and the millennial kingdom**

Summary of the second coming and judgment:

The sign of the Son of man appears, the second coming:

Matt. 24:30, Luke 21:27, Rev. 1: 7 Sign of the Son of man in the clouds.

After blowing the 7th trumpet, the deceased saints together with the still living saints (the first fruits) are included in heaven:

Rev. 14: 4 These are purchased from the people, as first fruits for God and the Lamb.

Matt. 24:31 Jesus begins by bringing together the chosen saints or first fruits.

1 Cor. 15: 51-52 There are still living saints on earth during the last or 7th trumpet.

1 Thess. 4: 16-17 First the deceased saints will arise, then together they will meet the Lord.

The saints have already been judged in their days before the second coming:

1 Peter 4:17 For now is the time that judgment begins at the house of God.

2 Cor. 1:22, Eph. 1:13, Eph. 4:30, Rev. 7: 3-8 The sealing of the saints.

After the pouring out of the 6th bowl the battle starts at Armageddon. After pouring out the 7th bowl, 'It is done!' and the books will be opened:

Rev. 16: 12,15-17 The sixth angel poured out his bowl, the battle at Armageddon will be waged to save Jesus' disciples, who must remain vigilant because Jesus comes as a thief.

There is one day determined by God - the last day - in which the judgment 'in one time' is appointed and in which the books are opened:

Acts 17:31 God has appointed a day when Jesus will judge the world.

Rev. 20:11 I saw a great white throne with Jesus on it, the books were opened.
 Jesus will be Judge and carry out the judgment:
 John 5:22 The Father gave all the judgment to the Son.
 John 5:30 I can do nothing of Myself, My judgment is righteous.
 Acts 10:42 Who is appointed by God to be a Judge of living and dead.
 1 Peter 4: 5 They will give account to Jesus Who judges the living and the dead.
 Godless then still 'living' people will be destroyed:
 John 3:18, 12:48 He who does not believe in the only begotten Son of God is already condemned.
 2 Peter 2: 9 The unrighteous will be punished.
 2 Peter 3: 7 The perdition of ungodly men.
 Rev. 11:18, 20:15, 21: 8 Wicked ones disappear into the lake of fire and brimstone.
 The "deceased" in Christ will hear the voice of Jesus and be raised with a spiritual body and together with the living great multitude they will all be included alive into heaven:
 John 5:24 He who hears my word and believes, that one does not come into condemnation.
 John 5:25 The time is coming and now is that the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear him will live.
 John 6:40 Anyone who sees the Son and believes in Him, Jesus will raise up on the last day.
 John 11:25 He who believes in Me will live even though he died.
 Rev. 7:14 The great crowd washed their sins in the blood of the Lamb.

NKJV (John 5:25, 28-29) 25 Most assuredly, I say to you, the hour is coming, and now is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God; and those who hear will live..... 28 Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice 29 and come forth--those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation.

The righteous;

During the Day of Judgment, the dead in Christ (Gal. 3: 26-28) will hear the voice of the Son (Who will sound joyful) and receive a resurrection with a spiritual body. (1 Cor. 15:44)

The unrighteous;

Not only the righteous, but 'all' in the graves will hear the voice of the Son on that day of judgment. - John 5:28 'where all who are in the graves will hear His voice' -

The resurrection of life (the 'spiritual' resurrection for all those who are in Christ) is something completely different than the resurrection of condemnation.

At the resurrection of condemnation no living resurrection will be given with a 'spiritual body', at that resurrection only the judgment will be communicated.

These spirits in Hades will be temporarily awakened and will - after a good judgment - continue to 'sleep':

(sleeping of the spirits of the dead:

5. New Jerusalem; part 2 <http://www.dojc.nl/?p=3330&lang=en>)

NKJV (Matthew 25: 31-32) 31 "When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. 32 All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats.

NKJV (Matthew 25: 45-46) 45 Then He will answer them, saying, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.' 46 And

these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life." (see also Acts 24:15)

Rev. 20: 6 The saints have part in the first resurrection, the second death has no power over them. No resurrection is possible from the second death.

Rev. 7: 14-15 The great multitude are in Christ and partake of a spiritual resurrection in heaven and serve in the heavenly temple, the heavenly New Jerusalem.

