

REVELATION 20:7-15

- A. Revelation 20:7-8 - And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison, Rev. 20:8 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 battle: the number of whom *is* as the sand of the sea.
1. According to God's purpose, timeline, and plan to use Satan to gather all sinners in **one** place, Satan is let loose from the bottomless pit. In no time at all, he gathers followers [the number of whom is as the sand of the sea.]

This demonstrates the real human nature of sinful man. Everything cannot be blamed on the devil! Sometimes it seems that man is **more creative when sinning than when influenced by the devil.
 2. In the Millennium (1,000 year reign) all serve Christ; all are submissive to Him; all give outward obedience to Him because that is what is required. But in their hearts, with many, there is still going to be that **seed** of rebellion.
 - a. Even in the Kingdom, that is why there is a testing - transitional period, so that everyone that sins - rebels - offends will ultimately be **removed**.
 - b. No doubt lost men will blame God for their sin at the White Throne Judgment. "Lord, **you** did not give me a fair chance because that old devil was smarter than I am. He deceived me and it really was not my fault!"

God will then say, "Wait a minute. There were people just like you for a thousand years with no devil to deceive them, and they **still did not believe Me. Even in the midst of My grace, love, and Son's reign, they remained in unbelief."
 - c. So even in the Kingdom, there will be families and nations who refuse to worship God. Even though God in grace and mercy reached out to them, there are always those [as the sand of the sea] that the devil can - will deceive (Jeremiah 17:9).

Isaiah 26:10 - Let favour be shewed to the wicked, *yet* will he not learn righteousness: in the land of uprightness will he deal unjustly, and will **not** behold the majesty of the LORD.
 3. During the Kingdom, many people will be allowed to enter in their natural bodies and they will bear children. Those born will have a **free** will, making them responsible to believe in Christ. Many will believe, but many will not.

Isaiah 65:20, 25 - There shall be no more thence an infant of days, nor an old man that hath not filled his days: for the child shall die an hundred years old; but the sinner *being* an hundred years old shall be accursed. Isaiah 65:25 The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, and the lion shall eat straw like the bullock: and dust *shall be* the serpent's meat. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain, saith the LORD.

Ezekiel 47:22 - And it shall come to pass, *that* ye shall divide it by lot for an inheritance unto you, and to the strangers that sojourn among you, which shall beget children among you: and they shall be unto you as born in the country among the children of Israel; they shall have inheritance with you among the tribes of Israel.

4. During the Millennium, a great number will not trust in Christ. They will **reluctantly** submit themselves to Christ's righteous rule, but when given the opportunity, they will show their real colors. They will rise in rebellion against Christ..the very One who could - would save them.

* | Satan, being released from his prison, will once again **deceive** the nations and lead them into
* | perdition.

**After this, no one can question God's justification for eternal punishment.

5. Satan will lead this world's final conflict by encompassing Jerusalem and the saints. Sometimes we think, "How **long** will God put up with the sinful ways of mankind?"

a. *The answer is found here in God's response to the nations' rebellion against Christ and His reign. Just as the storm clouds of war begin to gather, God the Father sends **fire** down from Heaven which utterly obliterates His enemies in sight of the saints.

b. You need to distinguish between the battle where Gog of Magog (Asia Minor) descends upon Israel from the north **before** the Tribulation and here in Revelation 20 **after** the 1,000 years. Here the focus is that they come from every direction [the four quarters of the earth] in verse 8.

These are two different battles though Satan's objective is the same. He wants to destroy the saints of God. Here it is used just to symbolically signify the enemies of God and their diabolical leader. It seems that Gog of Magog appears to be an **inclusive term for the Gentile nations.

B. Revelation 20:9 - 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.

Satan's planned invasion is totally - completely and **fin**ally terminated by God's special judgment. This was also man's final - futile attempt to overthrow the rule of God in their lives.

C. Revelation 20:10 - 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.

1. The unholy trinity are **re**united in their final forever resting place. It is "the lake of fire" where Satan and his cohorts are eternally doomed to torment day and night forever.

