

Millennial Reign of Christ Revelation 20

## **SCRIPTURE**

## **Chapter 20**

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, 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.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> 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. <sup>5</sup> But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection. <sup>6</sup> 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.

<sup>7</sup> And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison, <sup>8</sup>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. <sup>9</sup>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. <sup>10</sup>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.

<sup>11</sup> And I saw a great white throne, and Him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. <sup>12</sup> And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the Book of Life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. <sup>13</sup> 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. <sup>14</sup> And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. <sup>15</sup> And whosoever was not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.

## COMMENTARY

In chapter 20, Satan, the old dragon, is bound in the bottomless pit for a thousand years. A thousand years of paradise on earth, as described in <u>Isaiah 11:1-16</u> and <u>65:17-25</u>, now begin. The faithful saints will reign with Him for a thousand years.

In Revelation 20:7-10 Satan is released from his prison, and goes out and deceives the nations into going to war against the Lord and His saints. Why would God do that?

Man has being saying for centuries that the real problem with man is not sin, but his environment. If everyone had a utopia to live in, there would be no sin and crime.

So God gave man that opportunity. The children who are born during the thousand-year reign live in a perfect utopia. Christ rules from Jerusalem with a rod of iron and there will be no sin: a perfect environment to enable one to live a perfect life. Notice what happens when the temptation to do evil comes. The number who follow Satan are as many as the sands of the sea. They had an opportunity to trust Christ, and they didn't. They tried to be sinless in a perfect utopia, and they couldn't.

God has proven once again what He said through His prophet in Jeremiah 17:9, "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?"

Christ always has been, and still is, the only answer.

Israel (<u>Revelation 1:7</u>) finally recognizes Jesus Christ as their Messiah, and takes her place as the leading nation of the world. The Lord Jesus Christ will rule from Jerusalem and will be king over all the earth. (<u>Zechariah 14:8-9</u>).

Jesus Christ will set up what He calls The Great White Throne. He will judge all the unbelievers from this throne. Every unbeliever will be called from the dead and will stand before him to be judged.

Two sets of books will be opened. One set of books will have all of the evil deeds that the person being judged has ever done. The other book is named. It is the Book of Life.

The names of every one who had put their faith in Jesus Christ are sealed in that book. Whoever was not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire. In Verse 10 we are told that the Antichrist and the False Prophet have been there for a thousand years.

They are still there and will be tormented there forever and ever. God tells us that now is the time to put our faith in Jesus Christ, to save us from that horrible place.