

# Events Surrounding the Millennial Reign of Christ.

## Revelation 20

Introduction: Last time we considered the return of Jesus Christ in power and great glory.

Revelation 19:5 (ESV) And from the throne came a voice saying, "Praise our God, all you his servants, you who fear him, small and great."

Revelation 19:6 (ESV) Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the roar of many waters and like the sound of mighty peals of thunder, crying out, "Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns.

Theme: We are going to consider the events accompanying and surrounding the millennial (1000 year) earthly reign of Christ.

I. Satan is bound.

A. The duration of Satan's binding. He is bound for a 1000 years.

Revelation 20:1 (ESV) Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, holding in his hand the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain.

Revelation 20:2 (ESV) And he seized the dragon, that ancient serpent, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years,

B. The nature of his binding. He is bound securely.

Revelation 20:2 (ESV) And he seized the dragon, that ancient serpent, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years

20:3 (ESV) 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.

C. The purpose of Satan's binding. Satan is bound so that he will not continue to deceive the nations.

20:3 (ESV) 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.

D. The end of Satan's binding. Satan will be set free for a little while at the end of the millennial reign of Christ.

20:3 (ESV) 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.

E. An aside on Satan's present binding. There is a sense in which Satan is bound now. Satan is bound with respect to those who are a part of God's kingdom by faith.

1. Jesus in His earthly ministry spoke of His present binding of Satan.

Matthew 12:27 (ESV) And if I cast out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore they will be your judges.

Matthew 12:28 (ESV) But if it is by the Spirit of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.

Matthew 12:29 (ESV) Or how can someone enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man? Then indeed he may plunder his house.

2. Jesus in His earthly ministry spoke in terms of the kingdom having come in relationship to the binding of Satan

Matthew 12:27 (ESV) And if I cast out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore they will be your judges.

Matthew 12:28 (ESV) But if it is by the Spirit of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.

Matthew 12:29 (ESV) Or how can someone enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man? Then indeed he may plunder his house.

3. There is certainly a binding of the power of Satan as it relates to the child of God even in this present age.

1 John 4:3 (ESV) and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already.

1 John 4:4 (ESV) Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.

4. The child of God is no longer under the dominion of Satan.

Colossians 1:13 (ESV) He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son,

5. There is a sense in which Christ reigns now but will reign more fully in the millennial kingdom.

Hebrews 2:7 (ESV) You made him for a little while lower than the angels; you have crowned him with glory and honor,  
Hebrews 2:8 (ESV) putting everything in subjection under his feet.”  
Now in putting everything in subjection to him, he left nothing outside his control. At present, we do not yet see everything in subjection to him.

6. Our text requires a fuller, more complete binding of Satan which does not have to do with binding him in relationship to the Child of God; but rather binding him in relationship to an unbelieving world.

Rev 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.

7. The emphasis is upon a fuller, more comprehensive, establishment of Christ's kingdom.

## II. The relationship of the righteous dead to the millennial kingdom.

- A. The dead in Christ are resurrected bodily from the dead.

Revelation 20:4 (ESV) 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.

- B. The resurrected believers will participate in Christ's reign.

Revelation 20:4 (ESV) 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.

III. The relationship of the unrighteous dead to the millennial kingdom.

- A. The unrighteous dead do not come alive during the millennial reign of Christ.

Revelation 20:5 (ESV) The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were ended. This is the first resurrection.

- B. The unrighteous dead are not participating in God's blessings.

Revelation 20:6 (ESV) 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.

IV. The outcome of Christ's reign.

- A. At the end of the 1000 years Satan is set free from his imprisonment.

Revelation 20:7 (ESV) And when the thousand years are ended, Satan will be released from his prison

Note the emphasis is that Satan does not break out of prison.

Satan is released or set free from prison.

20:3 (ESV) 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 20:7 (ESV) And when the thousand years are ended, Satan will be released from his prison

- B. Satan will return to his activities of deceiving the nations.

Revelation 20:8 (ESV) and will come out to deceive the nations that are at the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them for battle; their number is like the sand of the sea.

- C. Satan will gather a great host of unbelievers to rebel against Christ's reign.

Revelation 20:8 (ESV) and will come out to deceive the nations that are at the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them for battle; their number is like the sand of the sea.

- D. The rebellion will be squashed by the power of God.

Revelation 20:9 (ESV) And they marched up over the broad plain of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city, but fire came down from heaven and consumed them,

- E. Satan and his demonic cohorts are punished eternally.

Revelation 20:10 (ESV) 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.

- V. The wicked will be resurrected, judged and condemned at the end of the 1000 year earthly reign of Christ.

Revelation 20:5 (ESV) The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were ended. This is the first resurrection.

- A. The throne of judgment is revealed.

Revelation 20:11 (ESV) Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. From his presence earth and sky fled away, and no place was found for them.

- B. The wicked dead are raised to receive judgment.

Revelation 20:12 (ESV) 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.

- C. The wicked dead will be judged according to their works.

Revelation 20:13 (ESV) 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 20:13 (NASB95) And the sea gave up the dead which were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead which were in them; and they were judged, every one of them according to their deeds.

Revelation 20:13 (KJV 1900) And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works.

D. The wicked dead will be thrown bodily into the lake of fire.

Revelation 20:14 (ESV) Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire.

E. The only means of escaping the judgment will be to have placed their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Revelation 20:15 (ESV) And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

1. It is important to understand that failing to believe in Jesus is not the way into or cause of judgment.
2. The cause of judgment is the wicked deeds (sinfulness) of mankind.
3. However, the belief in Jesus is the only way of judgement or condemnation.

F. This is the complete and final judgment.

Revelation 20:15 (ESV) And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

Revelation 20:14 (ESV) Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire.

VI. Conclusion: