

Revelation | Millennium

Revelation 20:1-15

Shane Freeman
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And he seized the dragon, that ancient serpent, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years

- Revelation 20:2

and threw him into the pit, and shut it and sealed it over him, so that he might not deceive the nations any longer, until the thousand years were ended.

- Revelation 20:3

They came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.

- Revelation 20:4

The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were ended.

- Revelation 20:5

Blessed and holy is the one who shares in the first resurrection! Over such the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ, and they will reign with him for a thousand years.

- Revelation 20:6

And when the thousand years are ended, Satan will be released from his prison

- Revelation 20:7

I. Most Common Views of the Millennium

1. Pre-millennium: Jesus will return before the millennium.
2. Post-millennium: Jesus will return after the millennium.
3. A-Millennium: There is no literal millennial reign of Christ on earth.

II. What do future events teach us about life in the present? (Revelation 20:1-15)

- a. Unifying around the Gospel is more important than dividing over our differences. (20:1-6)
- b. Satan is more influential but less powerful than we thought. (20:1-3)

And he seized the dragon, that ancient serpent, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years, and threw him into the pit, and shut it and sealed it over him, so that he might not deceive the nations any longer, until the thousand years were ended. After that he must be released for a little while.

- Revelation 20:2-3

- c. What we do today matters for eternity. (20:4-6)

Then I saw thrones, and seated on them were those to whom the authority to judge was committed. Also I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for the testimony of Jesus and for the word of God, and those who 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 for a thousand years.

- Revelation 20:4

They came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.

- Revelation 20:4c

Blessed and holy is the one who shares in the first resurrection! Over such the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ, and they will reign with him for a thousand years.

- Revelation 20:6

The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were ended. This is the first resurrection.

- Revelation 20:5

d. It is possible to experience the blessings of God yet still rebel against Him. (20:7-10)

their number is like the sand of the sea.

- Revelation 20:8b

fire came down from heaven and consumed them, 10 and the devil who had deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and sulfur where the beast and the false prophet were, and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

- Revelation 20:9b-10

And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment,

- Hebrews 9:27

e. Hell is a real place, and we must take it seriously. (20:11-15)

And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Then another book was opened, which is the book of life. And the dead were judged by what was written in the books, according to what they had done. 13 And the sea gave up the dead who were in it, Death and Hades gave up the dead who were in them, and they were judged, each one of them, according to what they had done.

- Revelation 20:12-13

and they were judged, each one of them, according to what they had done.

- Revelation 20:13b

And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

- Revelation 20:15

Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire.

- Revelation 20:14

III. Let's fight to keep the Gospel of Jesus the main thing.

Study Questions

1. There is much debate among believers over the meaning and timing of the millennium (Revelation 20:1-6). Why is it healthy to seek to understand the differing views on the millennium? Also, why is it necessary that we not divide over our differences but rather unite around the Gospel? Explain.

2. It is important that we think biblically about Satan instead of tending towards extremes. Read Revelation 20:1-3 | 20:7-10. See also 2 Corinthians 4:4 | 1 John 4:4 | Revelation 12:17. What do these verses teach us about Satan? Be specific. Are there any new insights they provide to your current understanding?

3. The truth about final judgement is sobering. Take a few minutes to review Revelation 20:11-15. What most stands out to you about the Great White Throne judgment? Explain. What can we glean about God's holiness and character from what we're told about final judgment?

4. The reality of hell should give us a sense of urgency to share the Gospel. Identify the names of 2 or 3 people in your sphere of influence (where you Live | Learn | Work | Play) who do not know Jesus. Share their names with your group. Think of a few ways you can be more intentional to engage them with the Gospel this week. Commit to praying for them every day and ask God to give you both the boldness and opportunity to have a spiritual conversation with them.