

The Final Rebellion (Rev 20:7-10)

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Quick Review

Last time we looked at the Millennium.

- QUESTION: What is the Millennium (also known as the Millennial Reign of Christ on earth)?
 - 1,000 years of peace and prosperity following the end of the 7-year tribulation.
- So, Christ rules the entire earth. QUESTION: Who else is ruling with him?
 - We are!
 - Rev 5:9-10, "**Worthy are You** to take the book and to break its seals; for **You were slain**, and **purchased for God with Your blood** men from **every tribe and tongue and people and nation**. 10 "You have made them to be **a kingdom** and **priests** to our God; and **they will reign upon the earth.**"
 1. Jesus is the only rightful (legal) owner of the title deed to earth.
 - a. Psa 2:8, 'Ask of Me, and I will surely give the nations as Your inheritance, And the very ends of the earth as Your possession.'
 2. Jesus was slain, yet no one "took" his life.
 - a. John 10:17-20, "the Father loves Me, because I lay down My life so that I may take it again. 18 No one has taken it away from Me, but I lay it down on My own initiative. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This commandment I received from My Father."
 - b. Luke 23:46, Jesus, crying out with a loud voice, said, "Father, into Your hands I commit My spirit." Having said this, He breathed His last.
 - c. Isa 53:10, But the Lord was pleased To crush Him, putting Him to grief; If He would render Himself as a guilt offering,
 3. We have been purchased by Jesus for God with His blood. He owns us!
 - a. 1 Cor 6:20, For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.
 4. We have been purchased from every tribe, tongue, people, and nation.
 - a. Tribe refers to family lineage (there are members from every family)
 - b. Tongue refers to language (every language will be represented)
 - i. "With 195 countries in the world, the total number of different languages spoken is impressive. According to the Ethnologue guide, there are 7,139 officially known languages in the world."
 - c. People refers to cultural or societal groups.
 - d. Nation (ethnos) refers to races. There are distinct people group types, such as Caucasian, African, Arabian, Asian, American Indians (north and south – includes Eskimoes, First Nation, Mayans, Incas), Latino, Pacific Islander, Indian, Melanesian (Papuan, Fijians, Aborigines), Mongolian.
 - i. But then many groups within these ethnic groups. Africa alone has more than 20 major ethnic groups and thousands of minor ethnic groups.

- e. *Rev 7:9, After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could count, from every nation and all tribes and peoples and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, and palm branches were in their hands.*
 - 5. We are made into a kingdom.
 - a. This is why Jesus spoke the word “kingdom” 126 times.
 - b. He used the phrase “the kingdom of God” 65 times.
 - c. He used the phrase “the kingdom of heaven” 31 times.
 - d. Most of the parables begin with “The kingdom of heaven is like”.
 - e. QUESTION: What’s a Kingdom? Does it have an elected president?
 - 6. We are priests of the King.
 - a. QUESTION: What is the function of priests?
 - b. We are Christs Ambassadors, representing God before the people.
 - i. *2 Cor 5:20, Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.*
 - ii. *1 Pet 2:9, But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God’s own possession, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;*
 - 7. We will reign upon the earth.
 - a. The disciples will be judging the twelve tribes of Israel, Mat 19:28
 - b. We will be judging angels, 1 Cor 6:3
 - c. We will be in charge of the cities of earth, Luke 19:17
- We (those of us in this room) will all have glorified bodies in the Millennium.
 - QUESTION: what does this mean, glorified bodies?
 - We will have a spiritual, eternal body.
 - We will be imperishable, glorified (sinless), powerful, spiritual
 - *1 Cor 15:42-44, So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown a perishable body, it is raised an imperishable body; 43 it is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power; 44 it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body.*
- Satan and his demons have been bound in the abyss.
- The curse on earth has been lifted. Isa 11:7-9, 30:23-24, 35
 - The landscape is changed, the climate is perfect, and people live many hundreds of years.
 - There is peace, prosperity, and productivity. Isa 2:4
 - No hunger, Joel 2:21-27
 - Health and healing everywhere Isa 29:18, 33:24, 35, 65
 - Truth abounds. Isa 11:9
 - Joy abounds. Isa 12
 - The Holy Spirit is poured out on earth’s inhabitants. Joel 2:28-29
 - The righteous judge rules, along with sinless, glorified saints as kingdom administrators.
 - None of the unrighteous enter the Millennial kingdom. Why? No unbeliever survives!
 - *Rev 19:21, And the rest were killed with the sword which came from the mouth of Him who sat on the horse, and all the birds were filled with their flesh.*
 - Believing survivors of the tribulation begin to repopulate the planet and worship God!

