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QUESTION #7 – Who will reign with Jesus Christ in His 1000 years Kingdom?

- 1) David will play an important role during this time period - Jeremiah 23:5-8; 30:9; Ezekiel 37:24-25
- 2) Many O.T. believers will play an important role during this time. Daniel 12:1-2
- 3) The apostles will reign with Jesus Christ during the 1000 year Millennium. Matthew 19:28
- 4) Many from the nation Israel will share in governmental responsibilities - Isaiah 32:1; Jeremiah 30:18-21
- 5) Many, including Church Age believers, will share in the 1000 year reign of Jesus Christ.

QUESTION #8 – What are the three main views concerning the 1000 year Millennium?

(View #1) - Post -millennialism

This is the view that we are in the Millennium or rapidly approaching it by the churches' presentation of the gospel which is causing this world to become progressively better to the point that righteousness will eventually dominate the world so that Jesus Christ can finally come back to judge and reign. According to this view, Christ comes back after the 1000 year Millennium. The Kingdom is a spiritual Kingdom, not a physical Kingdom and the number 1000 is a symbolic number and the reign of Jesus Christ is spiritual, not literal and physical.

(View #2) - A -millennialism

This is the belief that there is really no Millennium in which Christ will reign as King for 1000 years.

(View #3) - Pre -millennialism

This is the belief that the present Church Age will continue to increase in evil, and that will lead to the time when God will end the Church Age and pour out His wrath on this world, which will lead to the Second Coming of Jesus Christ in all of His glory to judge and establish His righteous Kingdom on this earth for 1000 years.

Revelation 20:1-10

It is clear from these first ten verses that there is a specific chronology of events that occur as the Millennium begins. We may observe four major chronological events:

CHRONOLOGICAL EVENT #1 – The binding of Satan . 20:1-3

The Millennium opens with Satan being bound and it closes with Satan being released for a short time.

As **verse 1** opens, we may notice that the first major part of the Millennium is the 1000 year jail sentence given to Satan. An angel from heaven comes and binds Satan and casts him into the bottomless pit.

This abyss or pit is not to be confused with hell or the eternal lake of fire. This is the place where bound demons were held (Jude 6). There are two questions we would like to ask and answer concerning this binding of Satan:

Question #1 - Why is Satan bound?

(Reason #1) - Satan is bound in order that prophecy related to Israel may be fulfilled.

Several passages predict that Israel will have a peaceful Kingdom and in order for that to happen, Satan cannot be there (Jeremiah 33:15-16; Ezekiel 11:17-21; 34:11-15, 25-31; Zechariah 14:9-11).

(Reason #2) - Satan is bound in order for a Christological righteousness to exist.

There will never be a more righteous time on this earth than when Jesus Christ Personally reigns on this earth. Satan cannot be present where Jesus Christ reigns in total righteousness, and since He will reign over the whole world, Satan cannot be around.

(Reason #3) - Satan is bound so there may be a surfacing of human rebellion .

The truth is, it makes no difference how great the environment; man is rebellious. When Satan is bound, no one will be able to blame Satan for his rebellion.

Question #2 - Why will Satan be released?

(Reason #1) - Satan will be released so he can gather all those who have hard hearts against God.

During the Millennium, there will be those whose hearts are not right with God, but they will not dare blatantly oppose God.

(Reason #2) - Satan will be released to demonstrate the final authority of Jesus Christ.

The 1000 year reign of Jesus Christ will for the most part be peaceful and tranquil. Christ will dramatically end the existence of Satan and show His supreme authority over him after he is released.

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CHRONOLOGICAL EVENT #2 – People reign with Jesus Christ. **20:4-6**

We know from Matthew 19:27-30 that Jesus Christ is going to share His Kingdom reign with many of His people. There are three groups specifically mentioned in **verse 4**:

Group #1 - Those sitting on thrones with allotted authority. **20:4a**

There are obviously people who are permitted to share in judgment who are sitting on thrones. This is probably a reference to rewarded church saints (I Cor. 6:2; II Tim. 2:12; Rev. 2:26-27).

Group #2 - Those who are martyred during the Great Tribulation. **20:4b**

During the Tribulation many of God's people will be executed for their faith in Jesus Christ and their stand for the Word of God.

Group #3 - Those who survived the Tribulation without receiving the mark of the beast. **20:4c**

All of these groups will share in the 1000 year reign of Jesus Christ.

Who exactly are these people reigning over in the Millennium?

(Group #1) - Those who are from the nations .

Many who will be in this 1000 year Kingdom will have come from various nations. According to Matthew 25:31-46, one of the major groups of people permitted entrance into the Kingdom will be those from various nations

(Group #2) - Those who are resurrected from O.T. Israel.

When we read **Revelation 20:5**, we may notice that there is a connection between those in the Millennium and what is classified as the “first resurrection.”

This resurrection has nothing to do with the “in Christ” resurrection which already occurred at the Rapture of the Church (I Thessalonians 4:13-18). These are the two final eschatological resurrections in connection with the reign of Jesus Christ.

