



THE MILLENNIUM



A SAVED TO SERVE STUDY GUIDE

Where Will the Thousand Years Be Spent?

We let the Bible interpret itself, testing every claim by “the law and to the testimony” (Isaiah 8:20). The study runs in one continuous sequence — from Point 1 through Point 18. Read each reference in your Bible and write your answers on the lines provided.

1. **PURPOSE** In this series of doctrinal lessons we study the millennium. Some say the millennial reign of Christ and the saints will be on earth; others say it will be in heaven. We will study from Scripture what the Bible actually teaches concerning this.
2. **NOTE** Popular teaching is not always Bible truth. Some groups — such as the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormons) — teach that the millennial reign takes place here on earth, with the righteous living and continuing the work of salvation during the thousand years, and the wicked not resurrected until it ends (see Source 2 on page 6). As always, we will not lean on the traditions of men, but let the Bible interpret itself.
“Howbeit in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men... Full well ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition.” — Mark 7:7-9 (KJV)

In This Study

1	Studying the millennium — earth or heaven?	Revelation 20
2	What popular religion teaches	Mark 7:7-9
3	The event that opens the 1,000 years	Revelation 20:6
4	The righteous at the Second Coming	1 Thessalonians 4:16-17
5	Satan bound in the bottomless pit	Revelation 20:1-3
6	The saints reign and judge with Christ	Revelation 20:4
7	The wicked raised; the final assault	Revelation 20:5-10
8	Fire, the new earth, and our hope	Revelation 21:1-6

◆ BEFORE YOU BEGIN

“Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”

2 TIMOTHY 2:15 (KJV)

As you trace the thousand years of Revelation 20, keep your Bible open, let each text speak for itself, and ask the Spirit to lead you into all truth — from Point 1 to Point 18.

3. What event signals the opening of the one thousand years?— *Read: Revelation 20:6*

4. What will happen to the righteous who are alive and to the righteous dead at the Second Coming?
— *Read: 1 Thessalonians 4:16, 17*

5. What will happen to the wicked who are alive at the Second Coming?— *Read: 2 Thessalonians 2:8*

6. What does Revelation 20:1-3 say will happen to Satan during the one thousand years?

7. **NOTE** To better understand this passage, we must define the term “bottomless pit.” The word in the Greek concordance (#12) means “abyss” — a place of emptiness, darkness, and desolation. This abyss points to the earth in a state of desolation and emptiness. Read Jeremiah 4:23-27: the condition of the earth during that time will be similar to how it was at the beginning of creation — void (Genesis 1:1, 2). Another link showing that the bottomless pit is the earth is found in Isaiah 14:12-17, where Lucifer was cast down from heaven to the “pit.”

8. Satan will be bound to the earth, or the bottomless pit. What is it that Satan will be prevented from doing during that time?— *Read: Revelation 20:3*

9. What will the righteous be doing during the one thousand years?— *Read: Revelation 20:4; 1 Corinthians 6:2, 3; Daniel 7:22; Jude 6*

10. Will the wicked dead live again?— *Read: Revelation 20:5, 7, 8*

II. Why will God resurrect the wicked?— *Read: Revelation 20:11-13*

12. What will the wicked, along with Satan and his hosts, attempt to do after the one thousand years?
— *Read: Revelation 20:8, 9*

13. What will Satan and the wicked receive as their reward for rejecting truth and holding on to their sins?— *Read: Revelation 20:9, 10, 14, 15*

14. What will happen to the earth when God rains down fire and brimstone?— *Read: 2 Peter 3:7, 10*

15. **NOTE** Let us now transition and see God's love for fallen humanity and the hope He gives us to escape this final destruction of sin and the wicked.

16. Where does Jesus desire to direct our mind to encourage us to be faithful in this life?— *Read: Revelation 21:1-6*

17. As we close, meditate on the exhortation the apostle Peter leaves with us in 2 Peter 3:9-18.

18. As we strive to live godly on earth, let us claim these promises in prayer, and ask God to change our desires for the things of this world to heavenly things. See 2 Corinthians 4:17, 18; Matthew 16:26.

◆ AFTER YOUR STUDY

Set Your Heart on the New Earth

You have traced the thousand years from the Second Coming to the new earth. Now let the truth take root: the millennium is spent in heaven with Christ, and beyond it lies a world made new, where sin and death are no more. Prayerfully ask the Lord to fix your hope there.

REFLECT

"Am I living for the things of this world, or am I setting my affection on the eternal home Christ is preparing?"

LIVE IT

Claim God's promises daily (2 Peter 3:9-18), live godly in this present world, and share the blessed hope with someone this week.

—◆—
"And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away."

REVELATION 21:4 (KJV)

The Millennium Made Plain

Based on this study of Scripture, the thousand-year reign of Christ and His saints takes place in heaven, not on earth. At the Second Coming the righteous — living and dead — are caught up to meet the Lord, while the wicked are slain by the brightness of His coming. The earth is left desolate, a bottomless pit where Satan is bound for a thousand years with no one to deceive. During that time the redeemed reign with Christ and share in the judgment. At its close the New Jerusalem descends, the wicked are raised, and fire from God devours them — blotting out sin forever. Then God makes all things new.

REVELATION 20:6 (KJV)

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

Will you claim the promise of the new earth and set your heart on things above, that you may have part in the first resurrection?

REFERENCES

Sources & Notes

“Here is to be the home of Satan with his evil angels for a thousand years. Limited to the earth, he will not have access to other worlds to tempt and annoy those who have never fallen.”

ELLEN G. WHITE · THE GREAT CONTROVERSY, P. 660

- 1 Ellen G. White, The Great Controversy, p. 660 — the desolate earth as Satan’s prison during the thousand years.
- 2 The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, “Who Will Be on the Earth During the Millennium, and What Will They Be Doing?” New Era, June 2014 — a statement of the belief that the millennial reign takes place on earth.
<https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/new-era/2014/06/to-the-point/who-will-be-on-the-earth-during-the-millennium-and-what-will-they-be-doing?lang=eng>

All Scripture is quoted from the King James Version (KJV). Spirit of Prophecy references are cited for study and comment.