

Revelation: A Vision of the Coming King

The Seizing of the Dragon - Revelation 20:1-3

Introduction

There are three dominant views concerning the nature of the Millennium in regard to when it happens.

(1) Postmillennialism

This view says that the world will get better and better and when the world has reached the proper stage of perfection, Jesus will return and establish His kingdom on earth. They affirm that the 1,000 years are more figurative in nature pertaining to a long period of time, and that Jesus' coming is at the end of that time. He comes after the kingdom and the church offers the kingdom to Christ when He comes.

They hold that the church is the agent through which the kingdom will be ushered into being. This was a very popular view prior to World War II, and it is still 2nd most affirmed view of the Millennium. In looking at our world, it does not seem to be getting any better.

2 Timothy 3:1 But understand this, that in the last days there will come times of difficulty. 2 For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, 3 heartless, unappeasable, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not loving good, 4 treacherous, reckless, swollen with conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, 5 having the appearance of godliness, but denying its power. Avoid such people. Paul says here the last days won't be good ones at all.

(2) Amillennialism

There are several variations of this view. The primary version says that there is no literal Millennial kingdom. The kingdom of God is spiritual in nature and they would say that we are really in the kingdom age right now. Their "Millennium" is not a literal one but covers the time period from the Cross to the Second Coming, so it is not a literal time frame.

They say that Satan was bound in the first coming. Many who hold this view believe that Satan is bound right now. The Amillennial view sees all that of these verses merely as spiritual, not a literal kingdom. One group of Amillennialism is known as Preterism and they believe that the Tribulation has already occurred and that Jesus has already returned.

The Preterist believes that Jesus returned in **70AD** and established His kingdom then. Now, their belief system is more complex than that, but to boil it down, that is what they believe.

(3) Premillennialism

This view holds that humanity will continue to degenerate; the world will go through a

literal Tribulation; Jesus will return and defeat the Antichrist and establish a literal kingdom on the earth and reign here for 1,000 years. This is the most popular view and the view that I lean strongly toward.

This was the view of the early church for the first 300 years until the influence of Jerome and Augustine.

Fulfillment of OT and NT Scripture

It is my belief that these verses in Revelation 20 hold within them the fulfillment of many great Old and New Testament promises and prophecies. It is my belief that these verses tell us about a literal 1,000 kingdom that will exist on this earth. It is my belief that these verses describe the final kingdom that will exist in time.

Not an Unexpected Kingdom

That a kingdom would be the subject of this chapter honestly should not really be that unexpected. In Revelation 19 we see Christ ride forth under the declaration that he would...

(1) Strike the nations – 19:15

(2) Rule them with a rod of iron – 19:15

(3) Called “KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS” - 19:16

It would seem most natural that if His Second Coming occurs in **Revelation 19**, then the reign and rule depicted in **(20:4 Then I saw thrones, and seated on them were those to whom the authority to judge was committed. Also I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for the testimony of Jesus and for the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or its image and had not received its mark on their foreheads or their hands. They came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years)**, would follow His physical return to the earth.

Defeat at Armageddon

This worldwide rebellion against Christ will be over at Armageddon when He speaks and slays his enemies. Now, two great powers will still be around and they are:

1. Satan

2. Demons

And if the Lord is going to establish His Kingdom, He must rid the earth of ungodly leaders and the spiritual powers - Satan and all the demons. There can be no one thousand years of peace and righteousness if he is roaming and deceiving.

1. The Accuracy of Numbers in Revelation

This chapter has been surrounded by controversy for a really long time and it is unlikely to bring full resolve to it in our time. The debate/controversy stems the words “**thousand years**” found in in **verses 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7**.

Q: Is this a literal 1,000 yrs or figurative? This question has brought much discussion and debate.

When you look at Revelation, it is full of specific and general concepts in regard to time.

Specific Numbers

- **Revelation 4:4** – 24 Elders
- **Revelation 4:6** – four living creatures
- **Revelation 6:1** – 7 Seals – breaks all 7 and things happen
- **Revelation 7:5** – 12,000 from each tribe x 12 = 144,000
- **Revelation 8:6** – Seven Angels w/ 7 Trumpets, then from **8:7-13** six angels specified until the 7th in **11:15**
- **Revelation 8:7-12** – 1/3 of: earth burned, sea to blood, living creatures died, ships destroyed, rivers and springs, of sun, moon, stars are struck
- **Revelation 9:10** – torment of 5 months of stinging like scorpions
- **Revelation 9:14** – release 4 demons bound at River Euphrates
- **Revelation 9:15** – 1/3 of mankind killed by 4 demons released
- **Revelation 11:2** – 42 months
- **Revelation 11:3** – 1,260 days
- **Revelation 11:9** – 3 ½ days 2 witnesses bodies will lay in the street
- **Revelation 11:13** – 1/10 of the city fell
- **Revelation 11:13** – seven thousand people were killed
- **Revelation 12:4** – Swept 1/3 with his tail
- **Revelation 13:5** – Antichrist blaspheme and have authority for 42 months
- **Revelation 14:1, 3** – 144,000 mentioned again
- **Revelation 14:11** – they have no rest, day or night – worshipers of the beast
- **Revelation 14:20** – 1,600 Stadia – 184 miles
- **Revelation 17:12** – 10 horns are 10 kings – symbol represents a real number
- **Revelation 20** – 6x one thousand years is listed

General Time Concepts

- **Revelation 17:10** – “when he does come he must remain a little while”
- **Revelation 20:3** – “After that he must be released for a little while”.

Q: Why such specifics if they don't represent real and accurate numbers?

At times it seems as if many are okay with all of the other specifics until you come to the 1,000 years. I just believe these numbers are literal. It does not make sense to have all of these other very specific and different numbers if it was all just mere symbolism. The specifics it seems speak very loudly and clearly even with the 1,000 yrs.

2. Angel's Allegiance – Revelation 20:1a

20:1a Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven,

“Then I saw”

This phrase of “I saw” is used **37x** in the book and in **Revelation 19 & 20** John communicates what he saw **9x**.

“an angel coming down from heaven”,

This angel is one that is holy, this is not a fallen angel. We are not told his name but we know that his allegiance is with the one who is King of kings and Lord of lords.

3. The Angel's Authority – Revelation 20:1bc

20:1bc holding in his hand the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain.

There are two things that reveal the authority that he has been given: (1) Key (2) Chain

“holding in his hand”

This has been given to him and this picture of his having the key and the chain reveals that he has the authority and ability to restrain Satan.

The Authority of the Angel

This Key

We have already encountered this key and bottomless place and it was in Revelation 9 so look with me there for a moment...

Revelation 9:1 And the fifth angel blew his trumpet, and I saw a star fallen from heaven to earth, and he was given the key to the shaft of the bottomless pit.[a] 2 He opened the shaft of the bottomless pit, and from the shaft rose smoke like the smoke of a great furnace, and the sun and the air were darkened with the smoke from the shaft. 3 Then from the smoke came locusts on the earth, and they were given power like the power of scorpions of the earth. 4 They were told not to harm the grass of the earth or any green plant or any tree, but only those people who do not have the seal of God on their foreheads. 5 They were allowed to torment them for five months, but not to kill them, and their torment was like the torment of a scorpion when it stings someone. 6 And in those days people will seek death and will not find it. They will long to die, but death will flee from them.

Revelation 9:1 Greek *the abyss*; also verses 2, 11

The Opposite Action Now

Here, this angel will do something completely opposite of the previous action in Revelation 9. He holds in his hand the key to now do some locking up of the abyss. If the star which loosed the stinging locusts was Satan, then there now comes this great irony in that he will become a prisoner in the very abyss where he unlocked the demonic hordes living confined there until that moment.

The Ability of the Angel

A great chain

The word here for chain is the same one that we see in **Luke 8:26** Then they sailed to the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. 27 When Jesus had stepped out on land, there met him a man from the city who had demons. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he had not lived in a house but among the tombs. 28 When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell down before him and said with a loud voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me." 29 For he had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many a time it had seized him. He was kept under

guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the desert.) 30 Jesus then asked him, “What is your name?” And he said, “Legion,” for many demons had entered him. 31 And they begged him not to command them to depart into the abyss.

In the binding of satan, it does not say it is a metal chain, but it is certainly a “chain” that will fully and completely restrict satan.

This is not the first time where demons are spoken of as being chained and unable to move and influence. There are three specific references in the New Testament. Two of them are from the Apostle Peter in his second Epistle and the other is in the short significant letter of Jude and we will look at both of these references specifically in just a moment.

