

The Book Of The Revelation of Jesus Christ

Chapter Twenty

The Millennium

Focus Verses: **Revelation 20:1,2**

“And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years”

I. Lesson Introduction - The Seventh Dispensation

We have now come to the end of “this age”, and a new one begins that we call the “Millennium” (Mil=1000; annum=year). When Christ returns in chapter 19, he comes to establish His kingdom which will last 1000 years literally, and visibly on this earth as we shall see.

A. Dispensational Theology

1. Its Meaning: The different ways that God deals with man. Always starts off at its best, and ends up in disaster!
2. Its Importance (three views on the Millennial reign of Jesus Christ)...
 - a. *A-Millennial* - _____ literal reign of Christ: only a spiritual “reigning” in the heart of the believer.
 - b. *Post-Millennial* - Man makes this world better and better until Jesus Christ comes back and inherits it.
 - c. *Pre-Millennial* - Every age starts off right, but gets messed up by man and requires God to intervene. Jesus will personally and literally return to this earth and reign for 1,000 years!
3. Its Principle Application: Dispensations prove that no matter what environment man lives in, he is destined to ruin it!
4. Its greatest type in Scripture: _____ (Gen 1:1-2:3)

Note that “a day is with the Lord as a thousand years”. Six days, then a “REST” (Heb 4:4)!

B. Dispensational Timeline - Write these down in the back of your Bible!

1. Innocence - Ends with the Fall (Gen 1:28-3:6)
2. Conscience - Ends with the Flood (Gen 3:23-7:16)
3. Human Government - Ends with the Tower of Babel (8:15-11:8)
4. Promise - Ends with the Captivity in Egypt (Gen 12:1-Ex 1:22)
5. Law - Ends at the Cross (Ex 20:1-Matt 27:50)
6. Grace - Ends with the Rapture (Matt 27:51-Rev 3:22)
7. *5a. Tribulation – Back to the Law - Ends with Armageddon (Rev 4:1-Rev 19:21)*
8. Millennium - Ends with the Battle of Gog (Rev 20:1-10)

II. Lesson - The Millennium

A. The Bottomless Pit (Rev 20:1-3)

1. The Restraining of Satan (20:1-3)
 - a. Satan is a spiritual being, yet a literal being
 - b. An angel uses a literal chain, yet not a “physical” iron chain (2 Pet 2:4)
 - c. Satan’s path of retreat:
 - 1) Used to be able to go right up to the third Heaven (Job 1:6)
 - 2) Then was restricted to the first Heaven (Rev 12:10,12)
 - 3) Now placed into the bottomless pit (20:1-3)
 - a) A hole that has no bottom
 - b) Only sides
 - c) Like inside a tumble dryer

- d. Bound him (an inferior angel was able to bind Satan)
 - 1) Will be in chains for 1,000 years – a watch in the night (Ps 90:4)
 - 2) There are already many other angels that sinned in chains (2Pet 2:4; Jude 1:6)
- e. Threw Satan into the bottomless pit
 - 1) Shut him up
 - 2) Will be in chains for 1,000 years – a watch in the night (Ps 90:4)
 - 3) There are already many other angels that sinned in chains (2Pet 2:4; Jude 1:6)
 - 4) Set a seal upon him – sealing him inside the bottomless pit (Dan 6:17; Mt 27:66)
 - 5) Until the 1,000 year time is past
2. After the 1,000 years are finished, Satan shall be freed for a brief time (probably just a few years, maybe just 3 months)

