

I call it a miracle.

Mr. Steele:--Dr. MacRae, I have heard you speak about the "Millennial Kingdom." Why do you refer to the millennium as a kingdom?

Dr. MacRae:--Mr. Steele, the Bible says that this period of the millennium is going to be a time when Jesus Christ will reign over the world in absolute power. It is going to be a time when people won't have to worry about going to the courts, and trying to present their case in such a way as to secure justice and not to have a miscarriage of the law, because everything will be under the control of one who is all-loving, all-good, all-kind, and all-wise--under the control of Jesus Christ. He will give us a government that is absolutely perfect. Therefore we can call it His Kingdom.

Mr. Steele:--But, Dr. MacRae, there are many people today who say that it is up to us to establish the Kingdom of God on earth, and that an organized church body must transform the world into the Kingdom of God.

Dr. MacRae:--No, Mr. Steele, we can't establish the Kingdom. The Kingdom is a miracle. God will set it up. We can try to make our world a better place to live in--we can do much to improve conditions--but we should not forget that evil is in the world, and is very strong, and that the millennium will come only through a supernatural interposition of God through the coming of Jesus Christ to set up His Kingdom of righteousness and joy on this whole earth.

We must remember that there can never be a perfect civilization, as long as men are constituted as they are. As long as men's hearts contain sin, selfishness, greed, and cruelty, there can never be a perfect civilization. The church is not put here to change the world into the Kingdom of God, but to show individuals how they can be saved from the sin and wickedness that is all around them. God never called us to establish His Kingdom. He called us to give the message of salvation to people. The establishment of His Kingdom is a miracle which He has promised to perform by His own mighty power at the time of the Return of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Mr. Steele:--What else does the Bible tell us about the millennium, Dr. MacRae? You said that it is absolutely sure to come and also that it is to be established through a personal reign of Jesus Christ. What else can we learn about it?

Dr. MacRae:--One thing we can learn is that it is a time of absolute freedom from war. It is a time when external danger will be entirely removed. Listen to the way it is described in Micah 4:2-4:

"And many nations shall come, and say, Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for the law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. And he shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. But they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree; and none shall make them afraid: for the mouth of the Lord of hosts hath spoken it."