

The Final Victory

20:1-15

Introductory Notes

- In this chapter we cover the Millennial Kingdom and the Final Judgment.
- Very little detail is given to the Millennial Kingdom in this chapter, as the focus is on the the fate of Satan and his followers.

Outline

- Satan Imprisoned - vs. 1-3
- The Millennial Kingdom - vs. 4-6
- Satan's Final War - vs. 7-9
- The Final Judgment - vs. 10-15

Notes

- vs. 1 - bottomless pit - same as in 9:1, not the lake of fire we just saw in 20:10. This appears to be a prison of sorts for demons.
- vs. 2-3 - two important points in these verses: (1) Satan is imprisoned and not allowed to work for (2) a 1,000 year period.
- vs. 4 - they sat upon them - John does not here identify who is on the thrones, but I think Believers of all ages are included. See II Timothy 2:12 for one example.
- vs. 4 - judgment - Matthew 25:31-46 describes nations being judged at Christ's Second Coming, and Ezekiel 20:33-38 describes Israel being judged.
- vs. 4 - souls of them that were beheaded - I think the special emphasis of the Tribulation martyrs is further proof of Satan's failure and defeat.
- vs. 5-6 - two resurrections are described in this chapter. The First is a resurrection of the righteous at the beginning of the Millennial Kingdom, the Second is a resurrection of the wicked that takes place after the Millennial Kingdom.
- vs. 7 - these events occur at the end of the Millennium
- vs. 8 - Gog and Magog - There is great debate about who or what these are, but it is unclear at best. Many today point to this as Russia. See also Ezekiel 28:2.
- vs. 8 - the number - an innumerable number. In spite of Christ's physical presence and rule, still a multitude have hardened hearts against Him.
- vs. 9 - The Final Battle
- vs. 10 - lake of fire and brimstone - refer back to 19:20.
- vs. 11 - This is the Great White Throne judgment. It is the final condemnation of the Lost. The Saved WILL NOT be here on trial.
- vs. 11 - earth and the heaven fled away - the world and universe as we know it is destroyed. Compare to II Peter 3:10-11.
- vs. 12 - the dead, small and great - this is every unbeliever of all ages
- vs. 13 - "judged... according to their works" - While works have nothing do with salvation (Ephesians 2:8-9 for example) they are still important to God in reward for the believers and likely in punishment for the unbelievers.
- vs. 14 - the second death - you are either born twice (John 3:3) or die twice!

A Few Notes on the Millennial Kingdom

- Satan is bound for 1,000 years - Revelation 20:1-3
- Christ establishes the kingdom in Jerusalem - Zechariah 14:4-11
- The saved rule and reign with Christ - Revelation 20:4,6
- The state of the earth - Isaiah 65:18-25
- The fulfillment of promises to Israel - II Samuel 7:10-13, Isaiah 11