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WHAT WILL TAKE PLACE WHEN THE DEVIL IS CHAINED AND CHRIST  
RULES 1,000 YEARS?

A STUDY OF THE BOOK OF REVELATION  
NUMBER 33  
REVELATION 19:19-20:2

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REVELATION 19:19-20:2 "And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army. And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone. And the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, which sword proceeded out of his mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh. 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"

We have now come to the judgment which will fall on the Dictator of the Revived Roman Empire and the False Prophet who will be the dictator of the Jews in Jerusalem during the Tribulation. We will also study here the judgment which will fall on Satan and the fallen angels.

REVELATION 19:19 "And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army." Let us start first with the last phrase of this verse "against his army". This is a unique army, made up of the saved. This army is made up of those who were resurrected at the end of the Church Age. It is called by some the rapture of the church.

The First Resurrection is divided into four parts. In 1 Cor. 15:22 we read the words "Every man in his own battalion". Battalion is a military word and means something like "passing in review". So four companies will pass in review, making up the First Resurrection.

1. Company A. The first one to pass in review is the Lord Jesus Christ. Up to the present, he is the only one who has ever been resurrected. He was resurrected and now is seated at the throne of God.
2. Company B. These are the believers in the Church Age. The moment a believer dies his soul and spirit goes to be with the Lord.  
1 THESSALONIANS 4:16-17 "For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the death in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord."  
So there are two parts to this company. The dead in Christ rise first, then those that are alive are raised.
3. Company C. This third group are the Tribulational Martyrs and all Old Testament saints.  
(At this point the Millennium takes place.)
4. Company D. This fourth group making up the First Resurrection are all the believers in the Millennium who die and all those who are alive at the end of the Millennium.

So here you have the four companies that make up the First Resurrection and these are the ones who make up the army we read about here in the end of verse 19. This army which returns with Christ is made up of all the believers who have been resurrected

up to the time of the Second Coming of Christ. This is an army which doesn't fight. The commanding officer does all the fighting and his name is the Lord Jesus Christ. The Lord Jesus returns with this army and slaughters this vast army making up the Armageddon Campaign.

In the first part of this verse 19 the beast is the Dictator of the Revived Roman Empire and he wears two hats. One is a political hat, and his empire is composed of a ten-leagued nation. He is the beast. But he also wears a religious hat and is the head of the Ecumenical Religious Movement of the world. So he wears a political and a religious hat. Those who had the mark of the beast and worship his image are the kings of the earth, and they all send armies into Palestine. The King of the North is the Russian group. The King of the East is the Red Chinese group. The King of the South is the Arab group, and the King of the West is this Dictator of the Revived Roman Empire. All of these are drawn in for this last great confrontation. The words "gathered together" mean concentration. They are there to make war on Christ. So here is an army that doesn't fight and Christ does all the fighting for them. "The False Prophet" in this verse is the dictator of Palestine in the Tribulation. We studied these two men in Revelation 13. Their activities are outlined in 2 Thessalonians 2:7-12.

REVELATION 19:20 "And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone." Both of these dictators described in verse 19 are taken and cast into the Lake of Fire. All those who joined in with them and worshipped in their system were also thrown into the Lake of Fire.

REVELATION 19:21 "And the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, which sword proceeded out of his mouth; and all the fowls were filled with their flesh." The rider of the horse is Jesus Christ and he slays all those who were affiliated with these dictators. This is the second great feast of Rev. 19. During any period of history there will always be two types of people--believers and unbelievers. The cross is the great dividing point for all mankind. Morals do not divide people. Race or language does not divide people. But the great dividing point is faith in Christ or failure to believe in Christ. This is best stated in JOHN 3:36 "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life; and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him." Believers are delivered and all unbelievers are judged here at the end.

REVELATION 20:1 "And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand." We go now to the source of all trouble, Satan himself. Satan is the original sinner. Let us remember that perfect environment will not solve man's problems. If you solve all economic problems, you still have not solved man's basic problems. You can't make all people equal. The Word of God does not teach that all people are equal. The only thing that makes people equal is regeneration.

