

A Study Of The Book Of Revelation

September 12, 2021

Revelation 20

REVELATION 20:6

"Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: over these the second death hath no power; but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years."

Revelation 20

BLESSED AND HOLY – FIRST RESURRECTION

Here is the fifth of seven blessed statements mentioned in Revelation. Here we find the theme of Revelation repeated. The *"blessed"* are those recognized as the elect of God who love not their lives unto death! The other blessed statements are:

1. Blessed are those who read, hear, and obey (Revelation 1:3).
2. Blessed are those who die in the Lord (i.e., remain faithful until death – see Revelation 2:10) (Revelation 14:13).
3. Blessed are those who watch and keep themselves from sin (i.e., do not have fellowship with sin – see Revelation 18:4) (Revelation 16:15).

Revelation 20

BLESSED AND HOLY – FIRST RESURRECTION

4. Blessed are those who obey the gospel and attend the Lord's wedding feast (Revelation 19:9).
5. Blessed are those who take part in the first resurrection (Revelation 20:6).
6. Blessed is he that keeps the words of the prophesy of this book (Revelation 22:7)
7. Blessed are those who wash their robes (Revelation 22:13).

Revelation 20

BLESSED AND HOLY – FIRST RESURRECTION

- Those had part in the **"first resurrection"**
- Why does the **"second death"** have no power over them?
- Second death = eternal fire of Hell.
- **Overcome! Faithful! Did not compromise!**
- Christians are part of the **"priesthood of God"** (1 Peter 2:5-10)
- Reigning with Christ 1,000 years – reigning in a **complete period** of time – no interruption!

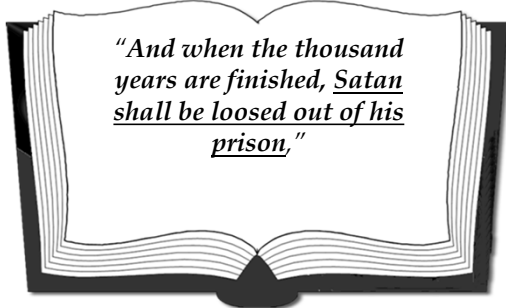
Revelation 20

BLESSED AND HOLY – FIRST RESURRECTION

- cf. **Revelation 2:11**, John recorded, *"He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith to the churches. He that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death."*
- **Revelation 20:14 states that the second death was the eternal existence in hell.**
 - These reigning saints shall be priests of God and of Christ:
 - John had earlier said of the saints of God that they shall be *"a kingdom, to be priests unto his God and Father"* (Revelation 1:6).
 - The saints (priests) would reign with Christ (see Revelation 5:10).
 - Peter referred to saints as a holy and royal priesthood that was to offer spiritual sacrifices to God (1 Peter 2:5, 9).

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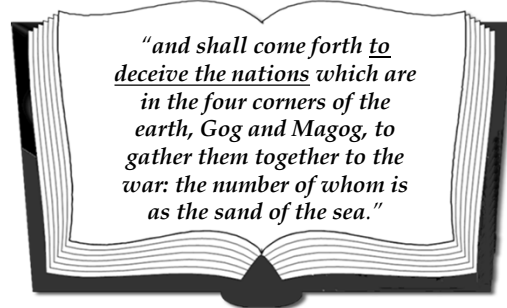
REVELATION 20:7



“And when the thousand years are finished, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison,”

Revelation 20

REVELATION 20:8



“and shall come forth to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to the war: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea.”

Revelation 20

SATAN RELEASED

- Satan’s loosing happens sometime after the **judgment of Rome**
- Why? For **God’s purposes** not Satan’s!
- His time is drawing to a **final end** ...
- Satan enlisted the host of evil “**Gog and Magog**” (**Ezekiel 38,39**)
 Ezekiel 38:17, “*Thus saith the Lord Jehovah: Art thou he of whom I spake in old time by my servants the prophets of Israel, that prophesied in those days for (many) years that I would bring thee against them?*”

Revelation 20

SATAN RELEASED

- The prophets of God have always denounced such evil (cf. Isaiah 25:5-15; Jeremiah 30:23-25). This statement further solidifies our understanding of the 1,000 year binding and loosing of Satan. God’s people will always be assaulted by wicked men who have their hour (cf. Revelation 11:2; 17:12-14).
- **Enemies of God** gathered for one last attempt to destroy the church
- Numbered as “**sand of the sea**”

Revelation 20

SATAN RELEASED

- The war with “**Gog and Magog**” is similar to **Har-Magedon** (see Revelation 16:14-16). Har-Magedon ended in the defeat of the beast out of the sea and out of the earth (Rome and false religion; cf. Revelation 19:19-21).
- Similar spiritual wars shall rage until the end of time (see 1 Timothy 4:1-3). Satan no longer works through one empire but through the “**four corners of the earth.**”
- The Holy Spirit’s use of Gog and Magog thereby indicates a spiritual warfare between the people of God and wicked men in general.
- No specific geographical designations are intended, but rather all who will be hostile to the cause of Christ are implied.
- This battle will not be a physical conflict, but a moral and spiritual one (cf. Revelation 12:11).
- The kingdom of Christ has never been, nor shall ever be, advanced by engaging in a physical warfare (John 18:36; 2 Corinthians 10:4).