

AS YOU READ THE BOOK OF REVELATION, MARVEL WITH JOHN AT THE WONDROUS PANORAMA OF GOD'S REVEALED PLAN. BE FULL OF HOPE, KNOWING THAT GOD IS IN CONTROL, CHRIST'S VICTORY IS ASSURED, AND ALL WHO TRUST HIM WILL BE SAVED. (*LIFE APPLICATION BIBLE*)

Revelation 20

1. Review Revelation 19:11-21

2. Revelation 20:1-3
 - “abyss”
 - Dragon (Satan) bound

3. Views of the Millenium (Latin: “mille” = thousand; “annus” = year)
 - a. Premillennial
 - Jesus Christ will return to earth and literally reign on earth for 1,000 years. His return *precedes* the Millennial Reign. Final judgment will follow the Millennium.
 - “Christ’s return will be preceded by signs, including wars, famines, earthquakes, the preaching of the gospel to all nations, a great apostasy, the appearance of Antichrist, and the great tribulation. These events culminate in the second coming, which will result in a period of peace and righteousness when Christ and his saints control the world.” (Robert G. Clouse)
 - Sequence of Events: Rapture/Resurrection #1 - Tribulation – Return – Millennial Reign – Resurrection #2 - Final Judgment – New Heaven and Earth

 - b. Postmillennial
 - Christ will return *after* the millennial period, during which the gospel and peace will spread throughout the earth. Some affirm a literal 1,000 period; others, a symbolic one.
 - “Posmillennialism emphasizes the present aspects of God’s kingdom, which will reach fruition in the future. They believe that the millennium will come through Christian preaching and teaching. Such activity will result in a more godly, peaceful, and prosperous world.” (Robert G. Clouse)
 - Sequence of Events: Spread of the gospel – Return – Resurrection - Final Judgment – New Heaven and Earth

 - c. Amillennial
 - There is no literal 1,000-year reign. It is rather symbolic of the Kingdom of God, which is now in the process of realization. The “millennium” constitutes the entire time between the first and second comings of Christ.
 - “According to this outlook there will be a continuous development of good and evil in the world until the second coming, which the dead shall be raised and the judgment conducted. Amillennialists believe that the kingdom of God is now present in the world as the victorious Christ rules his church through the Word and the Spirit. They hold that the future, glorious, and perfect kingdom refers to the new earth and life in heaven.” (Robert G. Clouse)
 - Sequence of Events: Unfolding of Kingdom of God – Return – Resurrection – Final Judgment – New Heaven and Earth

4. Revelation 20:4-6

- “martyrs”
- “rest of dead”
- “first resurrection”

5. Revelation 20:7-10

- Satan released
- Devil into Lake of Fire

6. Doctrine of hell

- “lake of fire”
- Matthew 25:41-46 – “eternal punishment”
- Matthew 22:13, 25:30 – “darkness”
- Mark 9:42-48 - “Gehenna”
- Alternative views:
 - Annihilation
 - Purgatory
 - Universalism

7. Revelation 20:11-15

- “Great White Throne”
- “hades”
- “lake of fire”
- Matthew 7:21-23 – “never knew you”

8. Millennial Reign

- Image of messianic kingdom – Isaiah 11:1-9, 65:17-25
- Peace and prosperity
- Presence of sin?