

Semester 1 – Week 3 – Class 5

REVELATION'S MILLENNIUM OF PEACE

Now that word "millennium" is not found in the Bible. Two Latin words, "milli," which means a thousand, and "annum," which means "a year." The major Christian church for over a thousand years spoke Latin in their services and so they called this "the millennium." And that name has carried over to us today. It simply means "thousand years." But even though the word is not mentioned in the scriptures there are references to a thousand-year period of time. Invariably, those scriptures are clustered around the doctrine of the resurrection of the dead.

Some say that this millennium is going to be a time of great peace and harmony here on this earth where everyone is going to have a chance to accept Jesus as the Messiah. **Others say no**, this millennium is a time just for the nation of Israel, where they are going to have a thousand years of peace with no war. **Others say no**, this time is going to be when total desolation will be on this earth and all sin will cease.

Of all the subjects in the book of Revelation, this has got to be one of the most simple in the Word of God. What about that period of time in the Bible called the 1000 years or millennium? What happens after Christ Comes? What will take place during the 1000 years? Where will God's people be? Will that 1000 years period be a time of a second chance for people who haven't accepted Christ when He comes? What is the condition of the earth during the 1000 years?

What happens to Satan and where will he be during the 1000 years? Where will his evil angels be? When does God make the earth new? Is there anyone alive during the 1,000 years? Jesus said, "the meek will inherit the earth" but He also talked about going to heaven. So how does it all fit in? The Bible has all the answers so you and I need not be confused. Because to be confused leaves the mind open for Satan's deceptions. The events that surround Jesus' second coming have been clearly revealed in God's Word.

John 14:1-3 **"Let not your heart be troubled. Ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions. If it were not so I would have told you. I go and prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you I will come again and receive you unto myself that where I am there ye may be also.**

Two classes:

The wheat and the tares; The sheep and the goats; There is the narrow road and the broad road; Good and evil; Truth and error; The saved and the lost! Only two sides and we find them represented in our next two texts.

Isaiah 25:9 **"And it shall be said in that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, and he will save us: this is the LORD; we have waited for him, we will be glad and rejoice in his salvation."**

Revelation 6:14-16, verse 14 **"And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places. And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?"**

That's a good question isn't it? Who shall be able to stand? The Bible gives us the answer. You don't want to be found in that group. They are ashamed to see Jesus come and it is easier for them to bear the rocks and mountains falling on them to hide them from God than to look into His face and see Him come. When Jesus comes we see these two groups. All people at this point have chosen their eternal destiny. There will not be a second chance for anyone at the coming of Jesus. The whole idea that there will be a second chance at the coming of Jesus is a great and awful deception to lead millions into a false security in these last days. Let's go to Revelation 20 and start our study of the 1000 years mentioned there.

Revelation 20:1-3 **"And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him, a thousand years, And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed, a little season." "Deceive the nations no more." That means that the devil is deceiving the nations of the earth right now.**

Revelation 20: 4, 5 **"And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years. But the rest of the dead lived not again until the**

thousand years were finished, This is the first resurrection.” Now there was no punctuation in the original Greek, and there should be a parenthesis in here. (“But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished).

Revelation 20: 6 **“Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.”**

John 5:28, 29 **“Marvel not at this, for the hour is coming in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, and shall come forth; they that have done good unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil unto the resurrection of damnation.**

QUESTION: What events mark the BEGINNING of the 1,000 years?

4 Groups when Jesus comes:

RIGHTEOUS LIVING RIGHTEOUS DEAD.

WICKED LIVING WICKED DEAD.

1) Righteous living

1Thessalonians 4:16, 17 **“For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.”**

2) Righteous dead

Verse 16, **“ ... and the dead in Christ shall rise first.”**

QUESTION: What else will happen at the resurrection?

1 Corinthians 15:51-54 **“Behold, I shew you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in a twinkling of an eye, at the last trump. For the trumpet shall sound and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.**

Philippians 3:21 **“Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body.”**

1 Corinthians 15:20-23 **“But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept. For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming.”**

So the righteous go to heaven. The New Jerusalem in Heaven.

QUESTION: What about the lost?

3) Wicked living

2 Thessalonians 1:8, 9 **“In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power.”**

2 Thessalonians 2:8 **“And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming.**

Luke 17:27 **“The flood came, and destroyed them all.”**

Luke 17:29, 30 **“But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, destroyed them all. Even thus shall it be in the day when the son of man is revealed.”**

So the righteous, those raised and those translated without seeing death go to heaven, while the living wicked are slain.