We should likely understand the chain to denote a supernatural restraint which is ultimately provided by God for the express purpose of the angel’s task.

In a similar way that the rebellious angels were locked away and unable to roam, so too will be Satan. The figure of a *chain* is used: the restraint provides no degree of freedom whereby it may be *stretched*.

**The angel and the chain are fully sufficient
to do this great work of binding him.**

God will rid the world of the great deceiver and hater of God!

4. The Abyss

Bottomless pit is ἄβυσσος [abysson] : a very deep gulf or chasm in the lowest parts of the earth that is a place of bondage for fallen angels who were especially **heinous**. It’s a temporary place for the dragon. He will be ultimately confined to the lake of fire.

We find this word in seven places and in each of them it refers to the place where fallen angels and foul evil spirits are held captive. The place where they await their final home from which they can never get out called the lake of fire.

Angels & Demons

There are 2 types of angels:

1. Holy angels

2. Evil/fallen angles

- Bound
- Loosed

Bound Ones

Q: When were they bound? One who sinned in **Genesis 6**.

Temporarily Bound

Revelation 9:13 Then the sixth angel blew his trumpet, and I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar before God, 14 saying to the sixth angel who had the trumpet, “Release the four angels who are bound at the great river Euphrates.” 15 So the four angels, who had been prepared for the hour, the day, the month, and the year, were released to kill a third of mankind.

Permanently Bound

Genesis 6:1 When man began to multiply on the face of the land and daughters were born to them, 2 the sons of God saw that the daughters of man were attractive. And they took as their wives any they chose. 3 Then the Lord said, “My Spirit shall not abide in man forever, for he is flesh: his days shall be 120 years.” 4 The Nephilim (giants) were on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of man and they bore children to them. These were the mighty men who were of old, the men of renown.

There are permanently bound angels and they will remain this way until they go to the lake of fire, so they are considered permanently bound demons. They are awaiting their fate as they are bound and reserved in everlasting chains.

Jude 6 And the angels who did not stay within their own position of authority, but left their proper dwelling, he has kept in eternal chains under gloomy darkness until the judgment of the great day— 7 just as Sodom and Gomorrah and the surrounding cities, which likewise indulged in sexual immorality and pursued unnatural desire, serve as an example by undergoing a punishment of eternal fire.

2 Peter 2:4 For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but cast them into hell and committed them to chains of **gloomy darkness** to be kept until the judgment; 5 if he did not spare the ancient world, but preserved Noah, a herald of righteousness, with seven others, when he brought a flood upon the world of the ungodly; 6 if by turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah to ashes he condemned them to extinction, making them an example of what is going to happen to the ungodly; 7 and if he rescued righteous Lot, greatly distressed by the sensual conduct of the wicked 8 (for as that righteous man lived among them day after day, he was tormenting his righteous soul over their lawless deeds that he saw and heard); 9 then the Lord knows how to rescue the godly from trials,[d] and to keep the unrighteous under punishment until the day of judgment, 10 and especially those who indulge in the lust of defiling passion and despise authority.

It is the place where demons are sent to be reserved for their final sentencing to the lake of fire. It is not the final hell. And believe me, fallen angels will go there because the final hell, the lake of fire has been prepared for the devil and his angels (**Matthew**

25:41). And so ultimately they're going to end up in the lake of fire which burns with fire and brimstone forever and ever.

1 Peter 1:18 For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, 19 in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison, 20 because they formerly did not obey, when God's patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water.

Peter writes here that after Jesus died on the cross, He went and made a public display before the demons while His physical body was in the grave, He was alive in His spirit, Peter says, and He descended and He proclaimed a triumph, *kerusso*, over the principalities and powers.

Luke 8:31 And they begged him not to command them to depart into the abyss.

5. The Angels Assignment – 20:2-3ab

20:2 And he seized the dragon, that ancient serpent, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years, 3 and threw him into the pit, and shut it and sealed it over him,

5 things...

1. Seized the dragon

“seized” - *Laid hold* is ἐκράτησε [ekratēse] : “take into one’s possession or custody . . . Arrest . . . Apprehend someone.”

