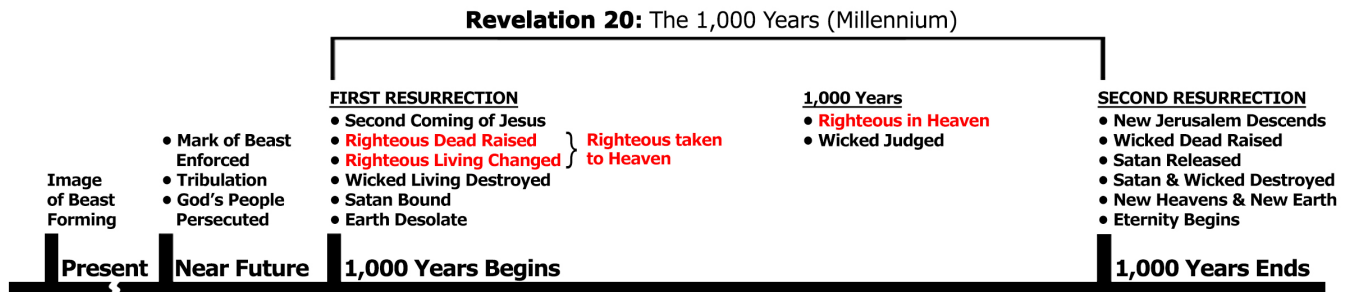


Revelation 20

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John 5:26-29 – Jesus said...

²⁶ For as the Father hath life in himself; so hath he given to the Son to have life in himself;

²⁷ And hath given him authority to execute judgment also, because he is the Son of man.

²⁸ Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the _____ shall hear his voice,

²⁹ And shall come forth; they that have done _____, unto the **resurrection of life**; and they that have done _____, unto the **resurrection of damnation**.

NOTE: In this single statement Jesus sums up the main purpose and events that will define the **millennium**. The millennium—or thousand years—starts at **the second coming of Jesus** when He comes in glory to take His faithful followers home to heaven. There will be **two resurrections**; one at the beginning of the millennium, and a second at the end.

The First Resurrection will be for the saved:

1 Thessalonians 4:16-17

¹⁶ For the Lord himself shall _____ from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the _____ in Christ shall rise first:

¹⁷ Then we which are _____ and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

1 Corinthians 15:51-52

⁵¹ Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all _____, but we shall all be _____,

⁵² In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

NOTE: We learned from our study titled “**What is Death**,” that the **dead** are in a state of **sleep**, completely unconscious. That’s why this verse says that “we shall not all sleep.” It means we shall not all be dead when Jesus comes, some of us will be alive. But the dead will not awake out of sleep until the resurrections. Those who have given their lives to Christ and kept

His commandments will be raised at the first resurrection. Those who are alive at the second coming will be changed. These righteous souls will be given glorified, immortal bodies just like Jesus when He was raised from the dead:

1 Corinthians 15:53-54

⁵³ For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this _____ must put on immortality.

⁵⁴ So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in _____.

NOTE: Until the second coming, none of the dead are in heaven or hell yet. No one has immortality until Jesus comes at the beginning of the millennium. Jesus referred to this as “the last day” four times in **John chapter 6**. Only then will the dead be raised to life and the living be changed. Only then will mortal human beings be given immortality.

But what about the wicked who are alive during the second coming? What will happen to them?

2 Thessalonians 2:8

And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall _____ with the brightness of his coming:

NOTE: The wicked will be destroyed. The appearance of Jesus and all the angels of heaven will be too much for them to bear, and none will survive.

So the wicked are destroyed, the righteous dead are raised, and with the righteous living, together they are taken to heaven.

Now let’s look at the millennium:

Revelation 20:1-3

¹ And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the _____ of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand.

² And he laid hold on the _____, 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 _____ a little season.

NOTE: We saw in our study on “**Hellfire**” that Satan’s chains are symbolic, that the **bottomless pit** describes the condition of the earth using the same terminology as was in the very beginning being **without form and void**. With the righteous in heaven and the wicked dead, there is no human alive on earth for a thousand years. This is the prison the devil and his demons are chained to. They will have no one to tempt, deceive, or manipulate for the duration of the millennium.

