

“Hanging Out With Jesus For 1,000 Years!”

Revelation: 20:1-10

10/18/11

Introduction: During the holidays, we gather with family and friends with the intent to celebrate, eat, and enjoy each other. In other words, we come together to hang out with each other. Likewise, the Bible teaches us that, as Christians, we are destined to hang out with Jesus during the “millennium” kingdom. Millennium is a term derived from the Latin words *mille* (one thousand) and *annum* (year). This period of time will literally fulfill the prayer our Lord taught His followers to pray, “Your kingdom come” (**Matthew 6:10**). In our lesson tonight, we will examine a passage that teaches this fact.

Verses 1-3

The Binding

These verses show us the binding of the devil (satan). A strong angel descends from Heaven and “laid hold on” the devil. This angel is not Jesus, but he has been given power and authority from the Lord to do this job. The angel grabs satan and binds him with a strong chain that will remain on him for 1,000 years. There is no disputing who these verses are speaking about. The enemy is called “**the dragon**”, “**that old serpent**”, “**the devil**” and “**satan**”. These names reveal all we need to know about his character. (1) As a *dragon*, he is looking for those he might defeat, (2) as a *serpent*, he is ever seeking those he might deceive (**Genesis 3:1-4**), (3) as the *devil* (adversary), he is looking for those he might devour (**1 Peter 5:8**) and (4) as *satan*, he is the false accuser who is always looking for someone to defame. Even today it appears the devil is winning the war between good and evil. But, as they say, looks can be deceiving. God will have the last word in this matter. The devil is powerful, but he is not all powerful. Only God can lay claim to that title! This angel removes the devil from the earth for 1,000 years. Imagine a world with no devil. It will be almost like Heaven because there will be no one to tempt people to do evil. No one will whisper lies into our ears and remind us of how wicked we were. No one will set traps for us to fall into. A world without the devil will be the order of the day. While the earth will rejoice in his absence, the devil will be getting a small taste of what awaits him in eternity. We are told that he will go to the “**bottomless pit**”. This is a place where fallen angels/evil (demon) spirits are incarcerated (kept captive) by the Lord (**Jude 1:6**). What will satan do for 1,000 years? He will bide his time because he knows that he will be released for “**a short season**”.

Verses 4-6

The Blessing

These verses show us the blessing it will be to reign with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Notice verse 4 says, I saw thrones, and they sat upon them and judgment was given unto them. This verse shows us that there is coming a day when the saints of God will rule with their Redeemer (Jesus). When Jesus comes back in the clouds above this earth in the Rapture, He will take His bride (The Church) home to Heaven (**Acts 1:11**) (**1 Thessalonians 4:16**). After Jesus binds satan up, He will allow us the privilege of reigning with Him for 1,000 years (**2 Timothy 2:12**). Where will Jesus set up His millennium kingdom? (**Revelation 5:10**) This next part of verse 4 seems to introduce another set of saints. It speaks of those who endured the horrors of the Tribulation Period without tarnishing their testimonies or denying their faith. There will be some saints who will get saved during the Tribulation Period and because they will not worship and receive the mark of the beast, they will be killed (**Revelation 13:15-18**). These Tribulation saints will join with the Bride of Christ (The Church) and reign with Jesus for 1,000 years. Notice verses 5 and 6 make mention of the first resurrection. The Bible teaches very clearly that there will be two resurrections (**John 5:29**). The first resurrection occurs at the Second Coming of the Lord Jesus and includes the saints raised at the Rapture as well as all those resurrected at the end of the Tribulation. The Bible says that those who have a part in this resurrection are “**blessed**”. Why are they blessed? They are blessed because they will not have to endure “**the second death**”, which is the lake of fire (**Revelation 20:13-15**).

Verses 7-10

The Beating

These verses show us the beating satan will receive. After being bound in the bottomless pit for 1,000 years, satan is turned loose. Why? This will show satan that the Lord has the power to bind up and set free (**John 8:36**). Gog and Magog are the names given to the army of rebels and its leaders at the end of the Millennium. Where will the devil find this army of people? Why would anyone fall for the devil’s lies and rebel against God? Remember, the millions of people that entered the Millennium were in fleshly bodies and they married and had children. People will once again live longer. The children born during the Millennium will be raised in a perfect environment, but in their hearts some will be rebels in need of a Redeemer. They will keep the rules because they will be forced to. Once satan is released, he raises his army and leads them in one final assault against King Jesus. God ends the battle by raining fire down from Heaven and satan is cast into the lake of fire where he will spend eternity. We have a choice. We can reign with Jesus or we can roast with satan for the rest of our life!

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Verses 1-3

The B

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Verses 4-6

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