
The Book of Revelation: Session 27

Revelation 20:7-15

YouTube: “Verse by Verse Teaching | Revelation 20:7-15 | Gary Hamrick”
(taught on February 3, 2021 | 43:56 minutes)

Notes:

“God is going to allow Satan to be released so that the people of the Millennial period will have an opportunity [to choose who they will live for and worship].”

What can we learn from the release of Satan after 1000 years?

- The human heart is depraved.
- Satan is powerfully deceptive, to lure people away from a near-perfect world.
- God is just in His judgments.

The Great White Throne Judgment:

- Is for unbelievers.
- Is like a courtroom, except (1) there will be no debate about guilt or innocence, (2) there will be a prosecutor, but no defense, (3) there will be a judge, but no jury, (4) there will be sentencing with no chance of appeal, (5) there will be punishment without parole.

“...and books were opened” (Revelation 20:12):

- Bible (John 12:48)
- Book of Records (Psalm 139:16)
- Book of Remembrance (Psalm 56:8; Micah 3:16)
- Book of Works (Revelation 20:12)
- Book of Life (Revelation 20:12; Philippians 4:3; Psalm 69:28)

Questions:

1. Read Revelation 20:7-10. Though none of us likely fully understand why God releases Satan for one last deception and battle, it does bring several things to light. Warren Wiersbe explains that this final rebellion at the end of the Millennium is “final proof that the heart of man is desperately wicked and can be changed only by God’s grace. ... It will be a reign of law, and yet law will not change man’s sinful heart ... The Millennium will be a period of peace and perfect environment, a time when disobedience will be judged swiftly and with justice, and yet – in the end – the subjects of the King will follow Satan and rebel against the Lord. *A perfect environment cannot produce a perfect heart.*” In light of this, how can we pray for our kids, grandkids, “church kids,” nieces and nephews, growing up in solid, Christian homes, attending strong, truth-believing churches, even learning in Christian schools?

“The name “Gog” appears to be used in Scripture as a general title for an enemy of God’s people. ... Most likely, “Gog” is used in verse 8 to describe the human leader of Satan’s forces. ... “Magog” is used in this passage to describe the sinful rebels from all the nations who will gather together for the final war in human history.”

- John MacArthur

2. Read Revelation 20:11-14. John MacArthur explains: ““Hades” is the Greek equivalent of the Hebrew word, “Sheol.” Both words describe the realm of the dead. ... Hades is the place of punishment, where the unrighteous dead are kept, pending their sentences to Hell.” Read Luke 16:19-31. Hades is temporary; Hell is forever. Wiersbe adds, “God does not send people to Hell; they send themselves by rejecting the Saviour.” How can we cultivate in ourselves a greater compassion for the lost, whose – unless they repent and accept Jesus – final destination is Hell? As our world and culture morphs, do our methods of sharing the Gospel need to change as well?

Want to dig deeper? Engage with these sermons by John MacArthur, taught in 1994:

- <https://www.gty.org/library/sermons-library/66-76/1.04>
- <https://www.gty.org/library/sermons-library/66-77/mans-last-day-in-gods-court-part-1>
- <https://www.gty.org/library/sermons-library/66-78/mans-last-day-in-gods-court-part-2>
- <https://www.gty.org/library/sermons-library/66-79/mans-last-day-in-gods-court-part-3>