

THE MILLENNIUM

"The devil is bound, and we are now in the millennium," someone claimed. "If the devil is bound," a minister replied, "he must be tied with a rubber chain that stretches from Paris to Bombay and from Washington, D.C., to the Kremlin."

We need only to look at what is happening about us to know that the devil has never been more active than he is today. Never have crime, disasters and sin been more rampant. There is, however, coming a time when the devil's activities will be justly restricted. He will be unable to tempt, torment, or destroy any of God's children. This is the day for which the whole world has longed. There will be perfect peace and happiness in the universe. The devil will be bound.



This period of one thousand years is called the millennium. This term is not found in the Bible. It comes from two Latin words, "mille" and "annum," and means 1 000 years. The phrase "1 000 years" is found six times in Revelation, chapter 20. Many ideas about what is to occur during the millennium have been advanced. Some think of it as a thousand years of peace. However, we do not need to wonder; the Bible once again explains the period, its beginning, its purpose, and its end.

Before you begin the study of the questions in this lesson, read the entire twentieth chapter of Revelation.

WHAT JESUS SAID ABOUT THE MILLENNIUM

“Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice and come forth—those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation.” John 5:28,29.

As you study, be thinking about the Life Quest questions.

- What does this topic tell me about God?
- What difference does this topic make to my daily life?
- How does this topic help me in my relationship with Jesus?

HIS WORD SAYS

1. In what two separate resurrections did Christ say the dead will be raised? John 5:28, 29.

2. When will the righteous dead be raised? 1 Thessalonians 4:16.

3. What does the Bible call this resurrection? Revelation 20:4-6.

The first resurrection takes place at the second coming of Jesus. It is at this time that the dead saints are raised in the resurrection of life and given immortality. However, the wicked remain dead until the second resurrection.

4. What happens to the righteous living when Christ's coming commences the millennium? 1 Thessalonians 4:17.

Together with the resurrected saints, the living rise above the earth to meet the Lord in the air. Jesus does not come down to the earth, He will take us up from this world into Heaven.

5. What effect does the coming of Christ have on the living wicked? Luke 17:26-30.

All the living wicked are destroyed at the commencement of the 1000 years. Sinful man is unable to stand before a sinless God. 2 Thessalonians 2:7, 8.

6. How does the Bible indicate that the second coming of Christ does not disturb, the wicked dead? Revelation 20:5.



7. Because Satan is bound (Revelation 20:2), what is he unable to do during the millennium? Revelation 20:3.

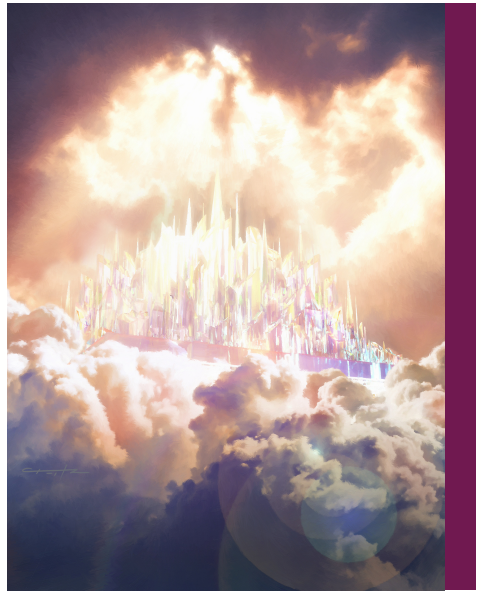
Satan is bound by the following circumstances. He has no one to tempt or to destroy. The saints are with Christ in the New Jerusalem; the wicked living have died at the coming of Christ, and the wicked dead are not raised until the end of the millennium. Satan and his wicked angels are alone on the earth during the 1,000 years. They have no one to tempt or deceive.

8. Where are the saints during the, millennium? Revelation 20:4, 6.

9. What will the saints be doing during the millennium in heaven? 1 Corinthians 6:2, 3.

The saints will have the opportunity to judge those who did not make it to heaven. We will not be left with any doubt as to why some were saved and some were not. We will also judge those fallen angels who joined Satan in his rebellion.

"Until the Ancient of days came, and judgment was given to the saints of the most High; and the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom." Daniel 7:22



10. What did John see descending to the earth at the close of the 1,000 years? Revelation 21:2.

11. When does the Bible say that the wicked dead will live again? Revelation 20:5.

12. When the wicked are resurrected what occurs when they stand before God's throne? Revelation 20:11-14.

At the end of the millennium, when the time of judgment has been completed by the saints, Christ with His saints and the Holy City will come down to the earth and the wicked will be raised to stand before the Judgement Seat of Christ and receive the verdict of their judgement. All will be allowed to see exactly why they have not been permitted into heaven and see the justice in their sentence.

13. What do the wicked do when they hear Jesus' new name? Philippians 2:9-11.

14. When the resurrection of the wicked permits Satan to become active once more, what does he do to show that he has not changed? Revelation 20:7, 8, 9.

Satan will again go about to deceive and lead the wicked into battle against God. From this we can see that there has been no repentance or remorse from Satan or those who follow him.

15. What is the outcome of Satan and the wicked's attempt to take the city of God? Revelation 20:9,10, 14

The lake of fire is the final punishment of the wicked. It brings about the second death from which there is no resurrection.

16. What is the result of the wicked being burned? Malachi 4:1-3.

17. After the purifying fire is over and all sin has been eliminated, what will God give everyone? 2 Peter 3:13; Revelation 21:1

Sin and sinners are destroyed and the conflict with evil is over. God will then restore all things according to His original plan for us. New heavens and a new earth will be made in which peace and righteousness will reign, never again to be marred by the taint of sin and death.



The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together: and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. Isaiah 11:6-7



LIFE QUEST:

Have you thoughtfully reviewed these Questions?

- What does this topic tell me about God?
- What difference does this topic make to my daily life?
- How does this topic help me in my relationship with Jesus?

YOUR TURN

Check the statements that most closely reflect your response to this study.

I would like more information on the topic of the millennium.

I accept Jesus as Lord and Saviour of my life and desire to spend eternity with Him.

I believe God is fair and loving because He gives people the choice of determining their eternal destiny.

Please pray for me that I will make the correct choices in my life.

Other _____