

Revelation 20:1-15

REVIEW...

- **OUTLINE...**
 - THREE times – PAST – PRESENT – FUTURE – **Revelation 1:19**
 - THREE events – RAPTURE – WRATH – RETURN of Jesus
 - THREE judgements – SEAL – TRUMPET – and BOWL judgments
- **Return of Jesus Christ...**
 - Hallelujah...
 - With the FALL of the RELIGIOUS system – **Revelation 17**
 - The FALL of the ECONOMIC system – **Revelation 18**
 - The FALL of the POLITICAL system – **Revelation 19**
 - There is great rejoicing in HEAVEN – because in the end Jesus is VICTORIOUS...
 - And because of the Marriage Supper of the Lamb!
 - Second Coming...
 - Then John saw Jesus riding out of Heaven – on a white HORSE – to make WAR...
 - He had the name KING of kings – and LORD of lords...
 - He was NOT alone – the CHURCH comes back with Him – **Jude 1:14**
 - He goes to WAR with the Antichrist – and the armies of Men – **II Thessalonians 2:8**
 - And throws the Antichrist – and the False prophet – into the Lake of Fire!

WHITE THRONE...

- **1ST – MILLENNIAL KINGDOM ... vs. 1-6**
 - 1st – Binding Satan ... vs. 1-3
 - The Angel... vs. 1
 - Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven.
 - After the battle of Armageddon – and the fall of the Antichrist...
 - John saw an Angel coming down out of Heaven...
 - Likely MICHAEL [מִיכָאֵל] – who is like God – the ARCHANGEL [chief]!
 - Too often people make the mistake of thinking satan is the EQUAL of God...
 - If you are looking for an EQUAL – it would be Michael – who always defeats him...
 - He defeated satan when he tried to get the body of Moses - **Jude 1:9**
 - And he is the ANGEL who kicked satan out of Heaven - **Revelation 12:7**
 - The Pit... vs. 1
 - [Michael] has the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand!
 - Michael comes with a CHAIN – which he will use to BIND...
 - He also has the KEY to the BOTTOMLESS pit [ἄβυσσος]
 - The same PIT and KEY we saw unlocked at the FIFTH trumpet – **Revelation 9:1**
 - The place where DEMONS are locked up waiting for their JUDGMENT - **Luke 8:31**
 - The Dragon... vs. 2
 - He laid hold of the dragon - that serpent of old - who is the Devil and Satan!
 - Who does Michael BIND – and cast into the BOTTOMLESS pit...
 - We are given his TITLES – same ones we that we saw back in – **Revelation 12:9**
 - DRAGON – the one with SEVEN heads and TEN horns [god of this world] – **II Corinthians 4:4**
 - SERPENT – a title that takes us back [old] to the Garden of Eden – **II Corinthians 11:3**
 - DEVIL [δίαβολος] – the one who throws [βάλλω] accusation us – **Revelation 12:10**
 - SATAN comes from the Hebrews word [שָׂטָן] – it simply means our ENEMY!

