

Book of Revelation

28. The Defeat of Satan



Revelation 20

Introduction

Jesus' second coming will be a glorious event. Satan will be bound and Jesus will reign on the earth. The Book of Revelation tells us that this will last for a period of 1000 years, and then the devil will be released for a short time before he is cast into the lake of fire.

Scripture Reading: Revelation 20:1-15



Jesus has already defeated Satan according to Hebrews 2:14. Why then is Satan only cast into the lake of fire when Jesus returns? What is God's purpose in allowing Satan to reign as 'god of this world' until that time? Discuss.
See Ephesians 3:10, John 17:15-19, 1 Peter 1:4-7



Satan is bound and locked into the Abyss during the 1000 year period. Rev.20:3. What can you learn from the scriptures about this place called 'the Abyss' or 'bottomless pit'?
Luke 8:30-31, Revelation 9:2-3, 11, 17:8

(The 'Abyss' is a bottomless pit ruled over by an evil angelic being called Abaddon or Apollyon. This is where the wicked angels and demons are held. During the tribulation period evil spirits will be released from this place.)



What will happen after one thousand years, and why do you think God allows this to take place? V3, 7-9

(After 1000 years Satan is released and once again tries to deceive men and women to rebel against God. However God allows this for His purposes.)

God is perfectly just, and so He allows Satan to be released for a short time. Many will have been born during the 1000 years and will not have experienced the devil's temptations and attacks as we have. So God allows Satan to be freed for this time so that every person is tested and tried. Each one will have to make a choice as to whom they will serve. God never wants rebellion to enter His Kingdom again.



Finally Satan is thrown into the lake of fire. Who or what else are also thrown there?
Revelation 20:10, 13-15 What can you learn about Hades and the lake of fire from these verses? Also see 1 Corinthians 15:25-26

(The devil, the beast and the false prophet, and all those whose names are not written in the Book of Life are thrown into the lake of fire. We see from these verses that 'Death and Hades' are also thrown into the lake of fire. This is the place where the wicked are kept imprisoned until the time of judgment.)

The last enemy to be destroyed is 'death'. When Jesus died and was raised to life He took back the keys of 'Death and Hades', so we no longer need to fear death. Hebrews 2:14-15 says: *"Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might destroy him who holds the power of earth, that is the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death."*



Many people are afraid of death! Perhaps you are too. How can Jesus set us free from the fear of death?

Share an experience where you have shared the gospel with a person who was facing death. Learn from one another how to effectively share with someone who is dying.

Conclusion

Jesus has already overcome the evil one! However God has allowed the devil to reign as 'god of this world' until His purposes are accomplished, and then he will be cast into the lake of fire forever. Let's not live in fear of what the devil can do to us, but let us rise up and know that he has already been defeated and we can overcome him through the Lord Jesus Christ. Romans 8:37 says:

"No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him
who loved us...neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons...
nor any power will be able to separate us from
the love of God that is in Christ."