

The 1,000-year period of the millennium—the time when the righteous will reign with Christ seated on thrones in heaven—is clearly taught in the scriptures (Revelation 20:4). While the term millennium is not mentioned in the Bible, its teaching is embedded within scripture, especially in the book of Revelation. The word millennium is derived from two Latin words mille which means "thousand" and annus which means "years." During this period, Satan and his angels will be bound on earth and symbolically chained through a set of circumstances beyond their control. With no one to tempt, they will be in a state of misery. Not only will Satan and his angels view the utter devastation of the earth, they will also view the dead bodies of the wicked decomposed and scattered throughout the ends of the earth. They will have a thousand years to ponder the effects and far-reaching results of their rebellion and sin against God. Undoubtedly, the millennium is a time period that Satan and his angels would rather avoid. Let's study and learn What God Says About…"The Millennium."

THE 1,000 YEAR REIGN

1. **According to Revelation 20:6, the saints who are considered blessed and holy have part in which resurrection? How long will the resurrected saints reign with Christ in heaven?**

   "Blessed and holy is he that hath part in _____ _____ _____: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him _____ _____ _____." *Revelation 20:6*

   Note: *All the righteous saints who have ever lived will go to heaven with Jesus at the second coming—this includes the righteous living and the righteous dead who will be resurrected when Jesus returns. The redeemed from all ages will reign as priests with Christ for a thousand years in heaven. No temporal millennium will occur on earth, as popularly taught, prior to the second coming of Christ!*

2. **According to Revelation 20:5, the wicked dead will not live again or be resurrected until what has finished?**

"But the rest of the dead lived not again until _____ _____ _____ were finished. This is the first resurrection." *Revelation 20:5*

Note: *A casual reading of Revelation 20:5 will lead the reader to believe that the resurrection of the wicked, as described in this passage, is the first resurrection. However, this is incorrect. Revelation 20:6 states that the resurrected saints who will be in the first resurrection are called "blessed and holy." Clearly, the wicked are not blessed or holy! Punctuation and chapter divisions are not in the original Greek text. The translators inserted them to aid the reader. While these study aids are helpful, the translators sometimes made mistakes. The phrase, "This is the first resurrection" clearly belongs to Revelation 20:6, the next verse, and it should read, "This is the first resurrection. 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." The first resurrection or resurrection of the righteous saints begins the millennium. The second resurrection or resurrection of the wicked dead will occur after the millennium has ended.*

THE SECOND COMING AND THE WICKED

3. **According to 2 Thessalonians 2:8, how will the wicked be consumed and destroyed at the second coming of Christ?**

"And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____, and shall destroy _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____." *2 Thessalonians 2:8*

4. **What three words are used to describe what will <u>not</u> occur regarding the wicked who are slain at the second coming? The wicked dead are described in what way?**

"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 _____, neither _____, nor _____; they shall be _____ _____ _____ _____." *Jeremiah 25:33*

Note: *No one will mourn, gather, or bury the wicked during the millennium. There will be no funerals because all human beings left on*

earth will be dead during the millennium.

TOTAL BLACKNESS—NO LIGHT ON EARTH

5. While in vision, how does Jeremiah describe the condition of the earth, the heavens, the mountains, and the hills during the millennium?

[23]"I beheld the earth, and, lo, it was _____ _____, and _____; and the heavens, and _____ _____ _____ _____. [24]I beheld the mountains, and, lo, _____ _____, and all the hills _____ _____." *Jeremiah 4:23, 24*

Note: *The earth will be in a state of utter desolation. It will be without form, and it will be devoid of any living human inhabitants. Planet earth will be in a state of total darkness. The heavens will withdraw its light, and the earth will experience a blackout for a thousand years!*

6. While in vision, how many people did the prophet Jeremiah see living on earth during the millennium? The birds of the heavens did what?