- Thousand years... vs. 2-3
 - [Michael] bound him for a thousand years - and he cast him into the bottomless pit.
 - And shut him up - and set a seal on him!
 - Satan will be BOUND [chain] - and CAST [βάλλω] into the PIT [ἄβυσσος]
 - There he will remain SHUT up - SEALED [σφραγίζω] - for a THOUSAND years!
 - There are some in the church [Catholics] who hold a view known as PRETERIST...
 - They do NOT believe in a literal RAPTURE - RETURN of Jesus - and MILLENNIAL kingdom...
 - They view the book of Revelation as an ALLEGORY [hidden or second meaning]
 - They BELIEVE the church is building the [millennial] KINGDOM of God today...
 - But if satan is already bound - then he has WAY to long of a CHAIN!
 - That is why using ALLEGORY is a very dangerous way to interpret the Bible...
 - It IGNORES the clear interpretation of a passage - and instead seeks a DEEPER meaning...
 - ABANDONING boundaries - the Bible is left to mean ANYTHING we want!
- No Satan ... vs. 3
 - [Satan] should deceive the nations no more till the thousand years were finished.
 - But after these things he must be released for a little while!
 - The REASON why satan will be BOUND - is so that he cannot DECEIVE [πλανᾶω]
 - Because that is ALL that satan knows how to do - He is the father of LIES - **John 8:44**
 - But for a THOUSAND years our ENEMY [ἔχθρ] will NOT be able to LIE!
 - This begins to set up just how AMAZING the MILLENNIAL kingdom will be...
 - The FIRST thing that happens - is there is NO more satan to cause trouble...
 - The ROARING lion is silenced - and there will be PEACE - **I Peter 5:8**
- o 2nd - Millennial Kingdom...
 - Literal 1000 years...
 - The Bible is to be taken LITERALLY - unless it says otherwise [like or as]
 - The MILLENNIAL kingdom reign of Jesus - will last for a THOUSAND years!
 - If you add up the genealogies in the Old Testament - 4000 years from Adam to Jesus...
 - There has been an additional 2000 years since the resurrection of our Lord...
 - From Adam to us - the history of the earth is 6000 years!
 - **II Peter 3:8** - "With the Lord one day is as a thousand years and a thousand years as one day."
 - God created the earth in SIX literal days - and He rested on the SEVENTH day...
 - The world has existed for SIX thousand years - and the MILLENNIUM of REST is coming!
 - Jesus rules on Earth...
 - **Isaiah 2:3-4** - "Come and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD - to the house of the God of Jacob. He will teach us His ways and we shall walk in His paths. Out of Zion shall go forth the law - and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations - and rebuke many people."
 - During this THOUSAND years - Jesus will RULE the world from Jerusalem...
 - He will TEACH the people from MANY nations so they will WALK [sequential] in His path...
 - Because the WORD [λόγος] - will JUDGE and CORRECT many people!
 - I was talking to a brother the other day - so much of what we see online is negative...
 - The NEWS is always BAD - and social MEDIA makes us narcissists!
 - Imagine a world where all the NEWS - all the MEDIA - is filled with the WORD...
 - A world that has NO bad news - only the BLESSING of knowing Jesus...
 - Where ANYONE - at ANYTIME - can go to Jerusalem and see sitting on His Throne!
 - Time of Peace...
 - There will be no WAR during the Millennial Kingdom...
 - The world will make their SWORDS into plows and SPEARS into grass clippers - **Isaiah 2:4**

