

## THE BOOK OF REVELATION

"Last Day of Gog and Magog"

Revelation 20:7-10

### Revision

1. The return of Christ to the earth is at once cataclysmic and triumphant (19:11-21). Enemies of the Lord are utterly devastated. Fowls of the air dispose of their remains.

2. With the cleansing of the Lord's earth, Satan is summararily incarcerated in the abyss or bottomless pit to the extent of 1000 years. Chiliasm is thus established by God's Messiah's return. It does not come about by the gradual takeover of the world by Christianity (postmillennial view).

3. Concurrent with the millennium is the first resurrection which includes the church (1 Thess. 4:13-18), O.T. saints (Dan. 12:1-3), and tribulation saints (Rev. 20:4). Hence, those going into the kingdom are all believers. Those who went into the tribulation were all non believers (1 Cor. 15:51-57).

4. Following the millennium, a renewed outbreak of violence comes to the earth. Satan had been unable to deceive the nations (20:3), but now he can (20:8). The details of this deception are recorded. They include:

#### 1. LOOSING OF SATAN v. 7

##### a. Time of it

An indefinite temporal clause concerns the general time limitations. Specifically, it is whenever the 1000 years are finished. The aorist passive shows the millennium has run its course. Surely this confirms the literality of the 1000 year figure.

##### b. Fact of it

A future passive verb affirms unequivocally that Satan is loosed "out of" (ἐκ ek) his prison. Earlier this place of confinement is named "the bottomless pit" or "abyss" (20:3). The release concurs with the necessity recorded (20:3). Thank God it is only for a "little time."

#### 2. EXHIBITING OF SIN vv. 8, 9

Note: Scripture baldly teaches the reality of the sin nature. To deny it is personal deception (1 John 1:8). Concomitantly, the sin nature produces acts of sin. To deny this makes God a liar (1 John 1:10).

##### a. By Deception of Satan

1) Noted Satan returns to his old strategies. He is the arch deceiver (John 8:44; Rev. 12:9; 13:14; 19:20; 20:3).

2) Extended The deception relates to the nations which are in the four corners of the earth. Think of it, with the restraint upon Satan removed, nations (individuals and peoples) who had lived under the personal reign of Messiah, now yield to Satan. Apparently the obedience under Messiah Jesus is now shown to have been compelled submission under His rod (Ps 2:9), perhaps extorted by fear, and really feigned obedience (Ps 18:44; 66:3; 81:15).

3) Included God and Magog are familiar expressions founded upon the testimony of Ezekiel (38, 39) and indicate the last rebellion of the nations against God.

Note: Distinctions with Gog and Magog in Ezekiel and Revelation

### Ezekiel

- a. from north only
- b. seven months for burial
- c. 1/6<sup>th</sup> of army returns
- d. thought of Gog is spoil and prey
- e. protest of nations against Gog
- f. prior to millennium

### Revelation

- from four quarters of earth
- completely consumed by fire
- everyone entirely consumed
- thought of annihilation and people
- all nations agree
- after millennium

#### b. By Determination of Satan

1) His Force Here is the final human confederacy to overthrow Israel and God's purposes regarding the nation. Satan himself gathers the nations into (εἰς eis) battle. The number of nations is "as the sand of the sea." This is the greatest organized rebellion ever known against God.

2) His Objectives The text of Scripture is significantly descriptive. The entire earth is encircled as his goal. There is one leader who has one hatred against one center – the camp of the saints and the beloved city (Jerusalem). The multitudinous hosts of earth converge to battle.

#### 3. DESTROYING OF SATAN v. 10

The deception of Satan ends with a sudden, swift, and overwhelming final judgment. This includes:

##### a. His Destruction

Fire comes from God and utterly devours ("eats up/down." καταφαγεν katefagen) the nations. That this is a divine, extra terrestrial act is seen by the two prepositional phrases "from God" and "out of heaven." There is no way to logically allegorize these expressions. What a climax to this final feeble effort by man.

##### b. His Destination

Satan is called the "Devil" which means "the false accuser" (διαβολος diabolos). It is he who deceived (three times in Rev. 20:1-10) the nations. He was cast (aorist passive, therefore by God) into the lake of fire/brimstone, an expression of inexhaustible torment. The beast and false prophet (13:1-18) are already there (19:20). This place is prepared for the Devil and his angels (Mt. 25:41). Those who follow the Devil will find their ultimate home with him. Note: This judgment was gained against Satan earlier; now it is executed (Jn. 12:31-33; 16:11; Rev. 12:19). There can be no doubt eternal punishment is meant here. It is forever (εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας τῶν αἰώνων eis tous aionas ton aionon). What an awful doom!

Conclusion The truth is clear. Sin is absolutely inexcusable. Man was tested in the garden of delight and failed. Then under conscience – failed. Under divinely appointed government – failed. Under law – failed. Under grace – failed. Oh friend, the heart of man is incurably bad (Jer. 17:9). The carnal (fleshly) mind "is not subject to the law of God, neither can be" (Ro. 8:7). No wonder the Bible demands a new birth by the Word of God and the Spirit of God. Have you been born again that way? Make sure today. Amen.