

STUDIES IN ESCHATOLOGY: Three Distinct Ages
From a Sermon Series by W.E. Best

Three Distinct Ages:	The Present Age	The Age to Come	Eternal Age (state)
<i>Duration</i>	Duration not revealed- Mat.24:36 Tells what Day	Duration is 1,000 years Rev. 20:1-7	No Duration- Endless Rev. 22:5
<i>Preceding events Types & Shadows</i>	The Age in which we are Living was preceded by many historical events recorded in the O.T.	The Age to Come is preceded by the Great Tribulation Mt. 24:21, 29-31	The Eternal State will be preceded by the Great White Throne- Rev. 21:8, 22:15
<i>Saved & Unsaved</i>	Presently both Saved and Unsaved are mixed in the world. Mt. 13:30- They are not to be mixed together in the assembly of Christ	As to the Age to Come, at the beginning of the Millennium all will be saved. Mt. 25:34. Going back to Mt. 13:41,49. But at the Age to Come there will be many unsaved. Rev. 20:7-9	Only the saved will be in the Eternal City. The unsaved will be eternally excluded. Rev. 21:8; 22:15
<i>God's Temple</i>	The Assembly is God's Temple- 1Cor. 3:16-17. God's Temple exists in the Present Age- The Body of Christ	There will be a Temple in the Age to Come which surpasses the temple that Solomon built. Ezk.40-48: Hag. 2:6-9	In the Eternal Ages- No Temple. Rev.21:22 -There will be no need for the Temple in the Eternal State
<i>Purpose of the Gospel</i>	The Purpose of the Gospel is to convert. (Not regenerate) The regenerated during Christ's mediated presence. (Christ is not here in person now. Rom. 1:16	Christ's unmediated presence makes the Gospel unnecessary during the Millennium. (The Kingdom)	There is no need for the Gospel throughout the Eternal Ages. We will have the unmediated presence Of Christ forever!
<i>Satan's Activity</i>	He is loose seeking whom he may devour. 1Pet. 5:8	He will be chained in the abyss for 1,000 years. Temporary prison Rev. 20:9	He will be in "the Lake of Fire". Rev. 20:10- That will be his permanent prison.
<i>Religion</i>	Many false religions in and outside of "Professing Christendom".	False religion will not be tolerated by the King, Jesus Christ. True worship will be enforced. Zech. 14:16-21	Only True Worship will exist in the Eternal State. Rev. 22:3
<i>War & Peace</i>	Wars and rumors of wars will continue in spite of the promises of a great kingdom of peace by politicians. Mt. 24:6,7	There will be no wars in the Millennium. Hos. 2:18; Mic. 4:3-4; Isa. 2:4. But the Millennium will conclude with a final rebellion. Rev.20: 1-9 (Because of unsaved mentioned in #3)	There will be no war or rebellion. Rev. 21:4 "For the former things are passed away". Look what we have to look forward to!
<i>Language</i>	There are many languages. 1Cor. 14:10	There will be only 1 language during the Millennium. Zeph. 3:9 That all might call on the name of the Lord. (Yahweh-the Covenant God) To serve shoulder to shoulder.	It is not revealed about the language. We can be sure that the communication one with another will be on the highest level we could ever imagine!
<i>Kind of Body</i>	The inhabitants of the Present Age are in natural bodies.	Resurrected saints will be in glorified bodies. Survivors of the Great Tribulation & their offspring will be in natural bodies. (People will be born & die but increased longevity.)	All will be in glorified bodies- Bodies adapted for Eternity.
<i>Death</i>	Men are under the curse of physical death. Heb.9:27 Death is the norm, is the standard during this Present Age.	Men enjoy unusual longevity, but there is occasional death. Isa. 65:20,22. Death is the exception, not the rule.	There shall be no more death. Rev. 21:4
<i>Sickness</i>	There is abundant sickness & disease in the Present Age. (This includes "Divine Healers")	There will be no sickness- Isa. 33:24 unless Divinely inflicted. Zech. 14:18; Isa. 65:20	There will be no more sickness or pain. Rev. 21:4
<i>Sun & Rain</i>	We have both now- Mt. 5:45	Both exist in the Millennium. Isa. 30:26; Zech. 14:17	There will be no sun or rain. Rev. 21:23
<i>The Sea (Ocean)</i>	The Sea is in existence.	The Sea will be in existence Rev. 20:13;Psa. 72:8; Ezk. 47:8, 15, 17	There will be no more Sea. Rev. 21:1
<i>Animals</i>	Animals are under bondage of Man's fall- Rom. 8:20,21	Animals are delivered from the curse- Hos. 2:19; Ezk. 34:25; Isa. 11:6-8	There is no reference to animals.
<i>Termination Point</i>	The Present Age is terminated by Christ's 2nd Coming- Mt. 24:3	The Age to Come is terminated by the release of Satan from the abyss. Rev. 20:7	In the Eternal State there is no termination. (It wouldn't be eternal if there was.)
<i>Resurrection</i>	In the Present Age the resurrection is future for the living. Jn. 5:28	The Age to Come is preceded by the 1st Resurrection- Rev. 24:5	The Eternal State is preceded by the 2nd Resurrection- Rev. 25:13
<i>The Lord Jesus Christ</i>	He is our exalted Lord!	He will be the Great Millennial King	He will be the Eternal King and the Lamb of Eternity. (We'll never forget what He accomplished for us)
<i>Christ's Presence</i>	In the Present Age Christ is not here in person. (He doesn't come and manifest Himself to people.) Christ's presence in this age is a mediated presence.	In the Age to Come Christ will be here in person. He'll reign as King of Kings and Lord of Lord's. Therefore, His presence will be unmediated. (immediate)	In the Eternal Ages Christ's presence will be unmediated.