- The LION will lay beside the LAMB – a young child will play with the VIPER...
- **Isaiah 11:9** – “For the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD.”
- It will be a world where there is NO fighting – NO war...
- Even among the animals – they no longer eat one another [back to vegetarians]
- There may not even be a need for HOSPITALS – Jesus is there to HEAL...
- As a RESULT – people will live VERY long lives!
- **Isaiah 65:20** – “No longer will people be considered old at one hundred!” [NLT]
- The Residents...
 - ANYONE who takes the MARK will be put to death when Jesus returns – **Revelation 19:21**
 - So WHO will be able to enter into the MILLENNIAL kingdom...
 - The 144 THOUSAND Jews who were sealed by God – **Revelation 7:4**
 - The THIRD of Israel who were protected in Petra – **Zechariah 13:8**
 - As well as ANYONE who did not take the MARK [and was not martyred]!
 - Considering their LONG lives – the population of the world will EXPLODE...
 - Even if only several MILLION make it out of the TRIBULATION...
 - By the time we come to the end of the MILLENNIAL kingdom – that number will be BILLIONS!
- o 3rd – Ruling with Jesus... vs. 4
 - I saw thrones - and they sat on them - and judgment was committed to them!
 - John saw THRONES – and those who SIT on them are given [passive] authority to JUDGE...
 - No doubt a reference to the ROLE of the CHURCH in the MILLENNIAL kingdom...
 - After we return with Jesus [white horses] in our glorified bodies – **Philippians 3:21**
 - We will JUDGE the fallen Angels – and we will JUDGE the world!
 - **I Corinthians 6:2-3** – “Do you not know that the saints will judge the world!”
 - We will be BUSY for a THOUSAND years helping Jesus to rule the world...
 - Since there will be a MORE of us than people on earth – all OT SAINTS – all of the CHURCH...
 - Is it no wonder people will be on their BEST behavior [we are always watching]
- o 4th – Tribulation Saints... vs. 4
 - I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus - for the word of God.
 - Who had not worshiped the beast or his image.
 - And had not received his mark on their foreheads or on their hands.
 - And they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years!
 - Included in the list of those who will RULE with Jesus – the TRIBULATION saints...
 - BEHEADED [τελεκίζω] – only here NT - the word just means to be EXECUTED...
 - NOT the typical words used to describe BEHEADING [ἀποκεφαλίζω]
 - They will be EXECUTED – because of their WITNESS for Jesus and His Word...
 - And because they refused to take the MARK and worship the Beast – **Revelation 13:15**
 - But they will LIVE – and reign with Jesus for a THOUSAND years!
 - What a CONTRAST – people who take the MARK are given SEVEN more years of LIFE...
 - But people who refuse the MARK – are given a THOUSAND years of LIFE!
 - People today live for the MOMENT – with no thought for FUTURE...
 - If the world would just stop and consider how things END – they would all follow Jesus!
- o 5th – First Resurrection... vs. 5-6
 - Waiting... vs. 5
 - The rest of the dead did not live again until the thousand years were finished!
 - The list of those who are allowed into the MILLENNIAL Kingdom is LONG...
 - The 144 thousand Jews – THIRD of Israel – those who did NOT take the MARK...
 - Resurrected OT saints – resurrected NT saints – the raptured Church – Tribulation Saints...
 - But those who DIED – but did not have FAITH in Jesus – will not be allowed in...

- They will not be RESURRECTED until AFTER the THOUSANDS years!
- Do not think they are just LEFT in their GRAVES...
- The moment someone dies – they are IMMEDIATELY in eternity...
- If they rejected Jesus – then they will WAIT in HELL for the Judgement day...
- If they put their faith in the Gospel – then they are with the LORD!
- **II Corinthians 5:8** – “To be absent from the body [is] to be present with the Lord.”
- No Death... vs. 5-6
 - This is the first resurrection. Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection.
 - Over such the second death has no power!
 - Those who are a part of the FIRST resurrection – are BLESSED – TWO reasons:
 - FIRST – because the SECOND death has no power over them:
 - Everyone is going to die one day PHYSICALLY [result of the fall] – **Genesis 3:19**
 - And those who do NOT accept the Gospel will also die SPIRITUALLY – second DEATH...
 - But if believe in Jesus– then the SECOND death has no power over us – **I Corinthians 15:55**
- Ambassadors... vs. 6
 - They shall be priests of God and of Christ - and shall reign with Him a thousand years!
 - SECOND – because we will REIGN with Jesus for THOUSAND years...
 - We will be PRIESTS for God and for Jesus Christ – **I Peter 2:9**
 - The purpose of the priest was to be a mediator – an AMBASSADOR for God...
 - God will make us His PRIESTS – represent Him during the MILLENNIAL Kingdom!
 - **II Corinthians 5:20** – “We are therefore Christs ambassadors. As though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ’s behalf: Be reconciled to God.”
- 2ND – FINAL CHOICE... vs. 7-10
 - o 1st – Satan released ... vs. 7
 - Now when the thousand years have expired - Satan will be released from his prison!
 - As soon as the THOUSAND years have ended – Satan [שָׁטָן] will be released [passive]
 - The big question that should come to mind is WHY would God FREE satan...
 - People will live for a THOUSAND years under Jesus – they will HAVE to be GOOD...
 - But once satan is FREED – all those who have never had a CHOICE – can CHOOSE!
 - When God created the world – He put TWO trees in the Garden of Eden...
 - One that gave LIFE – the other that brought DEATH [tree of Knowledge] – Genesis 2:17
 - WHY would God put a TREE that ultimately led to the FALL of man!
 - It all comes down to LOVE – there can be no LOVE with a CHOICE...
 - If someone came up to us with a loaded gun and told us to LOVE them...
 - We would say YES - but in our heart there would be no LOVE – because there is no CHOICE...
 - True love requires a CHOICE – so God allows ALL men to CHOOSE!
 - o 2nd – World Deceived... vs. 8
 - [He] will go out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth.
 - Gog and Magog - to gather them together to battle - whose number is as the sand of the sea!
 - Satan will DECEIVE [lie] the nations – and MANY will believe him...
 - As many as the SANDS of the SEA [innumerable] will come to make WAR with God...
 - Their leader will be Gog [person] from Magog [Russia] – not the same as - **Ezekiel 38:2**
 - But WAIT – we just saw how this went for the Antichrist [Armageddon] – **Revelation 19:20-21**
 - And it did not go well for Gog and Magog in their FIRST battle with Israel – **Ezekiel 38:21-22**
 - Why would the world be willing to TRY again!
 - I know how to drive a CAR – I have been doing it for many years...
 - But my knowledge does NOT pass on automatically to Hallel – I have to TEACH her!
 - God has NO grandchildren – each generation needs to CHOSE to come to God...

