

Dear Darryl,

Thank you for writing us at Christian Questions Radio. You asked if Revelation 21:3 would be fulfilled at the beginning or at the end of Christ's thousand year reign.

“And I heard a great voice out of the throne saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he shall dwell [future] with them, and they shall [future] be his peoples, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.” (Revelation 21:3)

In days of old, God communicated with His people, the Israelites, by means of the Tabernacle in the Wilderness. The Tabernacle, or “tent of meeting,” was composed of two parts, the Holy and the Most Holy. The Most Holy compartment housed the supernatural Shekinah light, which portrayed God's glory. Under this arrangement the nation of Israel was able to approach the presence of God through a mediator composed of the priesthood from the tribe of Levi. In a somewhat similar manner, mankind in the Millennial Age will draw near to God by means of a spiritual priesthood, or mediator-The Christ, composed of Jesus and His Bride (144,000 faithful followers). Jesus and this Bride class will be the heavenly go-between by which God will instruct humanity, offering them pardon and peace if they obey His laws and write them in their hearts. In that sense, the Millennial Kingdom is not only the Kingdom of Christ, but also God's Kingdom because all that will be done in that Age will be in harmony with God's foreordained purpose representing the Divine will.

When the atonement work between God and man is complete and mankind is thoroughly reconciled to God at the end of the Millennium, there will be no further need of a mediator between God and man. Then God shall dwell with men because His love will be in the hearts of all who have been fully tested and counted worthy as His people. “No longer will a man teach his neighbor, or a man his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest,” declares the LORD. “For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more.” (Jeremiah 31:33) “And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.” (Revelation 21:4)

We hope we have answered your question. Please write us again.

Sincerely,  
Christian Questions Radio