Rev. 20: 5 The 'rest of the dead', the judged unrighteous with a second chance, will receive a physical resurrection after 1000 years on the new earth, they may only enter 'under conditions' the New Jerusalem, which in the meantime has descended to the earth.

The dead, those who have not heard about the Christ, will be judged to their works:

Rev. 20:12 And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God. And the books were opened as well as the book of life. And the dead were judged according to what was written in the books, according to their works.

Matt. 25:32 Before Jesus, all the nations will be gathered together, and He will separate them as a shepherd who separates the sheep from the goats.

But with the dead who have rejected the Christ it will not go well:

2 Thess. 1: 8-10 They will undergo eternal destruction as punishment.

Psalms 37: 9 The evildoers will be cut off.

The upper layer of the earth will now be replaced by a new earth, a new creation.

Only after 1000 years, the 'remaining dead' will receive a (physical) resurrection on the new earth as a new opportunity to get to know and worship YHWH:

Rev. 20: 5 But the rest of the dead did not live again until the thousand years were finished....

How the judgment is executed exactly in detail, that is to Jesus. We can, however, be sure that it will be carried out in justice. (John 5:30)

Revelation confirms that this righteous judgment is possible through the seven Spirits of God, who have been sent out into all the earth:

NKJV (Revelation 5: 6) 6 And I looked, and behold, in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as though it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent out into all the earth.

The locking up of Satan and his angels;

After the rapture of the disciples in heaven, the enemy of God (Satan) will be locked up in the abyss (Rev. 20: 1-3), the wicked seed of Satan (Matthew 13: 36-43) will be destroyed and then the final peace will come for God's people:

NKJV (Romans 16:20) 20 And the God of peace will crush Satan under your feet shortly...

NKJV (Revelation 20: 1-3) 1 Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. 2 He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years; 3 and he cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal on him....

NKJV (Acts 2: 34-35) 34 For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he says himself: 'The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at My right hand, 35 Till I make Your enemies Your footstool."' (see also Psalms 110: 1)

The millennial empire;

In this 1000-year reign, Jesus will be Lord of the Sabbath:

NKJV (Matthew 12: 8) 8 For the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath.

The Jewish Sabbath was a shadow of a new Sabbath with Jesus as Lord:

NKJV (Colossians 2: 16-17) 16 So let no one judge you in food or in drink, or regarding a festival or a new moon or sabbaths, 17 which are a shadow of things to come...

It is the future Sabbath rest for God's people that Hebrews speaks of:

NKJV (Hebrews 4: 4-5,8-10) 4 For He has spoken in a certain place of the seventh day in this way: "And God rested on the seventh day from all His works"; 5 and again in this place: "They shall not enter My rest."... 8 For if Joshua had given them rest, then He would not afterward have spoken of another day. 9 There remains therefore a rest for the people of God. 10 For he who has entered His rest has himself also ceased from his works as God did from His.

Jesus will reign with the saints (as priests and kings) for a thousand years in this realm:

NKJV (Revelation 20: 4,6) 4 And I saw thrones, and they sat on them... And they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.... 6 Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years.

As foretold in the Old Testament, the Prince of Peace will be King in the kingdom;

***NKJV** (Psalm 132: 11-12) 11 The Lord has sworn in truth to David; He will not turn from it: "I will set upon your throne the fruit of your body. 12 If your sons will keep My covenant And My testimony which I shall teach them, Their sons also shall sit upon your throne forevermore." (see Psalms 2: 7-9)*

***NKJV** (Isaiah 9: 6-7) 6 For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. 7 Of the increase of His government and peace There will be no end, Upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, To order it and establish it with judgment and justice From that time forward, even forever.*

***NKJV** (Isaiah 11:10) 10 "And in that day there shall be a Root of Jesse, Who shall stand as a banner to the people; For the Gentiles shall seek Him... (see also Romans 15:12)*

***NKJV** (Daniel 7: 13-14) 13 "I was watching in the night visions, And behold, One like the Son of Man, Coming with the clouds of heaven! He came to the Ancient of Days, And they brought Him near before Him. 14 Then to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, That all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion, Which shall not pass away, And His kingdom the one Which shall not be destroyed. (see also Micah 5: 1)*

***NKJV** (Zechariah 9: 9) 9 "Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your King is coming to you; He is just and having salvation, Lowly and riding on a donkey, A colt, the foal of a donkey. (see also Matthew 21: 1-11 and John 12: 12-19)*

In Philippians a reference is made to this 1000-year empire:

NKJV (Philippians 2: 9-11) 9 Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, 10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, 11 and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

God (YHWH) will comfort his people:

NKJV (Isaiah 25: 8) 8 He (YHWH) will swallow up death forever, And the Lord God will wipe away tears from all faces; The rebuke of His people He will take away from all the earth; For the Lord has spoken.