- *Isa 2:2-3, Now it will come about that in the last days the mountain of the house of the Lord will be established [a]as the chief of the mountains, and will be raised above the hills; and all the nations will stream to it. And many peoples will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that He may teach us concerning His ways, and that we may walk in His paths." for the law will go forth from Zion and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.*
- Everything is the way it should be. It is literally a thousand years of heaven on earth!
 - Except for one thing! What is it?
- Something begins to happen
 - More sinners are being born to godly parents!
 - Is there a guarantee that offspring of godly parents will become Christians?
 - Why do people typically reject Christ? They love sin. God hates sin!
 - So, how many people will there be? Get out your exponential growth calculator!
 - **144,000 initial population** (we know this is the minimum number entering)
 - Jews from each tribe who are sealed (Rev 7:4)
 - The seals mean they are protected throughout the Trib (Rev 14:1)
 - **Current .91% growth rate** (this takes into account all births and deaths today)
 - **Today's lifespan** (Current average global lifespan is 72.8 years)
 - **1,000 years**
 - .91% growth = 1.2 billion (this is the 2023 worldwide growth rate)
 - 1.0% growth = 3.0 billion
 - 2.0% growth = 57.4 billion
 - 2.5% growth= 7.6 *quadrillion* people!

Before we jump into the verses for tonight, I want to entertain one pressing question:

- What is the purpose for the Millennial Kingdom on earth?
 1. Fulfilling God's Covenants and Promises.
 2. Proving that while Satan is an enemy, the real enemy is **sin**.
 3. Providing a Sabbath rest for the Jewish nation, and for the earth.
- Fulfilling God's Covenants and Promises to Israel
 - The land part of the Abrahamic Covenant
 - He blessed Abraham and made him the father of many nations.
 - All the nations of the world would be blessed by his offspring (Jesus).
 - Israel has never, ever occupied the land borders that God established with Abraham.
 - This includes parts of Lebanon and Syria, not mention Gaza and the West Bank, all the way to the Euphrates River!
 - Have you heard this chant? "*From the river to the sea, Palestine will be free!*"
 - Palestinians want all the land currently occupied by Israel, which is already much less than what God has promised Israel.
 - The Davidic Covenant
 - The promise that David's heir will sit on the throne of Israel forever.
 - Jesus will fulfill this beginning in the Millennial Kingdom.
 - The New Covenant (Let's let scripture speak)
 - *Jer 31:33, "But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days (after the time of Jacob's distress – the tribulation), declares the LORD: I will put*

my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people.”

- *Ez 36:28, You will live in the land that I gave to your forefathers; so you will be My people, and I will be your God.*
- *Ez 36:35-36, They will say, ‘This desolate land has become like the garden of Eden; and the waste, desolate and ruined cities are fortified and inhabited.’ 36 Then the nations that are left round about you will know that I, the Lord, have rebuilt the ruined places and planted that which was desolate; I, the Lord, have spoken and will do it.”*
- Other promises to be fulfilled
 - *Psa 110:1, The Lord says to my Lord: “Sit at My right hand until I make Your enemies a footstool for Your feet.”*
 - *Dan 7:14, To Him was given dominion, glory and a kingdom, that all the peoples, nations and men of every language might serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion which will not pass away; and His kingdom is one which will not be destroyed.*
 - *Isa 11:6, And the wolf will dwell with the lamb, and the leopard will lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the young lion [a]and the fatling together; and a little boy will lead them.*
- Proving to everyone that sin is the enemy.
 - With Satan bound and living in a perfect world, and Christ as King, billions will reject God
 - *Gen 4:7, If you do well, will not your countenance be lifted up? And if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door; and its desire is for you, but you must master it.”*
 - *Gen 4:8, And it came about when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother and killed him.*
 - Why do people reject God and allow sin mastery over them? They love their sin.
- Providing a Sabbath rest for the Jewish nation, and for the earth.
 - *Hebrews 4:9-11, So there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God. 10 For the one who has entered His rest has himself also rested from his works, as God did from His. 11 Therefore let us be diligent to enter that rest, so that no one will fall, through following the same example of disobedience.*
 - The Millennial Day theory, that the earth has been laboring since the creation for 6000 years, and so it’s time for a 1,000 year sabbath rest for the planet. Psalm 90:4, 2 Pet 3:8.

Rev 20:7-8, When the thousand years are completed, Satan will be released from his prison, 8 and will come out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together for the war; the number of them is like the sand of the seashore.

- He will be released for a “short time”, Rev 20:3. But, long enough to deceive the nations.
- He went into the abyss as deceiver and comes out with the same character of deception.
 - How can anyone living through the Millennium possibly be deceived?
 - This who rejected Christ during the Tribulation were also under a deception.
 - But they heard the powerful presentation of the gospel during it all.
 - 144,000 evangelists.
 - 2 witnesses in Jerusalem.
 - Three angels traversing the heavens.
 - They have lived under Christ’s rule for hundreds of years. They know what He can do.
- Why is he released?
 - The plan of God is being executed! Satan is once again God’s pawn in the end times.