Isaiah 13:9-11 **“Behold, the day of the LORD cometh, cruel both with wrath and fierce anger, to lay the land desolate: and he shall destroy the sinners thereof out of it. For the stars of heaven and the constellations thereof shall not give their light: the sun shall be darkened in his going forth, and the moon shall not cause her light to shine. And I will punish the world for their evil, and the wicked for their iniquity; and I will cause the arrogancy of the proud to cease, and will lay low the haughtiness of the terrible.”**

4) Wicked dead

Revelation 20:5 **“But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished, This is the first resurrection.”** The wicked dead just stay dead.

CHRIST'S COMING REVIEW

1. Righteous dead are resurrected from the grave.
2. Righteous living and resurrected dead receive immortality and are caught up to heaven to meet Jesus.
3. The wicked living are slain by the glory of God. Their bodies are strewn all over, and the fowls feast on their flesh. (Rev. 19)
4. The wicked dead are already dead, and they just stay in the grave until after the thousand years.
5. The redeemed ones ascend to heaven with Christ.

QUESTION: After Jesus' second coming, how many people are left alive on this earth? **NONE!**

Revelation 20:4 **"And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and [I saw] the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received [his] mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years."** Those living and reigning with Christ during the thousand years had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark .

QUESTION: Can we be sure that when the righteous reign 1,000 years with Jesus, that they're in Heaven?

Revelation 15:1, 2 **"... And I saw as it were a sea of glass mingled with fire: and them that had gotten the victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his mark, [and] over the number of his name, stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God."** The same group of people who had gotten the victory over the beast and his image are pictured as standing on the "sea of glass." (John is pictured as looking up into heaven as he sees this vision.)

Revelation 4:1, 2, 6, **"After this I looked, and, behold, a door [was] opened in heaven: and the first voice which I heard [was] as it were of a trumpet talking with me; which said, Come up hither, and I will show thee things which must be hereafter. And immediately I was in the spirit; and, behold, a throne was set in heaven, and [one] sat on the throne."** **"... And before the throne there was a sea of glass like unto crystal."** So John looks up in heaven and he sees God's throne in heaven and before the throne the sea of glass the redeemed will stand on.

There is therefore no question that the redeemed will spend this 1000 years in heaven.

QUESTION: **What is the condition of the earth during the 1,000 years?**

God permitted several prophets, including John, Isaiah, and Jeremiah to look prophetically into the future and see what was going to be taking place here on this earth during this 1,000 years.

Revelation 16:18, 20, 21 **"... and there was a great earthquake, such as was not since men were upon the earth, so mighty an earthquake, and so great. And every island fled away, and the mountains were not found. And there fell upon men a great hail out of heaven, every stone about the weight of a talent..."**

1 Thessalonians 5:3 **"... then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape."**

Revelation 16:18-20 **"... a great earthquake ... the cities of the nations fell... And every island fled away, and the mountains were not found."**

Isaiah 13:9-11 **"Behold, the day of the LORD cometh, cruel both with wrath and fierce anger, to lay the land desolate: and he shall destroy the sinners thereof out of it. For the stars of heaven and the constellations thereof shall not give their light: the sun shall be darkened in his going forth, and the moon shall not cause her light to shine. And I will punish the world for their evil, and the wicked for their iniquity; and I will cause the arrogancy of the proud to cease, and will lay low the haughtiness of the terrible."**

Jeremiah 4:23-28 **"I beheld the earth, and, lo, it was without form, and void; and the heavens, and they had no light ... I beheld the mountains, and, lo, they trembled, and all the hills moved lightly. I beheld, and, lo, there was no man, and all the birds of the heavens were fled. I beheld, and, lo, the fruitful place was a wilderness, and all the cities thereof were broken down at the presence of the LORD, and by his fierce anger. For thus hath the LORD said, The whole land shall be desolate; yet will I not make a full end. For this shall the earth mourn, and the heavens above be black: because I have spoken it, I have purposed it, and will not repent, neither will I turn back from it."**

Isaiah 24:1, 6 **"Behold the Lord maketh the earth empty and maketh it waste and turneth it upside down and scattereth abroad the inhabitants thereof." "Therefore hath the curse devoured the earth, and they that dwell therein are desolate: therefore the inhabitants of the earth are burned, and few men are left."**

Matthew 7:13, 14 “Enter ye in at the straight gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

REVIEW: Righteous are in heaven. The earth is desolate.

Isaiah 24:19-22 “The earth is utterly broken down, the earth is clean dissolved, the earth is moved exceedingly.

The earth shall reel to and fro like a drunkard, and shall be removed like a cottage; and the transgression thereof shall be heavy upon it; and it shall fall, and not rise again. And it shall come to pass in that day, that the LORD shall punish the host of the high ones [that are] on high, and the kings of the earth upon the earth. And they shall be gathered together, as prisoners are gathered in the pit, and shall be shut up in the prison, and after many days shall they be visited.”

The wicked, and the kings of the earth are gathered in the pit. Satan is bound in the pit.

