

The Millennial Reign (Message # 44)

Revelation 20: 1-10

Tonight we have come to a portion of Scripture that ought to bring joy to the heart of every believer. We have read of a period of time that spans 1,000 years, the Millennial Reign of Christ our Lord.

This is a topic surrounded by controversy much like the time of the Rapture and the church's position in the Tribulation. The Bible is clear about the duration of this time, [vv.2-7](#) each speaks of 1,000 years, but when exactly do these years take place?

There are 3 predominant views concerning the Millennium. The **Postmillennialist** believe that the world will continue to improve, and upon perfection, Christ will come and establish His kingdom. It is evident that the world hasn't seen any spiritual or moral improvements in my generation; in fact, things continue on a downward spiral. This view could not be possible.

The **Amillennialist** believe that there will be no literal kingdom and these verses are merely symbolic. They hold the view of a spiritual kingdom and that believers are in the kingdom age now. Some amillennialist believe that the Tribulation has already occurred and Jesus has already returned.

I believe in a literal interpretation and literal events as the Bible describes. This is the view of **Premillennialist**, involving the world waxing worse and worse, resulting in a literal Tribulation and the return of Christ as the Tribulation concludes, establishing His kingdom here on earth for 1,000 years. Jesus is coming again to rule and reign upon the earth. Let's look at what the Bible reveals about the time we know as: [The Millennial Reign](#).

I. The Confrontation with Satan (1-3) – It appears that the first order of business our Lord will have is dealing with Satan. We learned in [Chp.19](#) that the Lord would cast Antichrist and the false prophet into the lake of fire and as the Millennium begins, God will immediately deal with Satan. Notice:

A. He is Reminded (1) – Ever since the fall of man Satan has been on the loose deceiving and drawing men away from God. He is the god of this earth, the prince of the power of darkness. He has been a continual presence and hindrance in the course of humanity.

- He enjoyed the Tribulation period and the devastation that it brought, but here he is reminded of who holds the ultimate power. An angel comes having the key to the bottomless pit.

- We have all dealt with the power and influence of Satan, but praise God he doesn't have all power. He will have to submit to the authority of Almighty God! What a day that will be when Satan has the keys shook in his face!

B. He is Restrained (2) – The angel lays hold on Satan and binds him with a mighty chain. Satan has enjoyed centuries of bringing heartache and despair to hearts and lives. He has worked against the church and all who believe. He desires nothing more than to tear down and destroy those who belong to Christ, but as the Millennium begins Satan will be bound.

- There is reason to rejoice in this verse. Many names are attributed to Satan and they all reveal his character. He is the **dragon**, that “*spiritual darkness that stirs up cruel and brutal passions, an evil that seeks to devour.*” He is the **old serpent**, that “*subtle deceiver who leads men into disobedience and sin.*” He is the **devil**, the “*false accuser of the brethren*” who seeks slander and lies. He is **Satan**, the “*adversary and enemy of God*” seeking to defeat and destroy all who serve the Lord.
- He has brought much suffering to godly people, but Satan will one day be bound by the mighty chains of God! He is enjoying a season of utter wickedness in the world, but his day will come to meet a sovereign God!

C. He is Removed (3) – This mighty angel will bind Satan and cast him into the bottomless pit where he shall remain for the 1,000 years of the Millennial Reign. He will not be allowed to deceive and hinder the nations. His evil influence won't be felt upon the earth. There will be no suffering the effects and despair of sin.

- Can you imagine a world like that, one with no Satan to deal with? It will be a world without temptation, no sickening reminders of our past or our unworthiness, no false accusations, or wicked influence. There will come a day when we will escape the presence and the power of Satan.
- He may be a hindrance to you today, but the saved are going to enjoy a time when Satan is no longer welcome. For 1,000 years the world will enjoy heaven on earth while Satan is bound. Doesn't that bring joy to your soul? Doesn't that make you want to praise our Lord?

I. The Confrontation with Satan (1-3)

II. The Consolation of the Saints (4-6) – These verses give us a glimpse of what we shall enjoy during the time that Satan is bound. The events of the Millennium are too vast and wonderful to cover tonight, but I do want to share a few thoughts with you from these verses. This will be a time like the world has never known. All will be as God intended in the beginning.

A. The Presence of the Redeemer – This will be what makes the Millennium a special time. We have the blessing of the Holy Spirit indwelling us today, but imagine being in the very presence of our Lord upon the earth! We will live in a world where Jesus rules and reigns as a sovereign King. He will set up His earthly kingdom and we will live under His rule. Our blessed Redeemer will be the King of the earth!

▪ The Bible reveals far more than we can cover, but I want to share a few things that we will enjoy in that day. It will be a time of:

- **Plenty**, [Is.35:1-2](#),
- **Unity**, [Is.11:6-9](#), (cockatrice-viper);
- **Wholeness**, [Is.35:5-6](#), imagine a world with no sickness or disease, no death or dying, no hospitals or nursing homes, no adversity at all;
- **Peace and Purity**, [Is.2:2-4](#), men will live a life of righteousness before the Lord with Jesus reigning as King. The weapons of warfare will be replaced with the tools of prosperity. The nations of the earth will live together in perfect peace and harmony.

