

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Wk 9
8/27/23

Sermon Title	Our Future Home
Scripture:	Revelation 21-22



Armageddon 2.0- Revelation 20:7-10

Revelation 20:7–10 (ESV) — **7** And when the thousand years are ended, Satan will be released from his prison **8** and will come out to deceive the nations that are at the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them for battle; their number is like the sand of the sea. **9** And they marched up over the broad plain of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city, but fire came down from heaven and consumed them, **10** and the devil who had deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and sulfur where the beast and the false prophet were, and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

Who will Satan try to deceive? Those born in the Millennium—those living in enforced righteousness and peace because there’s no other choice, those who never had an opportunity to decide whether or not they would follow the Lord. You and I have made such a choice. We have “chosen to be chosen.” We have “selected to be elected.” Here, those born during the Millennium are also given this choice.

I am blown away by the fact that somehow Satan will be able to persuade a great number of people to rebel against the One who will have done nothing but good for them and who will have given them a perfect environment wherein plenty, prosperity, peace, and perfection prevail. And then I understand how Satan will be able to get a number of those living in the Millennium to echo the cry of Jerusalem: “**We will not have this Man to reign over us**” (Luke 19:14).

Why will the Lord allow this to happen? Because God is love, and love requires a choice.

Courson, J. (2003). *Jon Courson’s Application Commentary* (p. 1783). Thomas Nelson.

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What happened to these folks who followed Satan ?

- They were consumed by fire from heaven
- Satan was thrown into the Lake of Fire with the Anti-Christ and False prophet to be tormented forever.

Revelation 20:11–15 (ESV) — **11** Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. From his presence earth and sky fled away, and no place was found for them. **12** And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Then another book was opened, which is the book of life.

And the dead were judged by what was written in the books, according to what they had done. **13** And the sea gave up the dead who were in it, Death and Hades

gave up the dead who were in them, and they were judged, each one of them, according to what they had done. **14** Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. **15** And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

4 Facts about heaven

1. Destruction is Required- Revelation 21:1

From his presence earth and sky fled away, and no place was found for them

- Heaven and earth are destroyed – Peter, Jesus and Isaiah all tell of this day
- 2 Peter 3:1-11; Matthew 24:35; Isaiah 65:17

A throne suspended in space

We see the 2nd resurrection- resurrection to death

Last week we talk of those resurrection after the Tribulation was the resurrections to life

This is the resurrection to death, those from the beginning of time who rejected God and Jesus will be brought up from Hades or hell – the holding place for the dead (**those who have not put their faith in Christ**)

We see books opened- vs 12- and books were opened. Then another book was opened, which is the book of life.



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Thoughts on this moment:

- Where will we as believers be?
 - Well, there is not heaven or earth at this point
 - Just a throne suspended in air with the dead of all ages standing before Him
 - Many scholars believe we will be there around the throned
 - Throughout Revelation, where are we?
 - Around the throned worshipping God
 - Millennial Kingdom- Ruling and Reigning with Jesus
- We may be around the throne watching this judgment before our eyes.
 - I can't even imagine
 - There will no defense that will be heard
 - **Matthew 7:22 (ESV) — 22** On that day many will say to me, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?'
 - God will only say these words to them.
 - **Matthew 25:41 (ESV) — 41** "Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.'
 - Could it be, we watch in the front row of this event and the sorrow we will have. Seeing our loved ones plead their case before a Holy God then God saying, "Depart from me?"

Can you see it,

"But I went to church"

"I gave money"

"I obeyed the law"

"I help the those in need"

2. Brand New Design- Revelation 21:2-4

Revelation 21:1-4 (ESV) — 1 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more.

- God is with man- When was the last time God was with man like this?
 - **Gen 3:8-** God walking in the garden with Adam and Eve then sin happened
 - We see this as the bookends, God started out being with man and because of redemption and reconciliation, we again will be dwelling with God.

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3. Indescribable Accessories- Revelation 21:10-21



Highlights:

- having the glory of God, its radiance like a most rare jewel, like a jasper, clear as crystal.
- twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and on the gates the names of the twelve tribes of the sons of Israel were inscribed
- on the east three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates. And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the twelve names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.
- the city lies foursquare, its length the same as its width. And he measured the city with his rod, 12,000 stadia (**1380 miles**). Its length and width and height are equal. **17** He also measured its wall, 144 cubits(**216 ft thick**)
- The wall was built of jasper, while the city was pure gold, like clear glass.
- The foundations of the wall of the city were adorned with every kind of jewel. The first was jasper, the second sapphire, the third agate, the fourth emerald, **20** the fifth onyx, the sixth carnelian, the seventh chrysolite, the eighth beryl, the ninth topaz, the tenth chrysoprase, the eleventh jacinth, the twelfth amethyst.
- And the twelve gates were twelve pearls, each of the gates made of a single pearl, (one pearl as a gate) and the street of the city was pure gold, like transparent glass.

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4. Incredible environment –Revelation 21:22- 22:5

Highlights

- no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb.
- And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb.
- By its light will the nations walk, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it,
- and its gates will never be shut by day—
- and there will be no night there. **26** They will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. **27** But nothing unclean will ever enter it, nor anyone who does what is detestable or false, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.
- Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb
- through the middle of the street of the city; also, on either side of the river, the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit each month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.
- No longer will there be anything accursed, but the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him.
- They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads.
- And night will be no more. They will need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

Closing

The rest of **Revelation 22** is John reminding the church of one important fact.

Jesus is coming- vs 7, 12, 20

Church are we ready? Peter encourages the believers this way.

2 Peter 3:11 (ESV) — 11 Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness,

Takeaways for believers



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