

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} ~~extreme~~ danger will be entirely removed. Listen to the way it is described in Micah 4:2-4: 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 pruninghooks: 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."

What Micah has described is a period of external peace and safety. The promise is not that a man shall be enabled to go through great calamity and danger with a peaceful heart. That promise God indeed gives to His people for times of tribulation. But this promise is entirely different. It is the promise of a time when a man need not sit in a house with strong walls and with a lock on the door in order to be safe. Instead he may sit outside under his vine and under his fig-tree with nothing to protect him, for there shall be none to make him afraid. It is to be a time when war and cruelty and sin shall no longer be abroad.

The eleventh chapter of Isaiah contains a wonderful picture of the Millennium. It contains the famous statement about the wolf and the lamb dwelling together,