2. Finally fulfilled is:

Matthew 25:41 - Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:

D. Revelation 20:11 - 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.

1. We now come to a time where old and all accounts are settled by God. All of lost men's sins are brought before God, **every** one of them! This is the conclusion so that there can be a new, fresh start for eternity.

2. [And I saw a great white throne,] The goodness of God is over for the lost and notice there is no rainbow or grace.

- a. *[throne] This is a raised platform or bench. It is the seat of God's authority and sovereign rule for sentencing the lost (John 3:18 they are already condemned).
- b. [great] This could be for its size, since all the lost will stand before it. Also, it is great because **God** sits on it, and great because it is the **final** judgment of all who have rejected Him (so great salvation).
- c. [white] This is because of God's holiness and purity. Only verdicts that are true, fair, and just will be handed down. There are **no** appeals!
- d. [and Him that sat on it,] This is Christ. Remember, it is the Son who is to judge mankind.

John 5:22, 27 - For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son:
John 5:27 And hath given him authority to execute judgment also, because he is the Son of man.

** Will not this be vindication for Christ of all those who have sworn against His name, mocked Him, and a world that declared **war** against Him? Can you imagine?

Romans 2:16 - In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel.

3. [from whose face the earth and the Heaven fled away; and there was no place for them]

II Peter 3:7, 10-11 - But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men. II Peter 3:10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. II Peter 3:11 *Seeing then that* all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of *persons* ought ye to be in *all* holy conversation and godliness,

Our world and universe as we know it are done away with and will **not exist any longer. In Revelation 21, God will create new Heaven and earth.

Matthew 24:35 - Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.

Proverbs 20:8 - A king that sitteth in the throne of judgment scattereth away all evil with his eyes.

4. There are seven judgments we should know about:

- a. Calvary - This is where our sins were judged and actually where **Satan** was judged.
- b. Ourselves - If we would judge ourselves, acknowledge our sins, reckon ourselves dead to sin, and go on to live for Christ, we would **not** be judged.
- c. Judgment seat of Christ - This takes place in Heaven after the Rapture. We will be judged and **re**warded accordingly. It is only for the Body of Christ.
- d. Israel's judgment - This is in the Tribulation when the Antichrist puts a yoke of judgment on the remnant (for her many sins).
- e. Judgment of the nations - This is at the **end** of the tribulation (Matthew 25), carrying through the Millennium.
- f. White Throne Judgment - This is where all the lost of all the **ages** will stand before God and be sentenced to the lake of fire.
- g. Judgment of all the wicked angels who have sinned - The prospect of this judgment was so horrific that two thirds of the angelic host stayed faithful to God.

Note: Today's hell is the confinement area in the heart of the earth holding all the lost up to now. They will then appear here at the White Throne Judgment and be sentenced forever to the lake of fire.

E. Revelation 20:12 - 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.

1. [And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God;]
 - a. These are all the lost, all those not involved in the first resurrection. Not **one** is missing and they are alone before God's bar of justice. They are from Adam's time through the Millennium.
 - b. There will be no partiality shown. The somebodies and nobodies, everybody will be equally judged with no one **exempt**.
 - * | One moment they are in the bowels of hell in the heart of the earth, then the next moment
 - * | they are standing before God's throne. Amazingly they are standing on **nothingness** of space, face to face with Christ the judge.
2. [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.]
 - * | There are two sets of books:
 - a. [book of life] This is the register of all the names of whom God has given eternal life. Only believers have eternal spiritual life with God.
 - **This is a voucher that contains evidence to show why their names are **not** in the book of life.
 - b. [books] Christ judges them out of these books.
 - (1) They are judged out of the Bible and God's diary of every action, thought, or deed of lost man. Here they are already guilty for their sin. They are not judged for their sin, but according to their **works**.

Example: Saved - Malachi 3:16 - Then they that feared the LORD spake often one to another: and the LORD hearkened, and heard *it*, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the LORD, and that thought upon his name.

