

## Revelation 20

### Garbage Disposed Of!

#### *“The Removal and Binding of Satan”*

#### Revelation 20:1-2 (KJV)

“And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand.

2 And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a *thousand years*...”

### 1,000 YEARS OF HEAVEN ON EARTH

- \* This chapter is surrounded by controversy
- \* The controversy swirls around the use of the words *“thousand years”* in verses 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
- \* The controversy concerns the 1,000 year period we call the Millennium

**The Millennial reign – Simply the 1,000 year reign**

### There are three dominant views concerning the nature of the Millennium

#### 1.) Post – millennialism

- \* This view says that the world will get better and better and when the world has reached the proper stage of perfection, Jesus will return and establish His kingdom on earth.
- \* This was a very popular view prior to World War II
- \* Nearly anyone can look at this world and all the wickedness and evil and see that the world is getting worse and not better

#### 2.) A- millennialism

- \* There are several variations of this view
- \* The primary version says that there is no literal millennial kingdom
- \* The kingdom of God is spiritual in nature and we are really in the kingdom age right now

Many who hold this view believe that Satan is bound right now

## The A-millennial view spiritualizes these verses

- \* A branch of them believe the Tribulation has already occurred and that Jesus has already returned
- \* They believe that Jesus returned in 70 AD and established His kingdom then.
- \* Their belief system is far more complex than that, but that is the gist of it

### 3.) Pre-millennialism

- \* This view holds that humanity will continue to degenerate; the world will go through a literal Tribulation; Jesus will return and defeat the Antichrist and establish a literal kingdom on the earth and reign here for 1,000 years. This is the only view that takes these verses literally.

### It is my opinion that this is the only true view of the millennium

- \* I personally believe that these verses comprise the fulfillment of many great Old and New Testament promises and prophecies
- \* I personally believe that these verses tell us about a literal 1,000 kingdom that will exist on this earth.
- \* I personally believe that these verses describe the final kingdom that will exist in time.

**The millennium will allow the Lord to accomplish some much-needed goals. Among other things, the millennium will allow the Lord to:**

- \* To fulfill His Old Testament promises of a kingdom to Israel
- \* To put Jesus, in all His glory, on public display
- \* To answer the prayer - *“Thy Kingdom come”*
- \* To fulfill the promise that the saints will reign
- \* To bring about the complete redemption of nature
- \* To give man one final test under the sovereign rule of the Lord Jesus Christ.

**Who is going to be removed? Satan!  
Jesus will establish His presence and Government upon this Earth!**

2.

Revelation 20:1-3 (KJV)

“And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand.

2 And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years,

3 And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season”

\* Who is going to remove Satan from the earth?

\* The angel from heaven having THE KEY – Simply Heavens Power

**Note**

\* The angel comes directly out of heaven, from God's presence

\* Remember "*angel*" (aggelōn) means messenger

\* Simply Heaven is sending a message hand delivered!

Revelation 1:8 (KJV)

“I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty”

Revelation 1:16-18 (KJV)

“16 And he had in his right hand seven stars: and out of his mouth went a sharp twoedged sword: and his countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength.

17 And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, Fear not; I am the first and the last:

18 I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death”

**Note**: Jesus has "*the keys of hell and death*"

Revelation 20:1-3 (KJV)

“And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand.

2 And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years...”

## **The Angel from Heaven**

- \* The *key to the bottomless pit*: this means that he has the power to cast Satan into the abyss, away from the earth
- \* *A great chain*: this means that he has the power to bind Satan and to keep him from tempting and leading people into sin and ungodliness.

### **Revelation 20:1 [KJV]**

**2 And *he laid hold on the dragon*, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and *bound him a thousand years...***

- \* An angel descends from Heaven and “*laid hold on*” the devil
- \* That phrase means “*to have power over; to be one’s master*”

### **This angel is empowered by heaven to be the devil’s master**

- \* He grabs Satan and binds him with a strong chain that will remain on him for 1,000 years

### **There is no disputing who the Bible is speaking about in these verses**

- \* He is called “*the dragon*”; “*that old serpent*”; “*the devil*” and “*Satan*”

### **Those names reveal all we need to know about his character**

- \* As a dragon Satan is looking for those he might *devour*
- \* As a serpent he is ever seeking those he might *deceive*
- \* As the devil is the false accuser, always looking for someone to *defame*
- \* As Satan, the adversary, he is always seeking someone to *defeat*

### **Revelation 20: 3 (KJV)**

**“3 And *cast him into the bottomless pit*, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, *till the thousand years should be fulfilled*: and after that he must be loosed a little season”**

- \* Where is Satan to be placed for the thousand years?
- \* In the bottomless pit

Isaiah 24:21-22

"And it shall come to pass in that day, that the lord shall punish the host of the high ones that are on high [Satan and the fallen angels and demons], and the kings of the earth upon the earth. And they shall be gathered together, as prisoners are gathered in the pit, and shall be shut up in the prison, and after many days shall they be visited"

A Heavenly Incarceration

- \* This angel removes the devil from the earth for 1,000 years
- \* While the earth will rejoice in his absence, the devil will be getting a small taste of what awaits him in eternity

We are told that he will go to the "bottomless pit"

- \* This term translates the word "*abyss*"
- \* This seems to be an ancient prison where certain demon spirits are incarcerated by the Lord

Jude 1:6 (KJV)

"And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day"

We saw this abyss opened in Revelation 9:1-12

- \* When the pit was opened, terrible demons issued forth to torment people on the earth. Satan will be confined to this prison for 1,000 years!