Illustration--We are now living in a time when our government is trying to make all people equal. But instead of lifting the fallen up, this effort brings those who are advanced down to the lowest level. If you follow this process long enough, you will finally reduce everybody to the idiot level. Following this process to its conclusion, you finally end up with a nation of slaves. This is the way countries go down. That leads me to say that Socialism is not taught by the Word of God. Satan is the source of all evil and slavery and sin and disintegration. Satan is behind Socialism. Satan is behind Communism. Satan is behind war.

Satan has had this concept from the beginning of time. It goes something like this. Man by man's effort can solve man's problems. This philosophy teaches that man, by his own effort, can provide perfect environment in the earth. But God reminds us that the Devil has had all human history to prove his point and his human good has failed. When Christ returns the Second Time he will do quickly what Satan has not been able to do in thousands of years. Christ will then set up perfect environment on the earth. But you cannot have perfect environment when religion is present. Religion is the worst thing in the world. It is man's effort to do for himself what only God can do by his grace. Religion is the Devil's ace trump. The worst thing about hell will be that it will be filled with religious, self-righteous people. Living with people like that would make hell a terrible place, even if there were no fire, and there certainly is going to be fire there.

So we have now come in our study to the arrest and imprisonment of the Devil. All new deals, all socialism, all Communism and all of man's schemes will come to a screaming halt.

REVELATION 20:1 "And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand." This is a powerful angel and he came from heaven with a key and a chain. Angels have bodies that are quite different from our bodies. We can't see them and we can't feel them. Evidently angels are clothed with light. But they cannot be seen with the human eye. This angel is one to whom God has given great power.

REVELATION 20:2 "And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years." The angel doing this work for the Lord is not named. He was an angel with great power and probably is Michael. The words "laid hold" means to seize with violence. In the book of Jude we read of how Michael confronted Satan once before.

Please notice that four names are used here--Dragon--That Old Serpent--The Devil--Satan. Let us examine these four names and see why all of them are used.

- a. Dragon We saw this name for the Devil before in Revelation 12:4 and 9. This refers to his power.
- b. That Old Serpent Whenever this word is used for the Devil, it is referring back to his activity in the Garden of Eden when he led Adam and Eve astray. Both Adam and Eve had a body, a soul, and a spirit. When they sinned they lost their spirits and got an old sin nature. Both Adam and Eve had free will. That old serpent didn't go first to Adam, he went first to Eve and hood-winked her. She had a very beautiful pet in the animal kingdom. In Hebrew the serpents name was "Nakash" and it means the bright and shining one. So Satan threw his voice into the "bright and shining one" and talked with the woman. He said something like this--"Say, you are not getting a fair shake from God. Don't you think it is unfair that God won't let you eat of that tree? That's the tree of knowledge and God knows when you eat of that fruit you will be just as smart as God". Through this kind of deception Satan was able to get to the woman. She was being tested in innocence and she fell for Satan's line.

The point I wish to make here is simply this--Whenever you find the word "That old serpent" it always refers to that incident in the Garden of Eden when the Devil slipped up on the blind side of the woman and led her astray. The words "That old serpent" are used because the Devil threw his voice into the serpent and used him to deceive the woman.

- c. Devil This is the third name used here and it means slanderer, maligner.
- d. Satan This is from "Shatan" and means adversary, enemy, the main enemy. So Satan was bound. This means the most powerful creature of the evil world was bound.

The Millennial Reign Of Jesus Christ

Six times in this chapter we have the word, 1,000 years. Millenium comes from two words--"Mille" meaning 1,000 and "Annus" meaning year. Let us remember there are four basic ages in the history of humanity.

First Age

It began with Adam and was concluded with the fall of the first United Nations building called "Babel".

In this age the divine institutions were given--Volition, Marriage, the Family, and the Nation. This is called the Age of the Gentiles.

Second Age

This is called the age of the Jews. This age has three parts.

- a. The Patriarchs. From Abraham to Moses
- b. The Law. From Moses to Christ
- c. The Tribulation. A seven-year period at the end of the Church Age.

Third Age

This is the Church Age. This is when the body of Christ is formed. It lasts from Pentecost until the Rapture of the Church.

(At this juncture the Tribulation takes place.)

Fourth Age

This is the Millennium. It lasts for 1,000 years.