What happens in heaven during the thousand years?

Revelation 20:4-6

⁴ And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and _____ 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 _____, 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.

⁵ But the rest of the dead _____ 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 _____ hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.

NOTE: Those who will be persecuted during the tribulation soon to come, *even those beheaded* for their faith in Jesus, for refusing to receive the mark of the beast—they will be raised from the dead in the first resurrection and taken to heaven where they will judge the wicked, and those who put them to death. The books of heaven will be opened for review. The judgments of God will be inspected. All His judgments will be found just. And the character of God, marred by the lies and deceptions of Satan, will be vindicated.

Revelation talks of the second death. Does that mean the wicked will suffer death a second time? Jesus said that you must be “born again” to enter into the kingdom of heaven. Peter spoke of this:

1 Peter 1:23

Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.

In other words, those who are **born twice die once**.

Those who are **born once will die twice**. And from

the second death there is no more resurrection.

The second death is a reference to the final judgment and punishment for sin.

Revelation 20:7-8

⁷ And when the thousand years are _____, 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 _____: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea.

NOTE: At the **end of the thousand years**, Jesus and all the saved will return to the earth with the city of God, the **New Jerusalem**. The New Jerusalem is what Jesus was referring to when, just before He ascended to heaven said to His disciples:

John 14:2-3

² In my Father’s house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.

Revelation 21:2

And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

At that time, the end of the thousand years (millennium) **the wicked dead will be raised** back to life to receive judgment. Unlike the righteous who were raised with immortality at the second coming of Christ, those raised to life at the end of the millennium will be raised with the same mortal bodies they died with. This is what it means that Satan is loosed from his chains, because he suddenly has all his former victims around him again. And in a last ditch effort of desperation, he rallies the uncounted multitude to try to take the city of God.

Revelation 20:9-15

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

¹⁰ And the devil that deceived them was _____ 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.

¹¹ 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.

¹² And I saw the _____, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another

book was opened, which is the book of _____:
and the dead were judged out of those things which
were written in the books, according to their works.

¹³ And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and
death and hell (*hell, meaning the grave*) delivered up
the dead which were in them: and they were judged
every man according to their works.

¹⁴ And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire.
This is the second death.

¹⁵ And whosoever was not found written in the book of
life was cast into the lake of fire.

NOTE: Sad will be the retrospect in that day when the
lost stand face to face with eternity. Their whole lives
will be presented just as they had been. The world's
pleasures, riches, and honors will not seem so import-
ant then. Men will then see that the righteousness they
despised is alone of value. They'll see that they had
fashioned their characters under the deceptive allure-
ments of Satan. The garments they had chosen are the
badge of their allegiance to the devil, that first great
apostate. Then they will see the results of their choice.
They'll have a knowledge of what it means to transgress
the commandments of God.

The fire that consumes the wicked purifies the earth.
Every trace of the curse is swept away. There will be no
eternally burning hell that will endure as a reminder of
the fearful consequences of sin. No! Only **one reminder**,
one alone remains: **Our Redeemer** will forever bear the
marks of His crucifixion. Upon His wounded head, upon
His side, His hands and feet, there are the only traces
of the cruel work that sin has wrought.

What will happen next?

2 Peter 3:13

Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for
new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righ-
teousness.

Isaiah 65:17

For, behold, **I create new heavens and a new earth:**
and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into
mind.

NOTE: The work of redemption will be complete. In the
very place where sin abounded—planet earth, God's
grace much more abounds. The earth itself, the very
field that Satan claims as his, is to be not only ran-
somed but exalted. Our little world, under the curse of
sin, the one dark blot in God's glorious creation, will be
honored above all other worlds in the universe. Here,
where the Son of God tabernacled in humanity; where
the King of glory lived and suffered and died,—here,
when He shall make all things new, the tabernacle of
God shall be with men, "and He will dwell with them,
and they shall be His people, and God Himself shall be
with them, and be their God."