

Syllabus
The Book of Revelation
Chapter 20

Rev. 20:1 ¶ *And I saw an angel coming down out of heaven, having the key of the abyss and a great chain in his hand.*

Rev. 20:2 *And he laid hold on the dragon, the old serpent, which is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years,*

Rev. 20:3 *and cast him into the abyss, and shut it, and sealed it over him, that he should deceive the nations no more, until the thousand years should be finished: after this he must be loosed for a little time. (ASV)*

Satan does not yet go to the lake of fire.

He goes to the pit of holding for the 1000 year duration of the Millennium—the seventh 1000 year day after Adam’s work week of six 1000 year days. The Millennial Sabbath.

Why is this?

Judgment of the Nations

The *goyim*, the nations as nations, are judged on how they treated the separated nation, chosen by Jehovah to reveal Himself to the nations. That judgment is going on now in our day. Jerusalem is a particular touchstone (Zechariah 12:1-3).

When Jesus, the King of Kings comes back on His white horse of power, judgments of the nations takes place as follows.

All judgment takes place in Jerusalem. When the Lord touches His feet on the Mount of Olives, a new valley is created. God judges the nations there as follows:

Joel 3:2 I will gather all nations and will bring them down into the Valley of Jehoshaphat, and there will I deal with *and* execute judgment upon them for [their treatment of] My people and of My heritage Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations and [because] they have divided My land. (Amplified)

Shaphat is Hebrew for judge. *Jeho* is Jehovah. *Jehoshaphat* is Jehovah shall judge.

Notice that He calls Israel “My people” and “My heritage Israel.”

He judges them for their treatment of His People and His Land.

“They have divided My Land.” It is a serious thing for a nation, or a leader in a nation to design or support the dividing of Israel, and especially of Jerusalem.

Now notice another passage. The following takes place at the coming in the Lord in His glory. It is a judgment of the nations. Not of Israel. Not of the Church. There is no such thing

as a sheep goat judgment of the Church. The Church will be there, observing, or taking part as time will tell. But you will not end up in the goat pile if you are a born again child of God.

Matt. 25:31 ¶ But when the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the angels with him, then shall he sit on the throne of his glory:

Matt. 25:32 and **before him shall be gathered all the nations**: and he shall separate them one from another, as the shepherd separateth the sheep from the goats;

Matt. 25:33 and he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left.

Matt. 25:34 Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:

Matt. 25:35 for I was hungry, and ye gave me to eat; I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink; I was a stranger, and ye took me in;

Matt. 25:36 naked, and ye clothed me; I was sick, and ye visited me; I was in prison, and ye came unto me.

Matt. 25:37 Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee hungry, and fed thee? or athirst, and gave thee drink?

Matt. 25:38 And when saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee?

Matt. 25:39 And when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee?

Matt. 25:40 And **the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it unto one of these my brethren, even these least, ye did it unto me.**

Matt. 25:41 Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, ¹²Depart from me, ye cursed, into the eternal fire which is prepared for the devil and his angels:

Matt. 25:42 for I was hungry, and ye did not give me to eat; I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink;

Matt. 25:43 I was a stranger, and ye took me not in; naked, and ye clothed me not; sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not.

Matt. 25:44 Then shall they also answer, saying, Lord, when saw we thee hungry, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee?

Matt. 25:45 Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not unto one of these least, ye did it not unto me.

Matt. 25:46 And these shall go away into eternal punishment: but the righteous into eternal life.

The time of the sheep-goat judgment of the nations is after the great victory of The King of Kings. He is about to set up the earthly Millennial reign and He is assigning places.

Notice that there is no mention of resurrection here.

The nations before Him were on earth during the time of the tribulation.

This is a works judgment. It is based on how the nations treated the ones the Lord called, "My brethren." He is referring to His brethren the Jews, who were also upon the earth during the seven years.

Mic. 5:2 ¶ But thou, Beth-lehem Ephrathah, which art little to be among the thousands of Judah, out of thee shall one come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth are from of old, from everlasting.

Mic. 5:3 Therefore will he give them up, until the time that she who travaileth hath brought forth: then the residue of his brethren shall return unto the children of Israel.

Mic. 5:4 And he shall stand, and shall feed *his flock* in the strength of Jehovah, in the majesty of the name of Jehovah his God: and they shall abide; for now shall he be great unto the ends of the earth.

How beautifully understood in the light of the end of days, is this passage from Micah. Not only did it prophesy His coming as the Babe of Bethlehem, but of His Majestic return to His brethren who recognize Him the second time (Zechariah 12:9-13:1; Acts 7:13).

The sheep nations shall go into the Millennium to the kingdoms prepared for that day.

The earthly Millennial people (Jews and Gentiles) will have longevity restored to their earthly bodies. They will continue to bear children.

Is. 11:6 ¶ And the wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them.

Is. 11:7 And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

Is. 11:8 And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den.

Is. 11:9 They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of Jehovah, as the waters cover the sea.

The Church is not a part of this group. His heavenly people will have glorified bodies, like unto His glorious body.

1Cor. 15:51 Behold, I tell you a mystery: We all shall not sleep, but we shall all be changed,

1Cor. 15:52 in a moment, in the 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.

1Cor. 15:53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. (KJV)

Phil. 3:20 For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ:

Phil. 3:21 Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself. (KJV)

Phil. 3:20 But we are citizens of the state (commonwealth, homeland) which is in heaven, and from it also we earnestly *and* patiently await [the coming of] the Lord Jesus Christ (the Messiah) [as] Savior,

Phil. 3:21 Who will transform *and* fashion anew the body of our humiliation to conform to *and* be like the body of His glory *and* majesty, by exerting that power which enables Him even to subject everything to Himself. (Amplified)

The Church, the Body of Christ, is a brand new creation. The action of the Gospel of Grace has brought us into a new birth. During the Church Age on the earth, our bodies were not yet transformed. But as the old gospel song goes, "We'll get a new body!!!"

The sheep nations will have longevity restored to their bodies. They will live out the 1000 years of the Millennium under The King Messiah. They will not know the temptation of Satan. However, they got into the Millennium on a works judgment. They still have their own flesh to contend with. They have their own wills that must obey God's will. If nations do not go up to Jerusalem, for instance, at the Feast of Tabernacles, they will get no rain. (Zechariah 14:16-19.)

At the end of the 1000 years, Satan is let loose. He goes about his old ways to deceive the nations. I am amazed that he is able to gather a huge following from those who have only known righteous government. God uses this to finally purge from the earth those who refuse to submit to Him.

Rev. 20:7 ¶ And when the thousand years are finished, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison,

Rev. 20:8 and shall come forth to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to the war: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea.

Rev. 20:9 And they went up over the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: and fire came down out of heaven, and devoured them.

Rev. 20:10 And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where are also the beast and the false prophet; and they shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

The Great White Throne Judgment (See Revelation 20:11-15)

Here's another judgment the Church will not have to face. Jesus has faced judgment for us. The only judgment seat we must go to is just after the Rapture when we go to the judgment seat of Christ to receive reward and job assignments for the future. (See Appendix: The Rapture)

At the Great White Throne Judgment there is a resurrection of "the rest of the dead" (v 5.)

Thank God, we are a part of the first resurrection (v 6).