It carries the idea of two things:

(1) Strong as in master/ruler over

(2) Get Possession of ; obtain ; hold fast

The angel lays hold on Satan and binds him with a mighty chain. Satan has enjoyed centuries of bringing heartache and despair to hearts and lives. He has worked against the church and all who believe. He desires nothing more than to tear down and destroy those who belong to Christ, but as the Millennium begins Satan will be bound.

He has the power to bind him where he cannot escape.

The Enemy's Names

There is to be no doubt as to who this is so all of his names are mentioned and it is key that we touch on each of them.

(1) The dragon

The dragon is the most used title for satan in Revelation. He is a beast! The name is found in **Revelation 12:3-4 ; 12:7 ; 12:9 ; 12:13 ; 12:16-17 ; 13:2 ; 13:4 ; 16:13 ; 20:2.**

(2) ancient serpent

serpent of old is τὸν ὄφιν τὸν ἀρχαῖον [ton ophin ton arxaion] : the serpent, the ancient [one]. This no doubt pictures the events when man sinned in the garden of Eden. There in the Garden, satan appeared as a serpent and deceived Eve as seen in Genesis 3:1-6.

We have seen both of these first two names/titles previously in **Revelation 12:7** **Now war arose in heaven, Michael and his angels fighting against the dragon. And the dragon and his angels fought back, 8 but he was defeated, and there was no longer any place for them in heaven. 9 And the great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.**

(3) satan

This name is used **10x** in **Revelation: 2:9 ; 2:13 ; 2:24 ; 3:9 ; 12:7 ; 12:9 ; 20:2 ; 20:7.** **Adversary (one who opposes another in purpose or act), the name given to. A the prince of evil spirits, the inveterate adversary of God and Christ. He incites apostasy from God and to sin.**

The name satan means “adversary” and that is exactly who He is. He opposes us and the glory of God.

(4) The devil

In Revelation he is called the devil **5x** – **2:10 ; 12:9 ; 12:12 ; 20:2 ; 20:10.**

Diabolos is the Greek word and it means slanderer ; accuser.

Contrast of the Four Names of Jesus

Jesus – **Revelation 19** and the Enemy's names in **Revelation 20**

Jesus – 19:11-16

1. Faithful
2. True
3. The Word of God
4. King of kings
5. Lord of lords

satan – 20:2

1. dragon
2. deceiver
3. Father of lies
4. Satan - adversary
5. Devil – slanderer/accuser

2. Bound him for a thousand years

This is the arresting of satan.

Bound is ἔδησεν [edēsen] and it is a word that describes the actual binding and imprisonment of someone. It describes someone confined to the point of being inactive. In regard to satan, he will not be able to deceive the nations for 1,000 yrs.

**He will be dethroned in the abyss
while Christ is enthroned on the earth.**

Examples of this Words Usage in New Testament

The same idea as we see with the Gadarene demoniac with chains in **Mark 5:3** **He lived among the tombs. And no one could bind him anymore, not even with a chain, 4 for he had often been bound with shackles and chains,** but he wrenched the chains apart, and he broke the shackles in pieces. No one had the strength to subdue him.

The demons can break man's chains, but not God's!

It was used in describing what was going on with John the Baptist when he was put in prison by Herod as we see in **Mark 6:17** For it was Herod who had sent and seized John and **bound him in prison for the sake of Herodias**, his brother Philip's wife, because he had married her.

You find it in describing the woman bound by an ailment from satan in **Luke 13:16** And ought not this woman, **a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen years**, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath day?"

The Apostle Paul even used when describing the task of the Gospel in his life when he said this with the Ephesian elders in **Acts 20:22** And now, behold, I am going to Jerusalem, **constrained by[d] the Spirit**, not knowing what will happen to me there, **23** except that the Holy Spirit testifies to me in every city that imprisonment and afflictions await me. **24** But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God. **(d) Acts 20:22 Or bound in**

3. Threw him into the pit

"threw" is ebalen and it means to throw something down and not really care what happens to it when it lands. **The angel "angel handles" satan.**

This is the second time that in Revelation he is described as being thrown down.

Revelation 12:7 Now war arose in heaven, Michael and his angels fighting against the dragon. And the dragon and his angels fought back, **8** but he was defeated, and there was no longer any place for them in heaven. **9** And the great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.

