

1. WHAT IS THE MILLENNIUM AND WHEN DOES IT OCCUR?

Revelation 1:7; 1 Corinthians 15:52; Revelation 20:6

The Bible says: Behold, He is _____ with clouds, and every eye will see Him. (Rev. 1:7) The dead will be _____ incorruptible. (1 Cor. 15:52) Blessed and holy is he who has part in the _____. Over such the second death has no power. (Rev. 20:6)



Note: The millennium is a one-thousand-year period which begins when Jesus returns at the end of the world. When He returns, Jesus will raise the saints, but the Bible speaks of two separate resurrections, “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). That’s why the Bible says, blessed are those who are raised in the “first resurrection.” These two resurrections are separated by a one-thousand-year period.

2. WHAT HAPPENS TO THE RIGHTEOUS AT THIS TIME?

1 Thessalonians 4:16; 1 Corinthians 15:52; Revelation 20:6

The Bible says: For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven ... and the dead in Christ will _____. (1 Thes. 4:16) The dead will be _____ incorruptible, and we shall be changed. (1 Cor. 15:52) They shall ... reign with Him a _____. (Rev. 20:6)

Note: At the first resurrection, all the believers who have died will be raised up and taken to meet Jesus in the clouds first, then those still living when Jesus returns are taken up next. From that time on, we are told that the saints will always be with the Lord (1 Thes. 4:17, 17). Still, while they will never part from the Lord after this, we are told that there is a special period of one thousand years that intervenes between the first and second resurrection in which they will live and reign with Jesus for a thousand years. The righteous ascend to heaven to spend a one-thousand-year vacation with Christ.

3. WHAT HAPPENS TO THE WICKED DURING THIS TIME?

2 Thessalonians 2:8; Revelation 20:5

The Bible says: The Lord will ... _____ with the brightness of His coming. (2 Thes. 2:8) The rest of the dead did not live again _____ the thousand years were _____. (Rev. 20:5)

Note: When Jesus returns, “the earth is violently broken” and “shaken exceedingly” (Isa. 24:19). The wicked who are living at that time cry out to the rocks and mountains, “Fall on us and hide us from the face of Him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb” (Rev. 6:16). These are destroyed by the brightness of His coming. During this time, the earth will become an open graveyard for the wicked for a thousand years until God returns to execute the final sentence.

4. WHAT HAPPENS ON EARTH DURING THIS THOUSAND-YEAR TIME PERIOD?

Revelation 20:1, 2

The Bible says: Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key to the _____ and a great chain in his hand. He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan, and _____ for a thousand years. (Rev. 20:1, 2)



Note: The only ones who remain alive on earth are the devil and his angels. At this time, the Bible says that the devil and his angels are chained to the bottomless pit for a thousand years. This is not with a literal chain that restrains them, but a chain of circumstance. With the righteous in heaven with God, they have no one to tempt, and with the dead bodies of the wicked scattered about them, they are forced to contemplate all the pain and suffering they caused throughout the ages for one thousand years.

5. WHAT IS THE BOTTOMLESS PIT SATAN IS CHAINED TO?

Revelation 20:3; Genesis 1:1, 2; Jeremiah 4:23, 25

The Bible says: He cast him into the _____. (Rev. 20:3) The earth was _____, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. (Gen. 1:1, 2) I beheld the earth, and indeed it was _____, and void...and indeed there was no man. (Jer. 4:23, 25)



Note: The original word for “the deep” used to describe the desolate earth at creation is basically the same word used for “bottomless pit.” It is the abyss. Jeremiah then uses the same words as we see in the beginning to describe the earth after Christ returns, as “without form, and void.” The bottomless pit that the devil and his angels are chained to is simply referring to the broken and desolate condition of this earth after Christ returns.

6. WHAT SPECIAL EVENT OCCURS IN HEAVEN DURING THIS TIME?

Revelation 20:4; 1 Corinthians 6:2

The Bible says: And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and _____ was committed to them. (Rev. 20:4) Do you not know that the _____ will _____ the world? (1 Cor. 6:2)

Note: During this time, judgment is committed to the saints. Since some loved ones may not be in heaven, God wants those people He is going to spend eternity with to trust Him, so before He returns to execute the final sentence of destroying the wicked, He allows the saints investigate His judgment to see for themselves if it is fair. As the saints make the final judgement, they realize that if sinners were permitted into heaven, heaven would not be safe. The wicked must be destroyed forever. Finally, the saints rule in God’s favor as they affirm, “true and righteous are His judgments” (Rev. 19:2).

8. WHAT HAPPENS AT THE END OF THE THOUSAND YEARS?

Revelation 20:5, 7

The Bible says: But the rest of the dead did not live again until the thousand years were _____ ... Now when the thousand years have expired, _____ will be _____ from his prison and will go out to _____ the nations (Rev. 20:5, 7)

Note: At the end of the thousand-year period, after the saints have made their judgment on the side of Christ, the New Jerusalem ascends to the earth and the second resurrection, the resurrection of the wicked, takes place. Now, as the wicked dead are raised up, all the wicked who have ever lived come forth from their graves to look upon the gates of the heavenly city, while all the righteous who ever lived remain safe within the gates. Even Satan is released from his prison of circumstance at this time.

7. HOW DO THE WICKED REACT WHEN THEY ARE RAISED?

Philippians 2:10, 11; Isaiah 45:23

The Bible says: At the name of Jesus every _____ should _____, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that _____ should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord. (Phil. 2:10, 11) To Me _____ shall bow. (Isa. 45:23)



Note: At first the lost are sorrowful and filled with apparent remorse as God plays the scenes of their lives before them. On a great panorama in the sky, God reveals the sins that have kept each from heaven (See Rom. 3:19). All the excuses are washed away and the wicked see that their own sins have kept them from heaven. Each person individually reviews their life and is shown why they are kept out of heaven before God executes the final judgment. Each acknowledges their sinfulness and every knee bows, acknowledging God's justice. Even Satan admits the justice of God's sentence.

9. HOW DOES THE MILLENNIUM FINALLY END?

Revelation 20:9

The Bible says: They went up on the breadth of the earth and _____ the camp of the saints and the beloved city. _____ came down from God out of heaven and _____ them. (Rev. 20:9)



Note: Once they see that they will not be permitted to heaven, the wicked are filled with rage. Satan rallies all the wicked together. They rise up and surround the city where all the righteous are encamped. The great masses of people begin to charge the heavenly city in a desperate attempt to overthrow it, but before they are able to harm the saints, God rains fire down from heaven and devours them, destroying the wicked once and for all, and bringing a final end to the great war that began in heaven so long ago.

10. WHAT DOES GOD DO AFTER THE WICKED ARE FINALLY DESTROYED?

Revelation 20:14; 21:1

The Bible says: Then Death and Hades were cast into the _____ of _____. (Rev. 20:14) Now I saw a _____ heaven and a _____ earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. (Rev. 21:1)

Note: After the fire destroys the wicked, we are told that Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. That is symbolically stating that death and hell will end. There will be no more death, or sorrow, or pain (See Rev. 21:4). Every trace of sin will be gone forever, never to rise again (See Nah. 1:9). And God will then set up a new heaven right here on earth, as the meek inherit the earth (See Matt. 5:5). As God's people walk on the new earth, our feet will trample the ashes of the wicked, finally fulfilling Malachi 4:3.

THE MILLENNIUM