B. The Millennial Reign of Jesus Christ (20:4-6)

1. The Reign Of Jesus Christ (20:4)
 - a. Now begins the literal reign of Jesus Christ with His bride...
 - b. Its duration: Note six “one thousand years” statements
 - c. Its participants (Christ’s Bride):
 - 1) John Saw Thrones – places of authority (Luke 19:17)
 - 2) People sitting on the thrones
 - 3) Also Saw souls of beheaded martyrs
 - a) Beheaded for the witness, life of Jesus
 - b) And for the word of God (preaching)
 - c) And because they worshipped not the beast
 - d) And these dead, were now resurrected and alive and were going to reign with Jesus for 1,000 years (Cf Rom 8:17)
 - e) This is the First Resurrection (20:5-6)
 - 4) To these people great power and judgment has been given
 - a) New Testament Christians (1 Cor 6:1-3; Matt 9:28-30)
 - b) Tribulation Saints who endured to the end
 - 5) Paul said Christians would be judging during the millennial kingdom (1Cor 6:3)
 - 6) Part of the FIRST resurrection, at the beginning of the Millennium
 - a) Now the second resurrection, which is NOT a resurrection, because they do not come up to live, but to be thrown into the lake of fire!
 - b) This second resurrection happens at the LAST of the 1,000 year millennium
 - 7) People who get to experience the First Resurrection:
 - a) Are those saved during the Tribulation
 - b) Everyone saved who died before the rapture (the Bride) went up AT the rapture (1Cor 15:51-57)
 - c) Both the bride and the Tribulation saints reign during the Millennium
 - 8) The Millennium is the kingdom of Heaven on earth.
 - 9) Jesus is here, as well as all believers through time.
 - d. Its effects: Christ restores everything except man’s sinful nature.
 - 1) Regeneration of nature (Isa 66:25; Isa 35:1-10)
 - 2) Jews completely back in Palestine
 - 3) All nations destroy their weapons of war (Isa 2:2-4)
 - 4) The Holy Spirit will be poured out upon all flesh (Joel 2:28-32)
 - 5) Human life will be prolonged (Isa 66:17-22) - up to 1000 years!

- 6) Equal and fair justice will prevail (Rev 19:15), because “He will rule with a rod of iron” (Psalm 2)
2. The Resurrection of The Just (20:5,6)
- a. Different than the sinner’s spiritual resurrection (Eph 2:1-6; II Tim 2:17,18)
 - b. Therefore, there are more than one physical resurrections!
 - 1) Dan 12:2
 - 2) One that is a resurrection “FROM the dead” (Luke 20:35) and one that is a resurrection “OF the dead”
 - 3) John 11:23-26
 - a) Most people only know about some “general resurrection”
 - b) If you die however, as a Christian, the grave has no victory! I Cor 15:55
 - c) If you are alive when He returns, death has no sting for you! I Cor 15:55
 - 4) Acts 24:15 - Two resurrections, 1000 years apart.
 - c. The first resurrection is one unto LIFE, and is composed of three parts (Dt 16:16):
 - 1) The “firstfruits” - Old Testament Saints (Matt 27:52,53)
 - 2) The “harvest” - The Body of Christ
 - 3) The “gleanings” - Tribulation Saints
 - d. The second resurrection is one unto DEATH, and is called the SECOND DEATH (20:6)!!!

PRINCIPLE: He who is born twice, dies once. But he who is only born once, dies twice! Do you also see how the Book of the Revelation opens up the entire Bible!!!

C. The Battle of _____ (20:7-9)

As time actually and finally draws to a close, the Lord Jesus Christ begins to reveal to us the things that are going to take place just before He does away with this universe, and starts everything over! Man has been allowed to return to paradise, and as we shall see, he will desire to “go back to Egypt”! Satan will do his finale, just before being finally, and completely cut off from ever “infecting” this universe again. And lastly, all of humanity, from Cain up through those born in the Millennium who rejected God’s salvation will stand before God Almighty, and give an account of their “works” to see how well they match up with Jesus Christ’s on the cross.