Revelation 20:3 and threw him into the pit,

Revelation 12:9

1. Thrown down
2. He realized his time was short
3. Woe to the earth that he was thrown down
4. Thrown to the earth

Revelation 20:3

1. Thrown down
2. 1,000 yrs
3. Earth is free from woe
4. Thrown in the abyss

Not Opposites

The fact that an angel can come down, seize satan with a chain for 1,000 yrs strongly reveals and affirms that satan and God are not opposites. God does not even have to come down to do this, He can just send an angel. Jesus is stronger.

In both of these angels are involved in his defeat!

4. And shut it

After this from a place of morality, the earth is going to be really great place! Totally different from everything.

5. And Sealed it over him

This “no-named” angel, not said to be mighty or strong, is able to bind Satan with no mention of a great struggle. This is an indication of the great authority which the angel has which attends his divine mission. Although he is also a creature, a mere angel like Satan, he is empowered by the Creator and is able to bind any creature with ease—even Satan himself.

There is reason to rejoice in this verse. Many names are attributed to Satan and they all reveal his character. He is the dragon, that “spiritual darkness that stirs up cruel and brutal passions, an evil that seeks to devour.” He is the old serpent, that “subtle deceiver who leads men into disobedience and sin.” He is the devil, the “false accuser of the brethren” who seeks slander and lies. He is Satan, the “adversary and enemy of God” seeking to defeat and destroy all who serve the Lord.

**This is why the Millennial Kingdom
will be filled with righteousness and peace.**

Time of Great Righteousness

Psalm 72:5 May they fear you while the sun endures, and as long as the moon, throughout all generations! 6 May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth! 7 In his days may the righteous flourish, and peace abound, till the moon be no more!

Time of Great Peace

The nations will no longer find themselves at war with one another for the period of 1,000 yrs. for it will be a time of never before seen peace.

Isaiah 2:4 He shall judge between the nations, and shall decide disputes for many peoples; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.

Ezekiel 37:26 I will make a covenant of peace with them. It shall be an everlasting covenant with them. And I will set them in their land and multiply them, and will set my sanctuary in their midst forevermore.

Time of Great Joy

When righteousness and peace are greatly present, the inevitable outcome of that is great joy. This aspect of the Millennium is seen in...

Isaiah 12:3 With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. **4** And you will say in that day: "Give thanks to the Lord, call upon his name, make known his deeds among the peoples, proclaim that his name is exalted. **5** "Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously; let this be made known in all the earth. **6** Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel."

The New Testament on satan's activity

- Satan filled the heart of Ananias to lie to the Holy Spirit resulting in the death of he and his wife in **Acts 5:3**.
- Paul said that Satan is blinding the eyes of nonbelievers in this current age so that they should not receive the gospel in **2 Corinthians 4:3-4**.
- Paul told the Corinthians that Satan transforms himself (deceptively) into an angel of light in **2 Corinthians 11:14**.
- Paul was given a thorn in the flesh, "a messenger of Satan" to keep him humble In **2 Corinthians 12:7**.
- Paul told the Ephesians that the prince of the power of the air "now works in the sons of disobedience" in **Ephesians 2:2**.
- Paul told the Ephesians not to give place to the devil in **Ephesians 4:27** and that they wrestled against "spiritual *hosts* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*" in **Ephesians 6:12**.
- Paul was hindered by satan from visiting the Thessalonian church in **1 Thessalonians 2:18**.
- The coming of the lawless one, the Antichrist, will be "according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs and lying wonders" in **2 Thessalonians 2:9**. This is fulfilled, in part, by the activities of the False Prophet documented in the book of Revelation.

- Paul delivered Hymenaeus and Alexander to Satan so that they might learn not to blaspheme in **1 Timothy 1:20**.
- James warns believers to submit to God and resist the devil in **James 4:7**.
- Peter warns believers to be sober and vigilant because “your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour” in **1 Peter 5:8**.
- John tells us that “the whole world lies *under the sway of the wicked one*” in **1 John 5:19**.

Satan is the main source of deception throughout the events of the book of Revelation as seen in **12:9ff ; 13:14ff ; 18:23ff ; 19:20ff ; 20:8ff**.

There is the belief by some that according to **Mark 3:27** that Satan was bound through the work of Christ on the cross, but a close examination of the New Testament reveals that satan is quite active and effective. He is not fully restrained.