- When Jesus was crucified who was in control there?
 - *Acts 2:22-23, "Men of Israel, listen to these words: Jesus the Nazarene, a man attested to you by God with miracles and wonders and signs which God performed through Him in your midst, just as you yourselves know— 23 this Man, delivered over by the predetermined plan and foreknowledge of God, you nailed to a cross by the hands of godless men and put Him to death.*
- Satan can only function within the sovereign, permissive purpose of God!
 - *Job 1:12, Then the Lord said to Satan, "Behold, all that he has is in your power, only do not put forth your hand on him." So Satan departed from the presence of the Lord.*
 - *Job 2:6, So the Lord said to Satan, "Behold, he is in your power, only spare his life."*
- The deception is worldwide, and must have to do with believing they can overthrow Christ.
- Gog and Magog.
 - This is a **symbolic title**
 - Historically, Magog was a grandson of Noah
 - his descendants settled north of the Caspian and Black Seas.
 - They were known in ancient times as Scythians
 - Today's Russia
 - This is why people believe Russia play a major role in eschatology
 - Gog is the leader of the Magog army that fought at Armageddon
 - Of course, all those people were slain in the valley of Megiddo!
 - *Ez 38:2-3, Son of man, set your face toward Gog of the land of Magog, the **prince of Rosh (Russia)**, Meshech and Tubal, and prophesy against him 3 and say, "Thus says the Lord God, "Behold, I am against you, O Gog, prince of Rosh, Meshech and Tubal.*
 - *Ez 39:4-6, **I will give you as food to every kind of predatory bird and beast of the field.** 5 You will fall on the open field; for it is I who have spoken," declares the Lord God. 6 "And **I will send fire upon Magog** and those who inhabit the coastlands in safety; and they will know that I am the Lord.*
 - *Ez 39:11-12, So they will bury Gog there with all his horde, and they will call it the valley of Hamon-Gog (multitude of Gog). 12 For seven months the house of Israel will be burying them in order to cleanse the land.*
 - Probably God calls them *Gog and Magog* remembering what happened at Megiddo.
 - He's about to repeat the slaughter
 - How many warriors are there?
 - Like the sand of the seashore! This is hyperbole. An uncountable horde!
 - 1 cubic foot of sand contains up to 1 billion grains.
 - It is estimated there are more grains of sand on earth than stars in the universe! Neither one of those numbers is countable!

Rev 20:9, And they came up on the broad plain of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city, and fire came down from heaven and devoured them.

- The broad plain. This is the reconfigured (relatively flat) earth. With Jerusalem the highest mount.
- They come against Jerusalem (the beloved city).
- They are immediately destroyed by fire from heaven! They are consumed and annihilated.
 - Fire from heaven seems to be a favorite judgement of God
 - *1Kings 18:36-39, At the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice, Elijah the prophet came near and said, "O Lord, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, today let it be*

known that You are God in Israel and that I am Your servant and I have done all these things at Your word. 37 Answer me, O Lord, answer me, that this people may know that You, O Lord, are God, and that You have turned their heart back again." 38 Then the fire of the Lord fell and consumed the burnt offering and the wood and the stones and the dust, and licked up the water that was in the trench. 39 When all the people saw it, they fell on their faces; and they said, "The Lord, He is God; the Lord, He is God."

- **2 Kings 1:9-15**, Then the king sent to him a captain of fifty with his fifty. And he went up to him, and behold, he was sitting on the top of the hill. And he said to him, "O man of God, the king says, 'Come down.'" 10 Elijah replied to the captain of fifty, "If I am a man of God, let fire come down from heaven and consume you and your fifty." Then fire came down from heaven and consumed him and his fifty.
- 11 So he again sent to him another captain of fifty with his fifty. And he said to him, "O man of God, thus says the king, 'Come down quickly.'" 12 Elijah replied to them, "If I am a man of God, let fire come down from heaven and consume you and your fifty." Then the fire of God came down from heaven and consumed him and his fifty.
- 13 So he again sent the captain of a third fifty with his fifty. When the third captain of fifty went up, he came and bowed down on his knees before Elijah, and begged him and said to him, "O man of God, please let my life and the lives of these fifty servants of yours be precious in your sight. 14 Behold fire came down from heaven and consumed the first two captains of fifty with their fifties; but now let my [a]life be precious in your sight." 15 The angel of the Lord said to Elijah, "Go down with him; do not be afraid of him." So he arose and went down with him to the king.
- **Luke 9:54-56**, When His disciples James and John saw this, they said, "Lord, do You want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?" 55 But He turned and rebuked them, [[b]and said, "You do not know what kind of spirit you are of; 56 for the Son of Man did not come to destroy men's lives, but to save them.]" And they went on to another village.

Rev 20:10, And the devil who deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are also; and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

- Lake of Fire and Brimstone
- Mark describes it a place where, "where their worm does not die, and the fire is not quenched."
 - Brimstone is the word for Sulphur, which is a flammable element.
 - Symbolically, it is the element of hell.
 - It was used in the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah (the cities of the plain)
 - Clumps of native Sulphur are found scattered all around the area of the dead sea.
 - It gives off a blue flame and emits a noxious rotten egg smell
 - It melts into a toxic lava-like ooze as it burns
 - <https://youtu.be/RU78ZzQSBY8?si=D9pxUg-hbsTG7p4i>
- The Beast and the False prophet are already there – humans with eternal bodies.
- Now Satan joins them, to receive an eternal torment (torture, torment, anguish)
- How long? The Greek word is *aion*, the root of the word eon, meaning an eternity.
- The righteous will spend eternity with God, but the unrighteous without Him
 - *2 Thes 1:9, These will pay the penalty of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power.*
 - The torture is the absence of God