

## Revelation 20 Part 1

Hi, this is Richard Oliver, and we are looking at chapter twenty in our book of Revelation, it's part number thirty-nine in our series.

Verse one, *'And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand.*

*'And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years,*

*'And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season.'*

Verse four, *'And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the Word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.'*

Now this is the Lord's Day, the Day of the Lord, the Millennial Reign of Christ, and if you go back, of course, to the creation story, we know that the world was created in seven days. Now that can, of course, confuse some people, and they look for twenty-four hour days and so on, that isn't quite the way it works. Very first, at the beginning of Genesis it says 'In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth', there's a full stop, there is no time given. I know some people think that that's all part of the first day but that isn't how it actually reads. So it could have been billions of years old. And that actually ties in with the scientific facts we know. The world was then also in a state where it was void, water was upon the face of the deep, and darkness. Now that sounds rather like a world that has a lot of trouble, has been in a bad place. So God then said 'Let there be light'. And from that time on we have the six days of creation, and, of course, finally we have the seventh day where God rested.

Now, both Psalms and Second Peter tell us that a day is as a thousand years. We don't know how long it was that Adam and Eve lived in the Garden of Eden in that perfect state. Obviously at least a thousand years they were created on the sixth day, or Adam was created on the sixth day, and yet it wasn't until after another thousand years, another day of rest, some time after that that Adam and Eve sinned.

So we have quite a time there, but we have the basic concept of six days and then the Sabbath or the rest. The word 'rest' is 'Sabbath'. It's the same thing.

Now, since the time that Adam and Eve got kicked out of the Garden of Eden, from the time they sinned through to today is about six thousand years. So we have the sixth day, six days. And therefore there has to be a seventh, a day of rest. And that is the Millennial Reign of Christ. And His people, those that are involved in the wedding supper of the Lamb, those that are in the rapture, those that died for their testimony, those that have been the bride throughout all ages, will be there. They will rule with Him.

Verse five, *'But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection.*

*'Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years.'*

As I said.

Verse seven, *'And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison, And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea.'*

*'And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them.'*

There is going to be another battle, another, and this is the final one to completely finish the devil and all his children. Now, we can also find this in the book of Zechariah chapter fourteen where he says in verse one, *'Behold, the day of the LORD cometh, and thy spoil shall be divided in the midst of thee.'*

*'For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished; and half of the city shall go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city.'*

*'Then shall the LORD go forth, and fight against those nations, as when He fought in the day of battle.'*

*'And His feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south.'*

Now, that is – you know, some people will think crazy, but that actually is close to the Kidron Valley which is part of the Great Rift Valley coming up from Africa, a portion cuts off there, goes straight up into Israel, so it is already set to go or for something very important to happen.

Verse five, *'And ye shall flee to the valley of the mountains; for the valley of the mountains shall reach unto Azal: yea, ye shall flee, like as ye fled from before the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah: and the LORD my God shall come, and all the saints with thee.'*

Verse six, *'And it shall come to pass in that day, that the light shall not be clear, nor dark:'*

Verse seven, *'But it shall be one day which shall be known to the LORD, not day, nor night: but it shall come to pass, that at evening time it shall be light.'*

We are in the evening of the sixth day, six thousand years since Adam and Eve were kicked out of the Garden of Eden, it has been dark, it's neither day nor night, it's not crystal clear, but at the evening time it shall be light. Jesus Christ has sent His Message, His Light, to this age, to us, and we can walk in that Light.

Back to the book of Revelation and we'll pick it up again chapter twenty verse ten.

*'And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.'*

Now this is quite an interesting subject. The devil has created the world's church system, the world's system to control the finance, politics and everything else. They're already in the lake of fire. Now

the devil himself, having been bound a thousand years, has a last fling, and now he's thrown into the lake of fire and he'll be tormented day and night for ever and ever. That is not eternity. For ever and ever is not eternity. It is till the end of time. And if he were able to be tormented for eternity then he would have eternal life. And no, the devil doesn't have eternal life, and nor do his followers.

Verse eleven, *'And I saw a great white throne, and Him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them.'*

*'And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.'*

So these people are being judged by their works. This confirms Matthew chapter twenty-five verse thirty-one, *'When the Son of man shall come in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then shall He sit upon the throne of His glory:*

*'And before Him shall be gathered all nations: and He shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats:*

*'And He shall set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left.'*

*'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:*

*'For I was an hungred, and ye gave Me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave Me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took Me in:*

*'Naked, and ye clothed Me: I was sick, and ye visited Me: I was in prison, and ye came unto Me.'*

*'Then shall the righteous answer Him, saying, Lord, when saw we Thee an hungred, and fed Thee? or thirsty, and gave Thee drink?*

*'When saw we Thee a stranger, and took Thee in? or naked, and clothed Thee?*

*'Or when saw we Thee sick, or in prison, and came unto Thee?*

*'And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these My brethren, ye have done it unto Me.'*

When He says 'unto the least of these My brethren', these are all the saints that are with Him, standing behind Him as He sits on the judgement throne. The other people are before Him. Christ's people aren't going to be judged at this judgement, they're already judged, were already found okay. So these here are how they lived or reacted with us, and, of course, we know darn well that the people who didn't do those things, they're not going to make it. They're not going to be included.

Verse thirteen in Revelation chapter twenty, *'And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works.'*

*'And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.'*

This is the end of all the evil stuff, everything is dealt with.

*'And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.'*

May God bless you.