Mark 3:27 But no one can enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man. Then indeed he may plunder his house”

All of that, which I just read or referenced will be gone. All demonic work will be gone!

6. Abolish the Deception – Revelation 20:3cd **20:3cd so that he might not deceive the nations any longer, until the thousand years were ended.**

This is the purpose of his being bound.

He cannot at all operate in a realm of truth for he is the consummate liar.

2 Main Places he focuses:

(1) the Word of God – Jesus

(2) Words of God in the Scripture

The promise of **Isaiah 11** will be fulfilled during the 1,000 yrs.

Isaiah 11:1 There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.

2 And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

3 And his delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear,

4 but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;

and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

5 Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins.

6 The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat,

and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them.

7 The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

8 The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den.

9 They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

10 In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.

11 In that day the Lord will extend his hand yet a second time to recover the remnant that remains of his people, from Assyria, from Egypt, from Pathros, from Cush,[a] from Elam, from Shinar, from Hamath, and from the coastlands of the sea.

12 He will raise a signal for the nations and will assemble the banished of Israel,

and gather the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth.

7. Anticipated Release – Revelation 20:3e

20:3e After that he must be released for a little while.

Q: Why do this? I will attempt to answer this for us.

There will be people born on the earth during the Millennial Kingdom and they will be born lost and will need to come to faith in Christ during the time Christ reigns on the earth. They will sadly be many who will reject Jesus, though they can see Jesus with their own eyes for they will never come to faith and belief in Him.

When Satan is released then they will be the ones who will be deceived and gather against God's people.

Revelation 20:7 And when the thousand years are ended, Satan will be released from his prison 8 and will come out to deceive the nations that are at the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them for battle; their number is like the sand of the sea. 9 And they marched up over the broad plain of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city, but fire came down from heaven and consumed them, 10 and the devil who had deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and sulfur where the beast and the false prophet were, and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

At the end of the Millennium, Satan will be released and he will have the chance to go into the world and find those who would rather live in his kingdom than with Christ.

Remember now, when Jesus returns, two groups of humans will still be alive and with each of these groups, they will have their natural bodies as they have not been to heaven yet. They will be used to repopulate the earth.

1) Jewish remnant in Revelation 12

These have saving faith in Jesus as the Messiah, Savior, & Lord.

They will have survived the Tribulation and we find this remnant in **Revelation 12.**

Revelation 12:6 and the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place

prepared by God, in which she is to be nourished for 1,260 days.

Revelation 12:13 And when the dragon saw that he had been thrown down to the earth, he pursued the woman who had given birth to the male child. 14 But the woman was given the two wings of the great eagle so that she might fly from the serpent into the wilderness, to the place where she is to be nourished for a time, and times, and half a time. 15 The serpent poured water like a river out of his mouth after the woman, to sweep her away with a flood. 16 But the earth came to the help of the woman, and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed the river that the dragon had poured from his mouth. 17 Then the dragon became furious with the woman and went off to make war on the rest of her offspring, on those who keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Jesus. And he stood on the sand of the sea. Christ-following Remnant Jews who are protected.

(2) The Sheep of Matthew 25

These are Christ-following Gentiles who survive the Tribulation and therefore enter into the Millennium and they along with the remnant of Jews will populate the earth again. They will have children who will be born to them after they have entered the kingdom in their natural bodies.

So, there will be people in the Millennium from every tongue and tribe and nation and they'll all be a part of that Kingdom. At first all who are still alive on the earth will be Christ-followers and they'll reproduce and have children. And the earth will multiply rapidly. For one thousand years there will be a great population that will be born.

And of all those people born during that thousand years, it says anyone who dies at a hundred years of age dies a child. They'll live long and therefore they'll reproduce in vastly greater numbers than anything we've ever known in our era of history.

Some of them will come to faith in Christ as He reigns over the entire earth. Amazingly, some of them will reject Jesus as the Savior.

It is these whom Satan will go and get and they will join him in the last rebellion. And you see it down in verses 7 and 8. Satan is released from his prison to come out to deceive the nations and to gather them together for the war and the number of them is like the sand of the seashore.

It is hard to grasp and imagine that they will still reject Jesus.

When Jesus came the first time, people did not accept Him and there will be some the next time as well.

Sin is a huge deal!!!