In **Luke 14:14**, there is what is called the “resurrection of the just.” In **Daniel 12:2-3**, there is a resurrection directly linked to O.T. Israel. **This first resurrection is the resurrection of all O.T. believers who, for the most part, are Jewish.** The second resurrection is the resurrection of all unsaved lost people and after this resurrection one does not experience a Kingdom but a second death (**Rev. 20:14**).

According to verse 6, those reigning with Christ will function as priests and reigning rulers. This will be a Christ-appointed political priesthood with whom He will share His Kingdom.

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CHRONOLOGICAL EVENT #3 – The final attack of Satan. 20:7-9

When Satan is released, he will pull together one final massive army to try to go up against Jesus Christ, who is headquartered in the “beloved city” Jerusalem. “Gog and Magog” refer to people who are not right with God; perhaps those living in the area we know as Russia, but it cannot be limited to this area because Satan tries to round up people from the four corners of the earth. Satan will lead them to surround Jerusalem and when they do, fire will come down from heaven and destroy them.

CHRONOLOGICAL EVENT #4 – The end of Satan. 20:10

Satan started out the greatest angel created by God (Ezekiel 28:11-16). But he had a big problem, his pride (Isaiah 14:12-13; Ezekiel 28:17).

When we cut through everything, the fact is, pride is the reason the Devil is thrown into the lake of fire to burn forever and ever.

Satanic pride will be the biggest reason people end up in the lake of fire.

Revelation 20:11-15

When one analyzes both the O.T. and the N.T., one theme we may always see is the theme of future judgment. As we analyze Scriptures from a chronological perspective, there are eleven different judgments:

- 1) The judgment of a believer's sin based on the cross-work of Jesus Christ. John 12:31-32
- 2) The judgment that an individual believer pronounces by himself and on himself. I Cor. 11:31
- 3) The judgment of a believer concerning other believers. I Cor. 5:12-13
- 4) There will be a reward judgment of the believer at the judgment seat (Bema) of Jesus Christ in which one's works will determine reward or loss of rewards. II Cor. 5:10; I Cor. 3:11-15
- 5) There will be a wrath judgment God will pour out on earth during the Great Tribulation. Rev. 6:17
- 6) There will be a judgment of Gentile nations after the Great Tribulation. Matthew 25:32-41
- 7) There will be a judgment of Israel at the end of the Great Tribulation. Ezekiel 20:33-38
- 8) There will be a judgment of the Antichrist and the false prophet at the end of the Tribulation. Rev. 19:20
- 9) There will two judgments of Satan : 1) At the end of the Tribulation; and 2) At the end of the Millennium. Rev. 20:2-3; 20:10
- 10) There will be a final judgment of evil angels after the 1000 year Millennium. Jude 6
- 11) There will be a final judgment of all unbelievers at the final judgment - the Great White Throne Judgment. **Rev. 20:11-15**

Revelation 20:11-15 describes the Great White Throne Judgment

QUESTION #1 – When does the Great White Throne Judgment take place?

The actual chronology is that this will take place after Satan is cast into the lake of fire and after the 1000 year reign of Jesus Christ. Rev. 20:7-10

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QUESTION #2 – Where does the Great White Throne Judgment take place?

The Great White Throne Judgment apparently takes place at a special location that is not in heaven or on earth (**Rev. 20:11**). Daniel predicts that this will be a court judgment scene in which there is a river of fire flowing (Daniel 7:9-10). This court will feature a judge but no jury, a prosecution but no defense, a sentence with no appeal.

QUESTION #3 – Who will be judged at this Great White Throne Judgment?

Revelation 20:12 is clear to reveal that all at this judgment are classified as “dead”; that is they have no life. To further qualify who these dead are, there are three stated facts:

Fact #1 - These who will be judged had no place either in heaven or on earth. **20:11b**

This tells us that there are two possible places of residency, heaven or earth. These people being judged here will not be permitted to live in either place, which means these are all the lost people from all the ages.

Fact #2 - These who will be judged were previously dead prior to this moment of judgment.
20:12-13

The adjectives “great” and “small” refer to all lost people from the most famous to the most insignificant. Politicians, preachers, athletes, entertainers, entrepreneurs, musicians, skid row bums. There will be lost people judged who lived in the White House and who lived in the woods.

There is a reference to the “sea” which means no matter where they died, whether or not their body was ever found, they are all at this judgment. In Acts 24:15, there are two resurrections mentioned, one for the righteous and one for the wicked. **It is the wicked resurrection that is relevant to this Great White Throne Judgment.**

Fact #3 - Those who will be judged are not found written in the Lamb’s book of life. **20:15**

The Lamb’s book of life is a book over which Jesus Christ the Lamb has complete authority. The way one gets into the book of life is by believing on Jesus Christ (Rev. 3:5 / I John 5:5). The only determining factor for people at this Great White Throne Judgment is that their names are not in this book. What this means is that all at this judgment are unbelievers. **This is not a judgment of any believer; this is a judgment of all unbelieving people of all time.**

QUESTION #4 – What is the basis for the judgment at the Great White Throne?

