

# Eschatology

Dr. Ronnie Wolfe – Lesson Six  
January 14, 2018 – Revelation Chapter 20

## THE MILLENNIUM

### I. WHAT IS THE MILLENNIUM?

- A. The word *Millennium* literally “a thousand.”
- B. Look in Revelation 20:2-7.
- C. The phrase “thousand years” is mentioned six (6) times there, one in each of these verses.
- D. Character of the 1000 years.
  - 1. Satan is bound for 1000 years, Rev. 20:1-2
  - 2. Satan is loosed after the 1000 years is finished, Rev. 20:3, 7
  - 3. Judgment is given to believers in this period, Rev. 20:4
  - 4. Believers live and reign with Christ 1000 years, Rev. 20:4
  - 5. The rest of the dead lived not again until the 1000 years were finished, Rev. 20:5
  - 6. This 1000-year period is *The First Resurrection*, Rev. 20:5
  - 7. Believers will serve as priests in the 1000-year reign of Christ, Rev. 20:6

### II. PRECURSOR TO THE MILLENNIAL REIGN OF CHRIST

- A. In Revelation Chapter 19 we find these things:
- B. Jesus is seen in Heaven on a white horse, vs 11-13
- C. Jesus’ army (believers), who have been raptured from the earth already, will follow Christ on white horses, 14
- D. As Christ comes, he smites the nations with the sword of his mouth, ruling them with a rod of iron, and treading the winepress of the wrath of God upon the earth, 15
- E. We see on his clothes a name written KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS, 16
- F. On the earth we see a great supper of dead flesh that God has prepared through his wrath for the fowls of the air to come and eat, 17-18
- G. The remnant who were still living on the earth come against the return of the Lord and his army (saints of God), 19.
- H. Then, the beast and the false prophet are cast into the lake of fire, 20
- I. And the remnant, those left alive after God had otherwise obliterated life on earth, were slain, 21
- J. Now there are no people on the earth.

### III. THE 1000-YEAR REIGN OF CHRIST ON THE EARTH

- A. These are literal years, a millennium.
- B. In Chapter 20 of Revelation we see Christ on the earth with his saints (his army).
- C. Christ enters the earth in 20:1. He is the angel who comes down from Heaven. He has the key to the bottomless pit.
- D. In verse two (20) laid hold on the dragon, the old serpent, the Devil and Satan, and bound him for 1000 years, 20:2.

- E. Then he shut Satan up in the bottomless pit for 1000 years, after which he will be loosed for a little season, 20:3
- F. Now Satan is gone, the beast (world power) is gone, the false prophet is gone, and the only people on earth are those who have been redeemed by the blood of Christ, and he will rule and reign with them all of these 1000 years.
- G. In 20:4 we read “I saw thrones,” or seats. These are judgment seats where every believer will sit. Then verse 4 says “and judgment was given unto them.”
- H. This is where believers will be judged for the deeds done in the body.
- I. Jesus took notice of them, especially those who were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and none of them had the mark of the beast (world power) in their forehead, for that mark had been obliterated by faith in Christ. Jesus also took notice of that, 20:4.
- J. In 20:5 we read of “the rest of the dead.” These are probably that remnant who were left on the earth and who were slain as Jesus is coming back from Heaven in 19:21.
- K. They lived not again UNTIL the 1000 years were finished. We will come back to this.

#### IV. OTHER PASSAGES DESCRIBING THE MILLENNIUM

- A. Isaiah 2:1-4 *The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. 2 And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the LORD'S house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it. 3 And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. 4 And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.*
- B. Isaiah 11:5-10 *And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins. 6 The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. 7 And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together: and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. 8 And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice' den 9 They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea. 10 And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek: and his rest shall be glorious.*

#### V. THE END OF THE 1000-YEAR REIGN

- A. Satan is loosed for a little season, 20:3, 7
- B. Satan gathers a great number against the saints, 20:8-9
- C. Where did these people come from? Remember the “remnant” were slain in 19:21.
- D. There were no people on the earth until Jesus came back with his army of believers.
- E. Notice in 20:9 that they “went up.” You see, Satan is not restricted to the earth as we are

now.

- F. He has a dimension into which he can work that we on earth do not have.
- G. So, they “went up.” In other words, they came from the dead. They were resurrected. Perhaps God gave Satan the ability to do that himself, or perhaps God did it himself to prepare things for Satan to come against him one more time.
- H. This great army of Satan “compassed the camp of the saints,” 20:9
- I. There was no need for the army of God to fight to protect themselves. God sent fire from heaven to devour them, 20:9.
- J. Then the Devil was cast into the lake of fire with the beast and the false prophet, 20:10.

## VI. THE GREAT WHITE THRONE JUDGMENT

- A. The rest of this chapter is taken up with the Great White Throne Judgment, 20:11-15.
- B. The lost (all of them) are resurrected from the dead and stand before the throne of God for judgment.
  - 1. We see the greatness of God in verse 11:
    - a. His throne is great
    - b. The face of the earth fled away from him
  - 2. The lost are judged out of the Books (of the Bible), 12
  - 3. Another book was opened, the book of Life, in which is listed all who have life in Christ. None of these lost ones have life in them, because they did not and would not come to Christ for life. See John 5:40.
  - 4. They are judged according to their works, 12-13. Their works are all they have for judgment. They have no grace; they have no faith, only works.
  - 5. No one can be justified before God or stand before him in judgment with his works, only by grace through faith.
  - 6. The sea gave up its dead, and death and hell gave up their dead. All lost people will be brought before God for judgment. This is the second death, 20:14
  - 7. By this time the saved have already been judged and have been found righteous in Christ.
  - 8. Those who are not found in the book of Life are cast into the lake of fire to be punished forever and ever.
  - 9. Matthew 25:46 *And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.*

## VII. THE FINAL EVENT

- A. Read Revelation 21:1-4

NOTE: There are many more things that could be said, but this should give us an idea about the Millennial reign of Jesus Christ on the earth and our eternal life on a new heaven and new earth and a new Jerusalem. Jesus said that the meek shall inherit the earth, and this is the promise explained.