▪ A world without the influence of Satan and the physical presence of the Lord will become reality during the Millennium. We will enjoy the perfect environment that the Lord will establish on earth.

B. The Privilege of Our Reign (4) – This reveals that we will reign with the Lord as He establishes His rule. The church will be raptured out to meet the Lord in the air. We will return with Jesus as He defeats His foes and sets up His kingdom. As the bride of Christ, we will enjoy the privilege of reigning on earth with the Lord.

▪ The tribulation saints who were martyred will also share in this reign. Daniel gives further insight to this time. [Dan.7:27](#) – *And the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the most High, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him.* The saints of the most High, all of them will reign with the Lord.

▪ Can you imagine what a time that will be? The thrones of the earth will be occupied by the people of God. The OT saints will share in this, those who were saved in the day of grace, and even those who endured the Tribulation. What a glorious time for the children of God. Those who were sinful and undeserving will be given a place of honor for their faith in Christ! The world will be ruled only by those who belong to God.

C. The Power of the Resurrection (5-6) – Here we find insight into the resurrection of the dead. The first resurrection will involve those who were martyred for their faith in the

Tribulation. The church will have risen at the Rapture. These will rise at the end of the Tribulation to reign during the Millennium. Those who take part in the first resurrection are blessed and holy; they have believed in Christ.

- Those who are reserved for the second resurrection are those who have rejected the loving favor of God and His offer of salvation. They will remain in the grave until the Millennium is over and then be resurrected to face God in judgment. At that moment all who ever lived and died apart from God will stand in judgment, from Cain through the end of the Millennial Reign. All who died in Christ will enjoy the Millennium, while all who died in sin are reserved for judgment.

I. The Confrontation with Satan (1-3)

II. The Consolation of the Saints (4-6)

III. The Conclusion of Sin (7-10) – At the end of the Millennium, on the brink of eternity, sin will be dealt with for the last time. It is here that Satan will be loosed for a season, just prior to His ultimate judgment. These are verses that are a bit hard to comprehend, but we must look at them in the proper perspective. As the Millennium comes to an end, sin will be eradicated forever, never to be felt again. Notice:

A. The Deception of Satan (7-8) – After being bound for 1,000 years, Satan will be loosed for a little season. It is during that time that he will go to the four corners of the earth, deceiving mankind.

- We might wonder how this could be in a perfect world, one where Jesus is King. The population of the earth will explode during these 1,000 years. Disease and the effects of age won't be an issue. Those who entered the Millennium, surviving Armageddon will marry and raise families. People will live for a thousand years once again.

- Those who are born in that day will be born in a body of flesh. They will have the same need of salvation that each of us had. It is hard to imagine, but all who are born in the Millennial age will not accept Christ. Even in a perfect world, the flesh will win out in the hearts of some. These will be those who are deceived by Satan. This stands to confirm the total depravity of man. All are born in sin and in need of a Savior!

B. The Delusion of Sinners (9a) – Even in a world where Jesus rules as King, some will choose to reject Him and follow Satan. There will be those who embrace Satan and unite with him in his last stand against God.

- Satan will form an army of people of the earth to defy the Lord one last time in a futile effort to overthrow God. He will lead them to Jerusalem in an attempt to do battle with God. This final stand will bring about:

C. The Defeat of Sin (9b-10) – You would think that Armageddon would've confirmed the power of God to Satan, but he tries one last time to overthrow the Lord. As the army masses against Jerusalem God will devour those who followed Satan with fire from heaven. Those who denied Christ during the Millennium will lose their lives and face the torments of hell. How tragic that will be, having lived on earth as Jesus ruled as King and yet denying Him and dying lost.

- It is here that Satan will be eternally cast into the lake of fire to join Antichrist and the false prophet. He has tried since before the world began to surpass God and take His place. It is here that God will pronounce judgment on Satan as he receives his just reward.
- I have read the back of the Book and my God will stand victorious. Satan may bring trouble and pain to our lives today, but he will one day face the God of heaven and be defeated completely.

If you are saved you will take part in the Millennial Reign. You may receive little respect from this world, but God is keeping a record. There will be a throne reserved for you to reign upon. The redeemed of God have nothing but joy and peace to look forward to.

Those who have denied the Lord will face Him in wrath and judgment. Satan likes to deceive men to believe he has all power, but he is limited. On that faithful day, God will judge him for his iniquity.

My question is: are you saved? Do you know for sure that you have trusted the Lord? You don't want to be reserved for the second resurrection and the second death, condemned to spend eternity with Satan in the lake of fire. Jesus wants to save all who will come to Him. If you are not sure, why not come and get it settled?