- Which is why it is so important to TEACH the TRUTH of Jesus to our KIDS – **Ephesians 6:4**
- If we do NOT – they will be easy target for satan to come and deceive...
- And they will make the SAME mistake as so many before them – and reject Jesus!
- o 3rd - Fire from Heaven... vs. 9
 - They went up on the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints...
 - And the beloved city. And fire came down from God out of heaven and devoured them!
 - This great ARMY of satan – will come up and surround the city of Jerusalem [beloved city]
 - Jesus and all of the SAINTS [believers] will be trapped inside...
 - I am sure they will think they are UNSTOPPABLE – because they are so MANY...
 - But rather than VICTORY – God will send down FIRE from heaven to KILL them!
 - We are seeing in the world today – OPINIONS being changed – and LAWS being challenged...
 - No longer is homosexuality – abortion – or divorce wrong...
 - And if enough people AGREE – they think WRONG becomes RIGHT!
 - People think they are going to WIN – just because EVERYONE agrees with them...
 - Just because EVERYONE is doing something – does NOT make it RIGHT...
 - Just because a LAW is passed – does not keep someone from being JUDGED!
 - **Romans 3:4** – “Indeed - let God be true but every man a liar.”
- o 4th – Lake of Fire... vs. 10
 - The devil - who deceived them - was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone.
 - Where the beast and false prophet are. They will be tormented day and night forever and ever!
 - This is when satan FINALLY gets what he DESERVES...
 - He is thrown into the LAKE of fire that was created just for him – **Matthew 25:41**
 - He will become the THIRD permanent resident – after the Antichrist and False Prophet...
 - Where they will be TORTURED [passive] day and night FOREVER!
 - True story – in 2015 a SHEEP jumped off a cliff – all 1500 SHEEP in the flock FOLLOWED...
 - ONLY the first 450 died – after that the rest had a softer landing...
 - SHEEP are really DUMB animals – they tend to blindly FOLLOW!
 - We need to be very CAREFUL who we chose to FOLLOW...
 - The WISDOM is to look and see where are they GOING – where do they END up...
 - Because if we are following them – we will end up in the SAME place!
- 3RD – FINAL JUDGEMENT... vs. 11-15
 - o 1st – White Throne ... vs. 11
 - Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it.
 - From whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them!
 - John saw a GREAT [μέγας] white THRONE – with Jesus sitting on it – **John 5:22**
 - And all who were on EARTH and in HEAVEN tried to RUN from Him...
 - But there was NO place where they could hide!
 - **Psalm 139:7** – “Where can I flee from Your presence.”
 - The greatest FEAR of all men is the fear of DEATH – because we will be JUDGED...
 - The truth is we FEAR because in our hearts we know we will STAND before Jesus...
 - And there is NO place on EARTH or in HEAVEN we can HIDE when that day comes!
 - o 2nd – The Books... vs. 12
 - The Record...
 - And I saw the dead - small and great - standing before God and books were opened.
 - The dead were judged according to their works by the things which were written in the books.
 - Everyone will STAND before the GREAT White Throne...
 - From Adam – to the very last person born in the MILLENNIAL kingdom...
 - And the BOOKS will be opened – filled with the RECORD of their lives...