1. The Last Deception (20:7,8)
 - a. Conducted by none other than his royal Hellishness: _____!
 - 1) All good things must come to an end, or so they say! The Millennium expires, and Satan is “loosed for a season” to deceive the nations ONCE MORE (Cf 20:3).
 - 2) Satan will never change. Please realize his one and only goal is to bring every human being into the same destruction that he is destined for - the lake of fire!
 - b. Concerns an underground movement that develops during the Millennium.
 - 1) During the Millennium, the entire world will be under Jesus Christ on His throne with David in Jerusalem.
 - 2) However, there will be an “underground” movement called the kingdom of “Magog”, with a man named “Gog” as its leader (Ezek 38 & 39). These are some tough Scriptures! Typified by Nimrod!
 - 3) Satan will be loosed from his “prison”, and he will find hundreds of millions of people out of all nations who will be ready to follow him into Battle against the Lord’s Anointed (Ps 2:1-12). Reasons for this:
 - a) Even though the earth has been “regenerated” (Matt 19:28) at the Second Coming (Rom 8:21-23), and the curse has been removed (Isa 11:1-11), the people that enter the Millennium from the Tribulation (Matt 25:31-46) will be people with Adamic, physical

bodies that will be free from sickness, but not free from sin (remember that Christ must rule with a “rod of iron” 19:15)! The problem is always is PEOPLE.

- b) Even though Jesus Christ will be here physically and visibly on this earth, with millions of supernatural ambassadors (New Testament Christians) running around ruling local governments (1 Cor 6; Luke 19:11), life for these “natural” men and women will be far from perfect as far as they are concerned. The “natural man” despises two things: absolute authority, and complete contentment!

PRINCIPLE: The “carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, NEITHER INDEED CAN BE” (Rom 8:7)!!!

2. The Last Battle - World War IV (20:8-10)

- a. Involves Christ’s Enemies - During the Millennium, Christ will have “enemies” (Ps 72:8,9; 110:2) “deceived” by Satan.
- 1) Since there will be no pains in childbirth, you better believe that there will be lots of babies (Isa 65:20).
 - 2) And since life expectancy will skyrocket to hundreds of years, the population of this planet will expand to somewhere around 15 billion people, even though some 2 to 3 billion people are killed off during the Tribulation, and 200 million die at Armageddon!
 - 3) Out of all these people, there will be multitudes that will despise the “military dictatorship” of Jesus Christ, and will look for the day to be “free to express themselves as they deem fit!”
- b. Who are Gog and Magog?
- 1) Historically speaking, Magog was a grandson of **Noah** (Genesis 10:2). The descendants of Magog settled to the far north of Israel, likely in Europe and northern Asia (Ezekiel 38:2).
 - 2) Ezekiel 38-39 and in Revelation 20:7-8. While these two instances carry the same names, a close study of Scripture clearly demonstrates they do not refer to the same people and events.
 - a) In Ezekiel’s prophecy, Gog will be the leader of a great army that attacks the land of Israel. Gog is described as “of the land of Magog, the prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal” (Ezekiel 38:2-3).
 - b) Ezekiel’s battle of Gog and Magog occurs in the tribulation period, more specifically in the first 3 1/2 years. The strongest evidence for this view is that the attack will come when Israel is at peace (Ezekiel 38:8, 11). The description from Ezekiel is that of a nation that has security and has laid down its defenses. Israel is definitely not at peace now, and it is inconceivable that the nation would lay down its defenses apart from some major event. When Israel’s covenant with the Beast/Antichrist is in effect at the beginning of Daniel’s 70th Week (also known as the 7-year tribulation, Daniel 9:27a), Israel will be at peace. Possibly the battle will occur just before the midpoint of the seven-year period.
 - c) According to Ezekiel, Gog will be defeated by God Himself on the mountains of Israel. The slaughter will be so great it will take seven months to bury all of the dead (Ezekiel 39:11-12).
 - 3) Gog and Magog are mentioned again in Revelation 20:7-8.
 - a) The duplicated use of the names Gog and Magog in Revelation 20:8-9 is to show that these people demonstrate the same rebellion against God and antagonism toward God as those in Ezekiel 38-39. It is similar to someone today calling a person “the devil” because he or she is sinful and evil. We know that person is not really Satan, but because that person shares similar characteristics, he or she might be referred to as “the devil.”
 - b) The book of Revelation uses Ezekiel’s prophecy about Magog to portray a final end-times attack on the nation of Israel (Revelation 20:8-9). The result of this battle is that all are destroyed, and Satan will find his final place in the lake of fire (Revelation 20:10).
 - 4) It is important to recognize that the Gog and Magog of Ezekiel 38-39 is quite different from the one in Revelation 20:7-8. Below are some of the more obvious reasons why these refer to different people and battles.

