

Revelation 20

The Millennial Reign of Christ

1 Group

Revelation 20

1000 year reign of Christ

Millennium (from Latin, meaning one thousand)

2

Revelation 20

(1) And I saw an angel coming down out of heaven, having the key to the Abyss and holding in his hand a great chain. (2) He seized the dragon, that ancient serpent, who is the devil, or Satan, and bound him for a thousand years. (3) He threw him into the Abyss, and locked and sealed it over him, to keep him from deceiving the nations anymore until the thousand years were ended. After that, he must be set free for a short time.

3

Revelation 20

(4) I saw thrones on which were seated those who had been given authority to judge. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony about Jesus and because of the word of God. They had not worshiped the beast or its image and had not received its mark on their foreheads or their hands. They came to life and reigned with Christ a thousand years.

4

Revelation 20

(The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were ended.) This is the first resurrection. (6) Blessed and holy are those who share in the first resurrection. The second death has no power over them, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with him for a thousand years.

5

Revelation 20

(14) ...The lake of fire is the second death. (15) Anyone whose name was not found written in the book of life was thrown into the lake of fire.

6

Revelation 20

(6) Blessed and holy are those who share in the first resurrection. The second death has no power over them...

7

Revelation 20

(7) When the thousand years are over, Satan will be released from his prison (8) and will go out to deceive the nations in the four corners of the earth—Gog and Magog—and to gather them for battle. In number they are like the sand on the seashore. (9) They marched across the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of God's people, the city he loves.

8

Revelation 20

But fire came down from heaven and devoured them. (10) And the devil, who deceived them, was thrown into the lake of burning sulfur, where the beast and the false prophet had been thrown. They will be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

9

- Where we agree on Revelation 20 -

1. The ultimate destiny for the church is reward.

10

- Where we agree on Revelation 20 -

2. The ultimate destiny for Satan is destruction.

11

- Where we differ on Revelation 20 -

When will the millennial reign of Christ take place?

Where will the millennial reign of Christ take place?

12

Three views on Revelation 20

the **premillennial** view of Christ's kingdom

the **amillennial** view of Christ's kingdom

the **postmillennial** view of Christ's kingdom

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premillennialism - At the second coming of Christ, He sets up a thousand year kingdom (the millennium) on THIS earth. Christians will be raised from their graves and reign with Christ over the earth. Satan is imprisoned for 1000 years and then released to lead the world in a final failed rebellion against the church.

14

postmillennialism - The witness of the church will be so strong that the world will be ruled by righteous conduct. Christ returns AFTER the world is transformed.

15

amillennialism - Christ will not establish a physical kingdom on earth. He is reigning now in heaven and fulfills His purposes of bringing people into His kingdom through the preaching, witnessing, and missionary efforts of the church.

16

premillennial - Christ returns to establish an earthly kingdom

postmillennial - Christ returns after His church establishes His kingdom on earth

amillennial - Christ is ruling in heaven and will not establish a physical earthly kingdom

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- Why I am not premillennial -

1. The world that was judged in Revelation 19 will not be present to rebel in Revelation 20

18

Revelation 19

(11) I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and wages war...

19

Revelation 19

(18)...you may eat the flesh of kings, generals, and the mighty, of horses and their riders, and the flesh of all people, free and slave, great and small...

20

- Why I am not premillennial -

(2) Nowhere in the Bible do you read about a thousand year reign of Christ on this present earth

21

Isaiah 60-66

Ezekiel 40-48

Revelation 21

Revelation 22

22

2 Peter 3

(10) But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything done in it will be laid bare.
(11) ...everything will be destroyed

23

2 Peter 3

...(12) That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat. (13) But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness dwells

24

1 Corinthians 15

(25) For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. (26) The last enemy to be destroyed is death...(51) we will all be changed (52) in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised...and we will be changed....(54) then the saying that is written will come true: "Death has been swallowed up in victory.

25

- Why I am not premillennial -

(3) Neither the teachings of Jesus nor the writings of Paul speak about a delay in judgment when Christ returns.

26

2 Thessalonians 1

(7) This will happen when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven in blazing fire with his powerful angels. (8) He will punish those who do not know God and do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. (9) They will be punished with everlasting destruction and shut out from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might (10) on the day he comes to be glorified in his holy people and to be marveled at among all those who have believed.

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The Big Picture of Revelation

- Christ rules the world from heaven.
- The mission of Christ on earth is carried out through the church.
- Satan is "bound" in the sense that he persecutes the church but cannot stop the spread of the gospel.
- Believers who lose on earth to persecution and death are rewarded.
- History concludes as Christ destroys evil and rewards His church in heaven.

30

The **Revelation cycles** of suffering on earth / celebration in heaven

4:1 – 8:1

8:2 - 11:19

12:1 -15:4

15:5 -19:10

31

The **Revelation cycles** of suffering on earth / celebration in heaven

4:1 – 8:1

8:2 - 11:19

12:1 -15:4

15:5 -19:10



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An example of **recapitulation** (going back to a former theme and telling it AGAIN)

- In **Revelation 20:3-9** Satan is bound, released, and deceives the world.
- In **Revelation 13:3-16** the beast is fatally wounded, healed, and deceives the world.

33

Revelation 16:12-14 Final battle of history, description 1

Revelation 17:14 Final battle of history, description 2

Revelation 18:1-24 Final battle of history, description 3

Revelation 19:11-21 Final battle of history, description 4

Revelation 20:7 -10 Final Battle of history, description 5

34

The only **new** story in the book is in the final two chapters - **Revelation 21 and 22**.

Now, we live with Christ **in heaven**. But when He returns we will live with Him on a **new earth** that will replace this earth.

35

Why does all this matter?

1. The binding of Satan in Revelation 20

36

Revelation 20

(1) And I saw an angel coming down out of heaven, having the key to the Abyss and holding in his hand a great chain. (2) He seized the dragon, that ancient serpent, who is the devil, or Satan, and bound him for a thousand years

37

Luke 10

(18) "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven"

(John 12:31; Colossians 2:15)

38

Revelation 11

Revelation 12

The protection of God's people for
3 1/2 years.

3 1/2 years = 1000 years (**Revelation 20**)

39

Why does all this matter?

2. Christ's loving reward of believers who
have suffered death on earth

40

Revelation 20

(4) I saw thrones on which were seated those who had been given authority to judge. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony about Jesus and because of the word of God....They came to life and reigned with Christ a thousand years.

41

Revelation 3

(21) To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne.

(also 2:26)

42



43

44

To Him who overcomes,
I will grant to sit with Me on My throne,
as I also overcame and sat down
with My Father on His throne.

- Jesus

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46

47

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