

- a. ¹ A community made up of a great multitude.
 - b. All subhuman and dehumanizing forces will be eliminated.
 - c. It will be a world beyond the reach of death.
 - d. Paul said that the old creation was subject to futility (Romans 8) where its potential was cut off too soon. That will end in the New Creation. God will do for the Cosmos what He did for Jesus in the Resurrection. God will liberate the world from its bondage.
2. Intermediate steps (What we should be doing as we await the imagined future).
- a. Prayer
 - i. This is the central anticipation of the awaited future.
 - ii. We pray to bring God's healing order into the world now.
 - iii. Since we are made in God's image, we are called to pray for the world which He loves.
 - iv. We are to pray as those out of step with the ways things are in the world and in step with the world which God is bringing in.
 - v. Following Jesus, we pray, "Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven."
 - b. Holiness

- i. We are called to be holy because we are called to reflect the holy God.
- ii. We try to live by the rules of the coming kingdom and not by the rules of the world as it is. The rule of love not the Law of the Jungle.
- iii. As Colossians put it we are to "seek the things that are above". We are therefore called to do away with the things which deface human life. Among these are anger, bitterness, and sexual immorality.