NKJV (Revelation 21: 4) 4 And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away."

- **2 The New Jerusalem that descends**

In heaven, the New Jerusalem - the city of My God (Rev. 3:12) - did not need a temple:

NKJV (Revelation 21:22) 22 But I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple.

After 1000 years, the new earth will be ready for habitation after the new creation.

And then comes the big news; The heavenly New Jerusalem will descend to the new earth and then God's tent will be with the people:

NKJV (Revelation 21: 1-3) 1 Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea. 2 Then I, John, 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 heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle (or tent) of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God. (see also Rev. 21:10)

God promised in Jeremiah and Joel that a new city will come - the New Jerusalem - a city of righteousness. And this city will be called: 'YHWH is our righteousness':

*NKJV (Jeremiah 33: 14-16) 14 'Behold, the days are coming,' says the Lord, 'that I will perform that good thing which I have promised to the house of Israel and to the house of Judah: 15 'In those days and at that time I will cause to grow up to David A Branch of righteousness; He shall execute judgment and righteousness in the earth. 16 In those days Judah will be saved, And Jerusalem will dwell safely. And this is the name by which she will be called: **THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.**'*

NKJV (Joel 3: 21) 21 ... For the Lord dwells in Zion.

*NKJV (Ezekiel 48:35) 35 and the name of the city from that day shall be: **THE LORD IS THERE.**"*

In Rev. 3:12 is written that the New Jerusalem, coming down from God, will come with the tent of God among men. So the descending New Jerusalem also contains the tent or tabernacle of God:

NKJV (Revelation 3:12) 12 He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall go out no more. And I will write on him the name of My God and the name of the city of My God, the New Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God. And I will write on him My new name.

God's tabernacle or tent cannot mean anything else than God's temple, just as God's house was called in the book of Exodus chapter 25-27.

When the New Jerusalem descends from God, how will God's tent or temple be present with the people themselves?

Israel made a portable tent (or tabernacle) for God at Mount Sinai. (Ex. 25: 1-9)

In the tent stood the Ark of the Covenant. On the mercy seat of the Ark were two cherubs who covered the mercy seat with their wings. (Exodus 25:20)



On the annual Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur), blood was sprinkled on the mercy seat by the high priest for the benefit of the entire community of Israel. Between the cherubs, YHWH appeared in the cloud as a sign of presence. (see: Leviticus 16: 2, Psalms 80: 2)

However, before the New Jerusalem was 'born', this Ark of the Covenant could already be seen in the temple of God in heaven:

NKJV (Revelation 11:19) 19 Then the temple of God was opened in heaven, and the ark of His covenant was seen in His temple.....

It is absolutely not certain that the use of the Ark of the Covenant will be re-established in the tent or temple of God:

NKJV (Jeremiah 3: 15-17) 15 And I will give you shepherds according to My heart, who will feed you with knowledge and understanding. 16 Then it shall come to pass, when you are multiplied and increased in the land in those days," says the Lord, "that they will say no more, 'The ark of the covenant of the Lord.' It shall not come to mind, nor shall they remember it, nor shall they visit it, nor shall it be made anymore. 17 At that time Jerusalem shall be called The Throne of the Lord, and all the nations shall be gathered to it, to the name of the Lord, to Jerusalem. No more shall they follow the dictates of their evil hearts.