In Scripture there are three key eternal books which keep eternal records:

- 1) There is the Lamb's book of life which contains every name, not the works, of every person who has believed on Jesus Christ. Rev. 3:5; **20:15**
- 2) There is the condemnatory works books, which contains a list of all sins a person has ever committed. Isaiah 65:6-7; Romans 2:5-6
- 3) There is the "Book of Remembrance" which contains the reward works of those written in the Lamb's book of life. Malachi 3:16-18

At the Great White Throne Judgment there are two criteria used as a basis:

Criteria #1 - The basis for this judgment is not the book of life. **20:12b**

No one can get into the book of life by their works (Ephesians 2:8-9; Titus 3:5). If the people had been in the book of life, they would not be at this judgment.

Criteria #2 - The basis for this judgment are the dead works of dead people. **20:12-13**

There is a biography that has been written by God about every person. This biography contains the record of how depraved a sinner every person really is. The standard for judgment of depravity is the objective written law of Moses (John 5:45).

Every Christ-rejecting person will have his day in court at this Great White Throne Judgment. The entire case history of a person's sin will be analyzed by a just and righteous God. Every unbeliever will receive a fair trial to see if their works measured up to the righteous standards of a Holy God. According to Paul, every unsaved person is storing up "wrath" in the works books (Romans 5:5-6).

If we track this works theme through Scripture, we may identify certain things that will be brought up at this judgment because they are stored in the works books:

- 1) Every act the person did contrary to God's Word. Romans 2:5-6
- 2) Every word a person spoke contrary to God's Word. Matt. 12:36-37; James 3:6
- 3) Every thought a person had contrary to God's Word. I Chron. 28:9
- 4) Every motive a person had contrary to God's Word. Hebrews 4:12
- 5) Every secret act a person did contrary to God's Word. Romans 2:16
- 6) Every rebellious act a person did contrary to God's Word. James 4:17
- 7) Every suppression of God's Word and Spirit are stored in the works books. Romans 1:18
- 8) Every violation of God's Law is all recorded in the works books. Romans 3:19-20

One who stands before God to be judged out of the condemnatory works books will have their mouths shut.

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QUESTION #5 – What are the results of this Great White Throne Judgment?

There are two main results:

Result #1 - Those judged are sentenced to the eternal lake of fire. **Rev. 20:12, 15**; Jude 7

Result #2 - Those sentenced to the eternal lake of fire apparently are at different degrees of punishment. Luke 12:46-48; Matt. 11:20-24

Verse 14 states that “death and Hades” were thrown into the lake of fire, which is the second death. When an unsaved person dies now, they go to Hades, a hellish place of fire torment. So an unbeliever faces two eternal death sentences. The first sentence is Hades, but then at the Great White Throne Judgment, they face the second sentence to the eternal lake of fire, which is the second death. As bad as Hades is, it is not the eternal lake of fire.

The eternal lake of fire will be the destiny of all unbelievers of all ages after the Great White Throne Judgment.

Revelation 21:1-27

Ever since Adam and Eve sinned in the book of Genesis, all creation has been groaning for a day when everything would become new. The Apostle Paul said that when we reach that final glory that will be revealed, creation itself will be set free the slavery of corruption (Romans 8:19-22).

When the Tribulation Judgments are completed and when the Kingdom Millennium prophecies have been fulfilled, **God will create a new heaven, new earth and new Jerusalem**. He will share that Kingdom with His people forever and ever.

Revelation 21:1-8

In the first eight verses of this book God gives us data pertaining to the new heaven and new earth. There are nine observations we may glean from these verses:

OBSERVATION #1 – The new heaven and new earth is after the Great White Throne Judgment. **21:1a**

Notice John saw this. This is the last of the “and I saw” scenes. The fact that John saw the Great White Throne Judgment and then the new heaven and new earth, indicates there are two very real eternal destinies at stake. One destiny puts people into the eternal lake of fire, and the other puts people into the new heaven, new earth and new Jerusalem.

OBSERVATION #2 – The new heaven and new earth will be new. **21:1a**

The reality of a new heaven and new earth is clearly predicted in the O.T. - Isaiah 65:17; 66:22. In Greek there are two different Greek adjectives translated “new” (G. Abbott-Smith, *Greek Lexicon*, pp. 225-226).

One of them is neos (νεος) which refers to being new as it relates to time. New in the sense of being recent. If you purchased a used vehicle, you could say, I got a new vehicle and this is the word you would use. You would not mean that you purchased a new vehicle that had just rolled out of a factory, but you purchased a vehicle that was new to you.

The second word kainos (καινος) means to be new in the sense of a new form or quality. This word refers to something brand new in the sense that it has never been used. In our car analogy, this would mean you purchased a new vehicle that just rolled out of production.

This is the word that is used here in Revelation.

The new heaven and new earth will not be a restoration of the old one; it will be a brand new one. It will have a new form and quality to it. It apparently will be a round earth because it has the dimensions of north, south, east and west (Rev. 21:13). We do not know if it will be larger or smaller than our present earth. We could guess in view of the size of the large city (Rev. 21:16), that it will be larger.