This is the age of Christ. At the beginning of history we had perfect environment and here we will have it again. God provided everything man needed. This is an illustration of the grace of God. But man rejected it. This is just the antithesis of evolution. Instead of man rising man has been falling every since his creation. Perfect environment did not solve man's problems in the Garden of Eden and perfect environment will not solve man's problems in the Millennium. The answer to man's problems are regeneration and after regeneration then Bible doctrine. But perfect environment alone will not solve man's problems. In eternity we will have perfect environment, but we will also have no old sin nature, no human good, and resurrection bodies. This will last through all eternity. There will be no old sin nature and no human good in heaven.

Look now at eight characteristics of the Millennium

1. No Religion On The Earth. No cults, no tongues, no healings, no miracles. Religion has always been the Devil's program and during the Millennium Satan will be chained.
2. Great Period Of Spirituality.  
JOEL 2:28 "And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions"  
ISAIAH 65:24 "And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear."  
ZECHARIAH 14:16-17 "And it shall come to pass, that every one that is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall even go up from year to year to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, and to keep the feast of tabernacles. And it shall be, that whoso will not come up of all the families of the earth unto Jerusalem to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, even upon them shall be no rain."  
With Christ present it will be safe for people to have full and complete spirituality.

3. Israel Will Be Restored As A Nation.

ISAIAH 35:8-10 "And an highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called The way of holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it; but it shall be for those: the wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err therein. No lion shall be there, nor any ravenous beast shall go up thereon, it shall not be found there; but the redeemed shall walk there: And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads: they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away."

ISAIAH 65:19 "And I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and joy in my people: and the voice of weeping shall be no more heard in her, nor the voice of crying."

ZECHARIAH 8:20-23 "Thus saith the Lord of hosts; it shall yet come to pass, that there shall come people, and the inhabitants of many cities: And the inhabitants of one city shall go to another, saying, Let us go speedily to pray before the Lord, and to seek the Lord of hosts: I will go also. Yea, many people and strong nations shall come to seek the Lord of hosts in Jerusalem, and to pray before the Lord. Thus saith the Lord of hosts; In those days it shall come to pass, that ten men shall take hold out of all languages of the nations, even shall take hold of the skirt of him that is a Jew, saying, We will go with you: for we have heard that God is with you."

4. Some Bona Fide Universals.

a. Universal peace.

MICAH 4:3 "And he shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong Nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more."

ISAIAH 2:4 "And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more."

HOSEA 2:18 "And in that day will I make a covenant for them with the beasts of the field, and with the fowls of heaven, and with the creeping things of the ground: and I will break the bow and the sword and the battle out of the earth, and will make them to lie down safely."

b. Universal prosperity.

PSALM 72:7 "In his days shall the righteous flourish; and abundance of peace so long as the moon endureth."

PSALM 72:16 "There shall be an handful of corn in the earth upon the top of the mountains; the fruit thereof shall shake like Lebanon: and they of the city shall flourish like grass of the earth."

c. Universal Knowledge of God.

ISAIAH 11:9 "They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea."

d. A perfect world government.

ZECHARIAH 14:9 "And the Lord shall be king over all the earth: in that day shall there be one Lord, and his name one."

ISAIAH 11:1-2 "And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots: And the spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord"

5. There will be a radical change on nature.  
ROMANS 8:19-22 "For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God. For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope, Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now."  
ISAIAH 11:6-9 "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. And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice' den. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea."  
ISAIAH 35:1-2 "The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them; and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose. It shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice even with joy and singing: the glory of Lebanon shall be given unto it, the excellency of Carmel and Sharon, they shall see the glory of the Lord, and the excellency of our God."
  
6. Justice will be available to all.  
ISAIAH 11:3-5 "And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the Lord: and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears: But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked. And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins."  
PSALM 72:12-14 "For he shall deliver the needy when he crieth; the poor also, and him that hath no helper. He shall spare the poor and needy, and shall save the souls of the needy. He shall redeem their soul from deceit and violence: and precious shall their blood be in his sight."
  
7. All unbelievers will be removed from the earth.  
 (At the beginning of the Millennium)
  
8. Life will be extended in the Millennium.  
 Only way a person can die in the Millennium is capital punishment.  
ISAIAH 65:20 "There shall be no more thence an infant of days, nor an old man that hath not filled his days: for the child shall die an hundred years old; but the sinner being an hundred years old shall be accursed."

In our next study we will see how Satan was cast into the bottomless pit.