- Every ACTION – every WORD – even every THOUGHT...
- And according to what is WRITTEN [passive] – they will be JUDGED!
- **Matthew 12:36** – “Every idle word... they will give account of in the day of judgment.”
- Most people have the idea that their WORKS will be WEIGHED in heaven...
- If their GOOD works – outweigh their BAD works – then God will let them in...
- NO – it only takes ONE sin to keep us OUT of Heaven – **James 2:10**
- The BOOK are not opened to see if someone can go to Heaven...
- They are opened to remove ANY doubt – why they will end up in Hell!
- Book of Life...
 - Another book was opened - which is the Book of Life!
 - There is HOPE – anyone who has their name in the Book of Life – will NOT be JUDGED...
 - They are the ONLY ones who will be allowed to enter HEAVEN – **Revelation 21:27**
 - HOW can we get our name in the BOOK of Life – there is only ONE way...
 - When we put our FAITH in Jesus – our names are WRITTEN in the BOOK - **Revelation 3:5**
- Everyone will Stand...
 - Every man will have to one day stand before Jesus – **John 5:22**
 - Either we will stand before the BEMA seat of Christ – and be rewarded – **II Corinthians 5:10**
 - Or we will be JUDGED before the WHITE throne – and condemned – **Revelation 20:11**
 - We are told – that every knee SHOULD bow to Jesus for salvation - **Philippians 2:10**
 - But we are also told – every knee WILL bow to Jesus in judgment – **Romans 14:11**
 - Because there are only two kinds of people when it comes to God...
 - SINNERS who by GRACE have been forgiven – and are GIVEN the REWARD of heaven...
 - SINNERS who reject the GOSPEL - and will one day bow their knee to the JUDGE of all!
- o 3rd – Second Death... vs. 13-15
 - Temporary... vs. 13
 - The sea gave up the dead - and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them.
 - And they were judged - each one according to his works!
 - SEA – thought to be a reference to those who died and were NOT buried...
 - DEATH - is NOT the end of our LIFE – it is when ETERNAL life begins...
 - HELL [ᾠδης] – is where people go who reject Jesus – as they WAIT for the final JUDGEMENT!
 - Before the cross no one went to heaven – everyone went to the GRAVE [קבר]
 - There were TWO compartments - Abrahams Bosom and Hell – **Luke 16:22**
 - PARADISE – was a place of COMFORT for those who died in faith...
 - It is now EMPTY – Jesus set the prisoners free after His death – **Isaiah 61:1**
 - HELL [ᾠδης] – is place of torment for those who did not have faith...
 - Sadly HELL is a place that is getting more crowded each day!
 - Permanent... vs. 14-15
 - Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.
 - Anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire!
 - ANYONE who ends up in HELL – will ultimately be cast in the LAKE of Fire...
 - This is the SECOND [spiritual] death – eternal separation from God!
 - This is BOTH incurably SAD and extremely exciting...
 - It is SAD for those who have rejected Jesus – because this is the END...
 - They will be ETERNALLY separated from God – NO hope of redemption...
 - But it is EXCITING – because this is just the beginning for those who are SAVED...
 - This is where Jesus – having received the VICTORY – makes a NEW Heaven and Earth!