What will Satan do for 1,000 years?

He will bide his time because he knows that he will be released for "*a short season*" We will talk about all that in a few minutes. For now, we should rejoice in the truth that Satan will be bound one of these days! Hallelujah!

Revelation 20: 3 (KJV)

"3 And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season"

**Revelation 20:4-6 (KJV)**

“4 And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and **they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years**”

\* There is coming a day when the saints of God will rule with their Redeemer - Jesus Christ

\* Verse 4 also seems to introduce another set of saints

\* It speaks of those who endured the horrors of the Tribulation Period without tarnishing their testimonies or denying their faith.

**All of these Tribulation saints join with the Bride of Christ and we reign with Jesus for 1,000 years**

And, according to **Daniel 7:27** also promises that the Old Testament saints will reign during this time period as well

**Daniel 7:27 (KJV)**

“27 And the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the most High, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him”

\* Imagine a world filled with the redeemed saints of God from Pentecost to the Rapture

\* Imagine a world where the brave saints of the Tribulation will be living

\* Imagine a world where you might walk down the street and bump into Adam, Abraham, David, Moses or Elijah!

\* That world will exist one day!

**Revelation 20:5-6 (KJV)**

“5 But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. *This is the first resurrection.*

6 Blessed and holy is he that hath part in *the first resurrection*: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years”

## There is a resurrection for believers

- \* Scripture could not state it any clearer
- \* The millennial reign of Christ will see only the resurrection of believers
- \* The first resurrection will be only of those who are going to live forever
- \* The rest of the dead, the unbelievers, will not "*live again*" until after the thousand years are finished

### Revelation 20:4-5

"And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years. *But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished.* This is the first resurrection"

- \* There are to be one thousand years between the first resurrection of believers and the rest of the dead [the unbelievers]

### Revelation 20: 6 (KJV)

"6 Blessed and holy is he that hath part in *the first resurrection*: **on such the second death hath no power**, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years"

- \* The second death is being separated from God and being cast into the lake of fire.
- \* The point is this: resurrected believers will never have to suffer the second death.

8 Despite our depravity and failure and sins upon earth—despite our rebellion and rejection of God for so many years before we surrendered our lives to Jesus Christ—despite what we might deserve—if we have truly surrendered our lives to Jesus Christ, we will never suffer the second death.

- \* This will be one of the glorious privileges of the resurrected believer

Revelation 20:6 (KJV) "6 Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and *shall reign with him a thousand years*"

## Satan's Temporary Release

### Revelation 20:7-10 (KJV)

“7 And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison,

8 And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea.

9 And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them.

10 And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever”

\* This is a shocking Scripture

\* It tells us this: at the end of the Millennium Satan is going to be set loose from hell and allowed to deceive people again - Why?

**There must be a reason because Revelation 20: 3 says “*he must be loosed*”**

### Revelation 20: 3

“And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season”

\* I am certain that we will never fully understand all the reasons why

**First** - This event proves that the devil is incorrigible and unrepentant. Even after God has proven to the devil countless times that He is stronger, Satan still continues in his stubborn rebellion against God. God has thwarted every plan launched by the devil. And still Satan stands in defiance and in open rebellion to the Lord.

**Second** - This event will prove the total inability of man to save himself even in a perfect world. It also proves, beyond a shadow of a doubt, that lost man is totally depraved. There is no good in him, and left to himself, he will always go away from God [Eph. 2:1-3; Rom. 3:10-23]

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 10 And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever”**

- \* Remember, millions of people entered the Millennium in flesh and blood bodies
- \* Some were believing Jews, others were Tribulation saints
- \* These people married and had children.

**In fact, because of perfect health and perfect living conditions, the population of the earth will explode**

- \* People could very possibly live to be 1,000 years old again!
- \* The children born during the Millennium will be raised in a perfect environment and still they will rebel against God.

**Every one of those little children was born into this world with a sin nature**

- \* Satan raises his vast army and leads them in one final assault against King Jesus in Jerusalem.
- \* They do not stand a chance! God Himself ends the battle by raining fire down from Heaven. The rebels are destroyed in a moment of time and they all drop off into Hell to await judgment.

**Satan himself is cast into the Lake of Fire, where he will spend eternity being tormented along with the Antichrist and the False Prophet. I say, “Hallelujah!” When the smoke clears and dust settles, the Lord God Almighty will have the last say in this matter! God wins, end of story!**