Revelation 20:1, 2 “And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years.”

Jeremiah 4:23 “I beheld the earth, and, lo, it was without form, and void; and the heavens, and they had no light.”

“Bottomless Pit” Greek word “Abussos” meaning abyss. “Without form and void.” It is the same as the description of the earth at creation in Genesis 1:1, 2, “In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. And the earth was without form, and void;”

Jeremiah 25:33 “And the slain of the LORD shall be at that day from one end of the earth even unto the other end of the earth: they shall not be lamented, neither gathered, nor buried; they shall be dung upon the ground.”

Jeremiah 4:25 “I beheld, and, lo, there was no man.” That is why the bodies will lay on the face of the earth because there is nobody to cry or to gather them for burial. Total devastation.

Isaiah 14:12-14 “How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north:

I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.”

Isaiah 14:18-20 “All the kings of the nations, even all of them, lie in glory, every one in his own house. But thou art cast out of thy grave like an abominable branch, and as the raiment of those that are slain, thrust through with a sword, that go down to the stones of the pit; as a carcase trodden under feet. Thou shalt not be joined with them in burial, because thou hast destroyed thy land, and slain thy people: the seed of evildoers shall never be renowned.”

Revelation 20:1-3 “And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years,

QUESTION: What are these chains that bind Satan?

Mark 5:2-4 “And when he was come out of the ship, immediately there met him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit, Who had his dwelling among the tombs; and no man could bind him, no, not with chains: Because that he had been often bound with fetters and chains, and the chains had been plucked asunder by him, and the fetters broken in pieces: neither could any man tame him.”

Jude 6 “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.”

2 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.”

The earth will be cold and dark for the sun will not give light. He will not be able to leave the bottomless pit, which is the earth in its destroyed condition. It is his prison house. He will have no one to tempt for there are no living people on earth during the millennium. Satan is bound by a chain of circumstances.

Let's consider events during the Millennium.

QUESTION: What will the saints be doing during the 1,000 years?

Revelation 20:4 **“And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them:”**

QUESTION: How is judgment given to them?

1 Corinthians 6:2, 3 **“Do ye not know that the saints shall judge the world? and if the world shall be judged by you, are ye unworthy to judge the smallest matters? Know ye not that we shall judge angels? how much more things that pertain to this life.”**

2 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.”**

1 Corinthians 4:5 **“Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord come, who both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest the counsels of the hearts: and then shall every man have praise of God.”**

How is judgment given to them? They will be able to examine the books of any person that was not saved, and they will see that God judged fairly. They will even be allowed to examine the books of the fallen angels.

Reviewing the events during the Millennium:

We know the righteous are in heaven where God’s throne is;

The wicked must remain dead until the thousand years are finished;

Satan and his angels are bound by circumstances on planet earth;

And the earth remains a desolated planet.

QUESTION: What occurs at the close of the millennium?

Revelation 21:2, 3 **“And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold; the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.”**

Revelation 3:12 **“New Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven...”**

QUESTION: What happens after the Millennium? The scripture tells us that the wicked dead are raised.

John 5:28, 29 **“Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, and shall come forth: they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation.”**

Revelation 20:5 **“But the rest of the dead, lived not again until the thousand years were finished.”**

Acts 24:15 **“...there shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust.**

1,000 years separates the two resurrections.

The end of the millennium marks the resurrection of damnation.

QUESTION: What will Satan do when the wicked are raised?

Revelation 20:7-9 **“And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison. 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. And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: . . . ”**

Multiplied billions of the resurrected unrighteous, being led by Satan **“... the number of whom is as the sand of the sea.”**

Will surround the city of God, New Jerusalem.

QUESTION: At this critical moment, what will stop everything?

Revelation 20:11, 12 **“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. 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.” God’s throne will be vindicated.

Philippians 2:10, 11 **“That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.**

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.**

Revelation 20:14, 15 **“And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.”**

QUESTION: **After the fire goes out, what will God do for His people?**

Isaiah 65:17 **“For, behold, I create new heavens and a new earth: and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind.”**

Revelation 21:1 **“And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.”**

2 Peter 3:13 **“Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.”**

Reviewing the events at the end of the millennium;

Christ, the saints and the city New Jerusalem descends to earth;

The wicked dead are raised;

Satan is loosed from his prison;

The great white throne judgment;

Satan and the sinners will be destroyed;

The earth is cleansed by fire and then renewed.

QUESTION: **Where will God and the righteous finally live?**

Matthew 5:5 **“Blessed are the meek; for they shall inherit the earth.**

Revelation 21:4, 5 **“And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful.”**

End Semester 1 – Week 3 - Class 5

The Next Class - Semester 1 – Week 3 – Class 6

“God’s Love Revealed in Hell-Fire”