[25]"I beheld, and, lo, there was _____ _____, and all the birds of the heavens were _____. [26]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." *Jeremiah 4:25, 26*

7. How does Jeremiah describe the condition of the whole land? What color will the heavens be during the millennium?

[27]"For thus hath the LORD said, _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____; yet will I not make a full end. [28]For this shall the earth mourn, and the heavens above be _____: because I have spoken it, I have purposed it, and will not repent, neither will I turn back from it." *Jeremiah 4:27, 28*

THE DEVIL—CHAINED TO THE EARTH

8. According to John the Revelator, what did the angel from heaven have in his possession? What did he have in his hand?

"And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ and _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____." *Revelation 20:1*

Note: *According to John the Revelator's vision regarding the millennium, a mighty angel will symbolically chain the devil, bind him to the earth, and cast him into the bottomless pit. Obviously, it is impossible to bind a spiritual being, therefore, the devil will be chained to the earth through a set of circumstances beyond his control. In other words, there will be no one to tempt for a thousand years. According to 2 Peter 2:4, the wicked angels who were cast out of heaven will also be in "chains of darkness" during this time period.*

9. Who did the angel lay hold upon? How long did he bind the devil to the earth?

"And he laid hold on _____ _____, that _____ _____, which is _____ _____, and _____, and bound him _____ _____ _____." *Revelation 20:2*

Note: *According to Revelation 20:2, Satan will be bound or confined to planet earth for a thousand years (see Exhibit 1). During the millennium, Satan will be miserable as he will have no one to tempt. He will be forced to view the utter devastation of planet earth as well as the decomposed bodies of the wicked scattered as dung from one end of the earth to the other (Jeremiah 25:33). He will have a thousand years to ponder the far reaching effects of his rebellion against God. However, his character will not change. The heinous character of Satan was revealed before the universe when he inspired wicked men to crucify Christ on Calvary. Clearly, his character is fixed, and the millennium will not lead to a change of heart.*

10. Where did the angel cast the devil during the millennium? When the millennium ends, Satan will be loosed for how long?

"And cast him _____ _____ _____ _____, 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 _____ _____ _____." *Revelation 20:3*

Note: *The Greek word for the term "bottomless pit" is "abussos" in which the English word "abyss" is derived. Abussos or the abyss means deep or depthless. Interestingly, the Septuagint—the Greek translation of the Old Testament—uses the same Greek word "abussos" to describe the condition*

of the earth in its disorganized and darkened state. In Genesis 1:2, the Bible says, "And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters" (Genesis 1:2). The word "deep" in this passage is translated in the Septuagint as "abussos"—meaning deep or immeasurable depth. Therefore, Satan will be shut up and symbolically chained in the depths and darkness of the earth. In other words, he will be confined and restricted to the earth with no one to tempt. After the millennium has ended, Satan will be loosed from his prison and will go out and deceive the wicked nations that have been resurrected (Revelation 20:7, 8).

THE 1,000 YEARS AND THE RIGHTEOUS

11. What did John the Revelator see in vision? What responsibility was given to the righteous who sat on the thrones? How long did they live and reign with Christ in heaven?

"And _____ _____ _____, and they sat upon them, and _____ _____ _____ _____ _____: 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 _____ _____ _____." *Revelation 20:4*

THE JUDGMENT OF THE WICKED

12. According to the prophet Daniel, what was given to the saints?

21"I beheld, and the same horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them; 22Until the Ancient of days came, and _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ of the most High; and the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom." *Daniel 7:21, 22*

13. According to the apostle Paul, who shall judge the world? Who else will the saints judge?

1"Dare any of you, having a matter against another, go to law before the unjust, and not before the saints? 2Do ye not know that _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____? and if the world shall be judged by you, are ye unworthy to judge the smallest matters? 3Know ye not that _____ _____ _____

_____? how much more things that pertain to this life." *1 Corinthians 6:1-3*

Note: *According to Scripture, the saints will review the record books in heaven of both the wicked and the fallen angels during the millennium. Obviously, the saints do not render any verdicts, for the cases of each have already been determined by their own choices. However, for their own benefit, they will be able to ask God questions and see the justice and fairness of God regarding the final verdict.*

THE SANCTUARY AND THE MILLENNIUM

Note: *The ancient Israelite sanctuary service vividly teaches the concept of the millennium in Leviticus 16. However, Revelation 20 further expounds upon this truth by graphically portraying the set of circumstances that Satan will face for a thousand years.*

14. How many goats were presented by Aaron, the high priest, at the door of the tabernacle on the Day of Atonement?

"And he shall take the _____ _____, and present them before the LORD at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation." *Leviticus 16:7*

15. What is the name of the two goats of which lots fell upon on the Day of Atonement?

"And Aaron shall cast lots upon the two goats; one lot for _____ _____, and the other lot for _____ _____." *Leviticus 16:8*