Lost - Ecclesiastes 12:14 - For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether *it be* good, or whether *it be* evil.
 - **God has a **record** of their lives and He pulls it out to judge. There will be no excuses or appeals.
 - (2) There will be a trial where all the facts, all the works of evil, and even the secret things are brought up.
 - c. God's wisdom in judgment will be seen.
 - (1) Romans 3:3-4 - For what if some did not believe? shall their unbelief make the faith of God without effect? Rom. 3:4 God forbid: yea, let God be true, but every man a liar; as it is written, That thou mightest be justified in thy sayings, and mightest overcome when thou art judged.
 - (2) Paul says when men are judged, no doubt they will be **objecting** to the righteous statements of God. Man will try to turn it on God to judge **Him**. "Who do you think you are God? You

have no right to do this to me." This will be man's last stand of self-justification.

*Jesus dealt with this:

Matthew 22:41, 46 - While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them, Matt. 22:46 And no man was able to answer him a word, neither durst any *man* from that day forth ask him any more *questions*.

3. [according to their works] This tells us there will be **different** degrees of punishment. How they lived and worked will determine the level of punishment they will receive.

*Jesus said: Matthew 10:15 - Verily I say unto you, It shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah in the day of judgment, than for that city.

F. Revelation 20:13 - 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.

1. [And the sea gave up the dead which were in it]

- a. With God all things are possible. Here God resurrects all bodies of all history..millions! Even those whose **ashes** are sprinkled in the sea.
- b. There will also be all those killed in the flood in Noah's time, and even perhaps some of the fallen angels.

Jude 6-7 - And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day. Jude 1:7 Even as Sodom and Gomorrha, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.

II Peter 2:4 - For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast *them* down to hell, and delivered *them* into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment;

Deuteronomy 5:6-8 - I *am* the LORD thy God, which brought thee out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage. Deu .5:7 Thou shalt have none other gods before me. Deu. 5:8 Thou shalt not make thee *any* graven image, *or* any likeness of *any thing* that *is* in heaven above, or that *is* in the earth beneath, or that is in the waters beneath the earth:

2. [and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them]

- a. The graves, where death houses the bodies, call forth bodies of the **ungodly** dead.
- b. The spiritual abode (hell-Hades) is where special holding cells house the souls of the lost. These unrighteous souls are summoned by God to appear before the White Throne. The lost souls are **reunited** with their non-perishable bodies suited for the lake of fire.

3. [and they were judged every man according to their works]

- a. Even though they were called up (resurrected) as a group, they will be judged **individually**. Every ungodly religious act, every immoral deed, every hidden sin, will be exposed and brought to **light** before God.
- b. Again it indicates different degrees of punishment.

Luke 12:46-48 - The lord of that servant will come in a day when he looketh not for *him*, and at an hour when he is not aware, and will cut him in sunder, and will appoint him his portion with the unbelievers. Luke 12:47 And that servant, which knew his lord's will, and prepared not *himself*, neither did according to his will, shall be beaten with many stripes. Luke 12:48 But he that knew not, and did commit things worthy of stripes, shall be beaten with few stripes. For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required: and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more.

John 19:11 - Jesus answered, Thou couldest have no power *at all* against me, except it were given thee from above: therefore he that delivered me unto thee hath the greater sin.

Hebrews 10:29 - Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?

Note: Though some degrees of punishment might be lighter, everyone will suffer **in**describably in the lake of fire.

G. Revelation 20:14 - And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.

1. Death and hell are no longer needed, so they are done **away** with!

I Corinthians 15:24-26 - Then *cometh* the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power. I Cor. 15:25 For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet. I Cor. 15:26 The last enemy *that* shall be destroyed *is* death.

2. After the White Throne Judgment, no one ever dies; thus, no one ever goes to hell. The end of the Satanic evil against God and His saints is permanently over!

H. Revelation 20:15 - And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

1. The second resurrection unto death leads to the lake of fire. Evidence against lost men will be **ir**refutable. The consequences of their sin and unbelief will be everlasting - never-ending lake of fire somewhere out there in the universe.

2. I believe **we** will be there to witness it all!

Daniel 7:9-10 - I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit, whose garment *was* white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne *was like* the fiery flame, *and* his wheels *as* burning fire. Dan. 7:10 A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him: thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him: the judgment was set, and the books were opened.