- a) In the battle of Ezekiel 38-39, the armies come primarily **from the north** and involve **only a few nations** of the earth (Ezekiel 38:6, 15; 39:2).
 - i) The battle in Revelation 20:7-9 will involve **all nations**, so armies will come from all directions, not just from the north.
- b) There is **no mention of Satan** in the context of Ezekiel 38-39.
 - i) In Revelation 20:7 the context clearly places the battle at the end of the millennium with Satan as the primary character.
- c) Ezekiel 39:11-12 states that the dead will be buried for seven months.
 - i) There would be no need to bury the dead if the battle in Ezekiel 38-39 is the one described in Revelation 20:8-9, for immediately following Revelation 20:8-9 is the Great White Throne judgment (20:11-15) and then the current or present heaven and earth are destroyed, replaced by a new heaven and earth (Revelation 21:1). There obviously will be a need to bury the dead if the battle takes place in the early part of the tribulation, for the land of Israel will be occupied for another 1,000 years, the length of the millennial kingdom (Revelation 20:4-6).
- d) The battle in Ezekiel 38-39 is used by God to bring Israel back to Him (Ezek 39:21-29).
 - i) In Revelation 20, Israel has been faithful to God for 1,000 years (the millennial kingdom). Those in Revelation 20:7-10 who are rebellious are destroyed without any more opportunity for repentance.
- c. Is directed AGAIN against Jerusalem (20:9)

IRONY: The “city of peace” will know no peace until the last battle is fought and won there!
- d. Ignites the entire Universe on fire (Cf 21:1; 2 Pet 3:7,10-13; Isa 66:22). This is in preparation for the entirely new Heaven and earth

D. The Last Judgement - _____ Judgement (20:10-15)

1. Starts with the devil (20:10)!
 - a. Satan joins the Beast and the false prophet in the lake of fire (they will have been there being tormented for the last 1000 years)! See also Matt 25:41.
 - b. Satan’s HEAD is finally BRUISED (Rom 16:20), and he is trapped, and tormented forever! Demonstrates that God is now through with His plan that has taken 7000 years to run its course, and is ready to start eternity up again.
2. Sentencing next turns to the DEAD (20:11-15)!
 - a. Brought before a GREAT WHITE _____
 - b. This is the Second Resurrection, but it is NOT called a “resurrection,” because they are not raised FROM the dead, but rather just “raised” for this judgement.
 - c. When God the Father shows His face, this universe just “melts with fervent heat”, can you imagine what it will be like for the unsaved to stand here, and not be able to run!!!
 - d. These “dead” (Cf Eph 2:1) are judged ACCORDING TO THEIR _____ (20:13), because even every idle word will be brought out in this court.

PRINCIPLE: If you attempt to live by your “works of righteousness” you will die by them, and be present at this judgement! The important thing is to have your name written the Book of Life (Luke 10:20)!

- e. Even those in Hell will be raised to stand in this judgement (20:13). But this “reprieve” from hell-fire is short lived.
- f. Everyone here, whose name is not found written in the Book of Life winds up in the lake of fire, which is the Second Death. The only thing on this earth that comes close to this terrible judgement is hot, liquid, flowing LAVA out of the earth’s center!!!

PRINCIPLE: He who is born once, dies TWICE, but he who is born twice (new birth), dies only once!!!

II. Next Chapter - The New Jerusalem (21:1-27)

III. Some Questions

- A. The word 'Dispensation' means: _____
- B. Dispensational theology demonstrates that no matter what environment man lives in, he is "what?"

- C. How long in years is the physical reign of Jesus Christ on this planet? _____
- D. Of the two resurrections, the first is "one unto _____?"
- E. How many more world wars will this planet endure? _____
- F. The "dead" at the "great white throne" judgement will be judged by their what? _____