16. According to Leviticus 16:9, Aaron presented the Lord's goat as what type of offering after the lot fell upon it?

"And Aaron shall bring the goat upon which the Lord's lot fell, and offer him for ____ _____ _____." *Leviticus 16:9*

Note: *The Lord's goat was slain, and its shed blood was offered as a sin offering for the congregation, the high priest, and his household. Its blood was sprinkled before the mercy seat to make an atonement for the broken law. The blood of the Lord's goat was also used to make an atonement for both sanctuary compartments and the altar of burnt offerings, including its four horns. The blood of the Lord's goat was used for the purpose of atonement and symbolic cleansing. Its blood was shed in the beginning stages of the Day of Atonement service, and it played an integral role throughout this sacred service.*

17. In what specific way was Aaron to present the scapegoat before the Lord on the Day of Atonement?

"But the goat, on which the lot fell to be the scapegoat, shall be _____ _____ before the LORD, to make an atonement with him, and to let him go for a scapegoat into the wilderness." *Leviticus 16:10*

Note: *The scapegoat, which represented Satan, was not slain, neither did it shed blood! It was kept alive. Its purpose was distinctly different than the Lord's goat. It was not utilized until the end of the service, after the atonement or reconciling of the congregation and sanctuary had been completed.*

18. After the atonement was completed for the congregation and the sanctuary, which goat did Aaron bring at the conclusion of the service?

"And when he hath made an end of reconciling the holy place, and the tabernacle of the congregation, and the altar, he shall bring _____ _____ _____." *Leviticus 16:20*

19. What did Aaron lay upon the head of the live goat or scapegoat? Of what of the Children of Israel did he confess over its head? Where did the fit man take the scapegoat?

"And Aaron shall lay _____ _____ _____ upon the head of the live goat, and confess over him _____ _____ _____ of the children of Israel, and _____ _____ _____ in _____ _____ _____, putting them upon the head of the goat, and shall send him away by the hand of a fit man _____ _____ _____." *Leviticus 16:21*

Note: *At the conclusion of the service of the Day of Atonement, the high priest confessed the atoned sins upon the head of the scapegoat and sent him out by the hand of a fit man to perish in the barren wilderness. During the millennium, Christ, our great high priest, will transfer the atoned sins from the heavenly sanctuary and place them upon the head of Satan who will be in the barren wilderness of the earth preparing to meet his final fate! Satan, represented by the scapegoat, is the instigator of the sins of the congregation, and he will ultimately be punished as the author and root cause of sin.*

20. What does the scapegoat bear upon him? Where is the polluted scapegoat taken and left to perish?

"And the goat shall bear upon him _____ _____ _____ unto _____ _____ _____ _____: and he shall let go the goat _____ _____ _____." *Leviticus 16:22*

THE END OF THE 1,000 YEARS

21. Who shall be loosed out of his prison at the end of the 1,000 years? Whom shall he deceive? How does John describe the number of wicked people whom Satan will deceive?

[7]"And when the thousand years are expired, _____ shall be loosed out of his prison, [8]And shall go out to deceive _____ _____ which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____." *Revelation 20:7, 8*

22. What did Satan and the wicked nations do when they approached the beloved city, New Jerusalem? What did God send down from heaven? What did the fire do to Satan and the wicked nations?

"And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and _____ _____ _____ of the _____ about, and the beloved city: and _____ came down from God out of heaven, and _____ _____." *Revelation 20:9*

SUMMARY

The millennium is the 1,000-year period spoken of in the book of Revelation. This period will begin when all the righteous saints go to heaven with Jesus at the second coming. They will sit on thrones and spend a thousand years examining the record books and will clearly see the justice of God in His dealings with the wicked. While the saints are in heaven, Satan and his angels will be bound on earth and symbolically chained through circumstances beyond their control. They will have no one to tempt as dead bodies will be decomposed and scattered throughout the darkened earth. Satan will spend a thousand years contemplating the results of his rebellion. Undoubtedly, Satan—illustrated by the scapegoat in the ancient Israelite sanctuary service—will ultimately be punished as the originator and instigator of sin.

23. Dear friend, are you willing to follow Jesus so you can spend the 1,000-year millennium in heaven with Him? _____

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