The Ark of the Covenant with the two cherubs used to be 'the throne' of YHWH on earth. In Jeremiah 3:17 it is written that Jerusalem will be called 'the throne' of YHWH. After a thousand years, the 'remaining dead' will receive a resurrection out of Hades. Those who are written in the book of life will receive life on the new earth. Adam and Eve had in paradise the tree of life at their disposal that could heal them and recover aging to eternity. (Genesis 3: 22-23) This will be exactly the same on 'the new earth', the tree of life will be available for 'faithful' people, and access to that tree is therefore subject to conditions:

NKJV (Revelation 21:27) 27 But there shall by no means enter it anything that defiles, or causes an abomination or a lie, but only those who are written in the Lamb's Book of Life. NKJV (Revelation 22: 14-15) 14 Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city. 15 But outside are dogs and sorcerers and sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and whoever loves and practices a lie. (see also Rev. 22: 1-2) NKJV (Isaiah 52: 1) 1 Awake, awake! Put on your strength, O Zion; Put on your beautiful garments, O Jerusalem, the holy city! For the uncircumcised and the unclean Shall no longer come to you.

For people who have a second chance but will fall into wickedness, those will be excluded from access to the New Jerusalem and no salvation is then possible anymore. Their end will come, it is the second death from which no resurrection is possible: (second death see also: 5. New Jerusalem; part 2 <http://www.dojc.nl/?p=3330&lang=en>)

NKJV (Revelation 21: 8) 8 But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death. "

- In the next article we will discuss these people further who will make this choice -

The promised Priest-king;
God will send a King, a descendant from the tribe of David. He is mentioned 'Sprout' in Jeremiah, a 'Branch' from Jesse (Jesse was the father of King David) as is written in Isaiah:

***HerzSt** (Jeremiah 23: 5) 5 Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, That I will raise to David a righteous Sprout; A King shall reign and prosper, And execute judgment and righteousness on the earth. (see also Zachariah 3: 8-9) KJV (Isaiah 11: 1-3) 1 And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots: 2 And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD; 3 And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the LORD: and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears:*

This 'righteous' Sprout, upon Whom the Spirit of God rests and Who will judge righteous can be none other than Jesus. Jesus is the root and the offspring in the line of David:

NKJV (Revelation 22:16) 16 "I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things in the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star."

In the above Scriptures, the word 'tsemach' stands for 'Sprout', which means shooting or sprouting, or what a new branch means to a plant or a seed. So a descendant. This Sprout (Jesus) will be King-Priest according to the order of Melchizedek. The kingdom of Melchizedek, the king-priest of Salem, with his kingdom was a prophetic image of the coming Messianic kingdom:

***NKJV** (Psalms 110: 4) 4 The Lord has sworn And will not relent, "You are a priest forever According to the order of Melchizedek."*

***NKJV** (Hebrews 7: 1-2) 1 For this Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of the Most High God, who met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings and blessed him, 2 to whom also Abraham gave a tenth part of all, first being translated "king of righteousness," and then also king of Salem, meaning "king of peace"*

The Sprout (Jesus) will also build God's new temple:

***NKJV** (Zechariah 6: 12-13) 12 Then speak to him, saying, 'Thus says the Lord of hosts, saying: "Behold, the Man whose name is the BRANCH! From His place He shall branch out, And He shall build the temple of the Lord; 13 Yes, He shall build the temple of the Lord. He shall bear the glory, And shall sit and rule on His throne; So He shall be a priest on His throne, And the counsel of peace shall be between them both." '*

***NKJV** (1 Chronicles 17: 11-13) 11 And it shall be, when your days are fulfilled, when you must go to be with your fathers, that I will set up your seed after you, who will be of your sons; and I will establish his kingdom. 12 He shall build Me a house, and I will establish his throne forever. 13 I will be his Father, and he shall be My son...*

- **3 The New Temple**

The vision of the new temple, as further described in Ezekiel chapter 40-42:

***NKJV** (Ezekiel 40: 2) 2 In the visions of God He took me into the land of Israel and set me on a very high mountain; on it toward the south was something like the structure of a city.*

The glory of God arrives in the new temple:

***NKJV** (Ezekiel 43: 1-2) 1 Afterward he brought me to the gate, the gate that faces toward the east. 2 And behold, the glory of the God of Israel came from the way of the east. His voice was like the sound of many waters; and the earth shone with His glory.*

The glory of God comes forever in the new temple, as described in Ezekiel:

***NKJV** (Ezekiel 37: 25-27) 25 Then they shall dwell in the land that I have given to Jacob My servant, where your fathers dwelt; and they shall dwell there, they, their children, and their children's children, forever; and My servant David shall be their prince forever. 26 Moreover I will make a covenant of peace with them, and it shall be an everlasting covenant with them; I will establish them and multiply them, and I will set My sanctuary in their midst forevermore. 27 My tabernacle also shall be with them; indeed I will be their God, and they shall be My people.*

***NKJV** (Ezekiel 43: 7) 7 And He said to me, "Son of man, this is the place of My throne and the place of the soles of My feet, where I will dwell in the midst of the children of Israel forever... .."*

In Ezekiel chapter 44-46 the ordinances for the new temple are described together with its service:

NKJV (Ezekiel 44: 9) 9 *Thus says the Lord God: "No foreigner, uncircumcised in heart or uncircumcised in flesh, shall enter My sanctuary, including any foreigner who is among the children of Israel.*

NKJV (Ezekiel 46: 13-15) 13 *You shall daily make a burnt offering to the Lord of a lamb of the first year without blemish; you shall prepare it every morning. 14 And you shall prepare a grain offering with it every morning, a sixth of an ephah, and a third of a hin of oil to moisten the fine flour. This grain offering is a perpetual ordinance, to be made regularly to the Lord. 15 Thus they shall prepare the lamb, the grain offering, and the oil, as a regular burnt offering every morning."*

The water of life that flows out of the temple:

NKJV (Ezekiel 47: 1,12) 1 *Then he brought me back to the door of the temple; and there was water, flowing from under the threshold of the temple toward the east, for the front of the temple faced east; the water was flowing from under the right side of the temple, south of the altar.... . 12 Along the bank of the river, on this side and that, will grow all kinds of trees used for food; their leaves will not wither, and their fruit will not fail. They will bear fruit every month, because their water flows from the sanctuary. Their fruit will be for food, and their leaves for medicine."*

NKJV (Revelation 22: 1-2) 1 *And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb. 2 In the middle of its street, and on either side of the river, was the tree of life, which bore twelve fruits, each tree yielding its fruit every month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.*

NKJV (Joel 3: 17-18) 17 *"So you shall know that I am the Lord your God, Dwelling in Zion My holy mountain. Then Jerusalem shall be holy, And no aliens shall ever pass through her again." 18 And it will come to pass in that day That the mountains shall drip with new wine, The hills shall flow with milk, And all the brooks of Judah shall be flooded with water; A fountain shall flow from the house of the Lord And water the Valley of Acacias.*

In the new creation, the temple will be built by Jesus - the Sprout - according to the model described in the vision of Ezekiel.

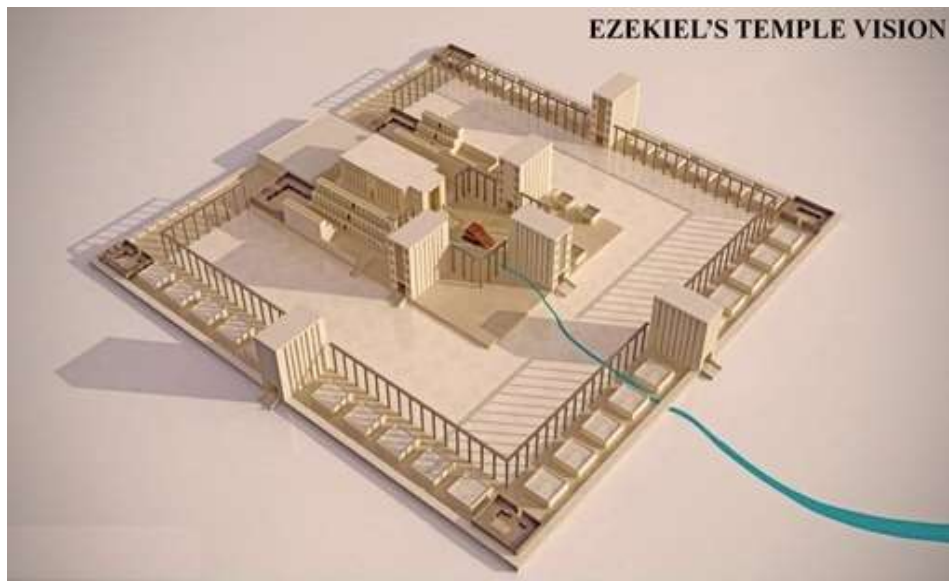
The described temple in Ezekiel's vision will have a glory that will be even greater than the glory of the 1st temple of Solomon:

NKJV (Hagai 2:9) 9 *The glory of this latter temple shall be greater than the former, ' says the Lord of hosts. 'And in this place I will give peace,' says the Lord of hosts."*

In the temple of Ezekiel, the priests for the offerings are only the sons of Sadok (Eze. 44:15, 48:11). The clothing and service of the priests differ considerably from the clothing in the previous 2 temples. (Ezekiel 44 versus Exodus 28). Compared to the 2nd temple of Zerubbabel and Joshua, the dimensions are also different, as well as the described priest service, the various sacrifices and festivals such as the Feast of Pentecost and the Day of Atonement: (see Deut. chapter 16 the feasts)

NKJV (Jeremiah 3:17) 17 *At that time Jerusalem shall be called The Throne of the Lord, and all the nations shall be gathered to it, to the name of the Lord, to Jerusalem. No more shall they follow the dictates of their evil hearts.*

NKJV (Revelation 22: 3) 3 And there shall be no more curse, but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His servants shall serve Him.



Although Jesus has brought the perfect sacrifice for all sins, the sacrifices described in the New Jerusalem are necessary as an atonement for the house of Israel:

NKJV (Ezekiel 45:17) 17 Then it shall be the prince's part to give burnt offerings, grain offerings, and drink offerings, at the feasts, the New Moons, the Sabbaths, and at all the appointed seasons of the house of Israel. He shall prepare the sin offering, the grain offering, the burnt offering, and the peace offerings to make atonement for the house of Israel."

The new temple is equipped with slaughter tables and a sacrificial altar. (Ezekiel 40: 38-43)

The vision of the bones and the (physical) resurrection;

NKJV (Ezekiel 37: 1-6, 11-12) 1 The hand of the Lord came upon me and brought me out in the Spirit of the Lord, and set me down in the midst of the valley; and it was full of bones. 2 Then He caused me to pass by them all around, and behold, there were very many in the open valley; and indeed they were very dry. 3 And He said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" So I answered, "O Lord God, You know." 4 Again He said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them, 'O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord! 5 Thus says the Lord God to these bones: "Surely I will cause breath to enter into you, and you shall live. 6 I will put sinews on you and bring flesh upon you, cover you with skin and put breath in you; and you shall live. Then 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. They indeed say, 'Our bones are dry, our hope is lost, and we ourselves are cut off!' 12 Therefore prophesy and say to them, 'Thus says the Lord God: "Behold, O My people, I will open your graves and cause you to come up from your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel.

After 1000 years, the (physical) resurrection will be a grandiose and joyful manifestation. The house of God, the temple, will be raised above the hills. Many peoples - with a physical resurrection - will then seek the God of Jacob:

NKJV (Micah 4: 1-3) 1 Now it shall come to pass in the latter days That the mountain of the Lord's house Shall be established on the top of the mountains, And shall be exalted above the hills; And peoples shall flow to it. 2 Many nations shall come and say, "Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, To the house of the God of Jacob; He will teach us His ways, And we shall walk in His paths." For out of Zion the law shall go forth, And the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. 3 He shall judge between many peoples, And rebuke strong nations afar off; They shall beat their swords into plowshares, And their spears into pruning hooks..... (See also Isaiah 2: 1-4)

Finally:

Christians rejoice in Their Creator and His Son. Wise people think that they can fathom God's creation. But God's wisdom and creation are unfathomable:

NKJV (Ecclesiastes 8: 16-17) 16 When I applied my heart to know wisdom and to see the business that is done on earth, even though one sees no sleep day or night, 17 then I saw all the work of God, that a man cannot find out the work that is done under the sun. For though a man labors to discover it, yet he will not find it; moreover, though a wise man attempts to know it, he will not be able to find it.

In the next article we will discuss the final attack, the total destruction of Satan with his angels and the blessings and the everlasting peace on the new earth.

P.S. On the site ['Disciples of Jesus Christ'](#) there are more substantive Christian articles.