

Title of Study: “The Revelation of Jesus Christ”

Theme of Revelation: The majesty and glory of the warrior lamb, King Jesus, who is coming again to rule and reign forever.

Purpose: To encourage and give hope to the persecuted church and call the church to faithful obedience.

Title: “He Reigns, Part IV”

Main idea: When Jesus comes, He will reign on earth!

1. Before the Kingdom, Satan is bound. (Revelation 20:1-3 – see part I)
2. During the Kingdom, the Saints will reign. (Revelation 20:4-6 - see part II - III)
3. After the Kingdom, sinners will be defeated. (Revelation 20:7-10)

*Outline comes from Dr. Daniel L. Akin and his commentary on Revelation.

5 Segments

A. The Release of Satan

- vs (7) “expired”
 - Means to bring to an appointed end.
 - God appointed 1,000 years for Satan to be bound and then that time will come to an end.
 - It is not up to Satan.
- vs (7) “released from his prison”
 - This is a common word for a regular prison but Revelation 20:3 makes it clear his prison is the bottomless pit or abyss.

*Why would God release Satan one last time? Why not go ahead and end it?

- Perhaps it is to show how evil he is, that even after living 1,000 years he will not change.
- Perhaps it is to reveal how evil man is, that even after living in a perfect environment he still rebels against God.

B. The Deception of Satan

- vs (8) “go out”
 - Satan is always on the go.
 - Job 1:7
 - 1 Peter 5:8
- vs (8) “to deceive”
 - This is his nature. It is who he is.
 - Revelation 12:9

- John 8:44
- He will do what he has always done to man.

C. The Evil Hearts of Men

- vs 8 “four corners” are the ends of the earth and are the same as from the North, South, East and West.
- vs (8) “Gog and Magog”
- The meaning of Gog and Magog is debated.
- Is it literal or symbolic?
- Is it the exact same as Ezekiel 38-39?

Three Views (Primary)

1. Ezekiel 38-39 are the same as Revelation 20:7-10
2. Ezekiel 38-39 are the same as Revelation 19:11-21
3. Ezekiel 38-39 is a prophecy that applies to both Revelation 19 and 20.

- So let’s look at this for a moment.
- Genesis 10:2 shows Magog to be a son to Japheth and therefore a grandson of Noah.
- Ezekiel 38:2-3 Gog is the leader of the forces evil.
- There is not a lot of description to help identify them precisely.
- It seems best to see them as symbolic figures representing the nations of the world or in some cases the leader.
- So, does Ezekiel 38-39 describe Revelation 19 or 20 or both?
- Ezekiel 39.4
- Ezekiel 39:17
- Both describe on a mountain.
- Revelation 20:9 seems to describe a plain.
- Ezekiel 39:17-20
- Revelation 19:17-18
- It seems that Ezekiel 38-39 describes the battle of Armageddon in Revelation 19.
- Could it also be describing Revelation 20?
- In Ezekiel 38-39 Gog describes the Antichrist who is the leader of Satan’s forces at that time.
- It is possible that “Gog” may then be a symbolic name for the leader of Satan’s army in Revelation 20.
- It is possible that Magog may be the symbolic name of the army itself in Revelation 20.
- vs (8) “number is as the sand of the sea”
- Too many to count
- Who are all these people?
- Believers who are alive and go into the tribulation period will have children.
- Peaceful, prosperous, healthy conditions, along with long life spans will lead to a population explosion.
- But what I want to focus on is there are so many people who will rebel against God, proving that their submission to Christ’s rule was external only.
- Their hearts are still wicked.
- This shows that man cannot blame his environment for sin. It also shows he cannot blame Satan for his sin.

- James 1:14-15
- Jeremiah 17:9
- A perfect environment cannot produce a perfect heart.
- The Devil and the world can make it difficult to live a godly life but when we sin, it is on us and our flesh.
- And when we succeed it is on God working in us in our spirit.

D. The Defeat of Satan and Sinners

- vs (9) “blessed city” is Jerusalem
- vs (9) “fire came down” “devoured them”
 - Some say how could God do this?
 - His justice demands it.
 - God will not tolerate sin and evil forever!
- vs (10) “devil” “cast into the lake of fire and brimstone”
 - Same as Revelation 20:14
- vs (10) “beast and false prophet are”
 - Annihilationism is taught by some.
 - The fact that they are still there after 1000 years goes against this view.
 - vs (10) “tormented day and night forever and ever”
 - This also goes against annihilationism.
 - They are not punished once and then it is over.
 - Hell is eternal punishment.
 - Revelation 14:10-11
 - Matthew 25:46
 - Mark 9:43
 - Mark 9:48
 - 2 Thessalonians 1:9
 - There is no end to it and there is no way out.
 - This should stir us to share the gospel.

Application

- Satan’s day is coming but until that day, fight him as an enemy with the spiritual armor of God.
- Recognize his tactics.
- Recognize his lies.
- Know the truth, use the truth!
- Rely on God’s strength!
- Witness to those he holds captive!