

The end result is depicted in *Rev.20:14-15* **The fire** depicted there is the same as that shown to Peter in vision in II Peter 3:10, “*..the heavens shall pass away with great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.*”

The millennium will be **a time of healing** for the redeemed over the results of sin and the keen sense of personal loss of loved ones who rejected the impress of the Holy Spirit and salvation offered by Christ in their lifetime. *See: Rev.21:4* “*And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes, there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.*”

Can you thank God today for His healing touch in your life today?

THE VOICE OF PROPHECY SPEAKS

WHAT BIBLE PROPHECY SAYS ABOUT YOUR FUTURE

LESSON #20 EVIL IN CHAINS

In human courts, a judge hands out a very long prison term to express societies outrage for particularly terrible crimes. But did you know the Bible states that a heavenly judge will hand out a 1,000 sentence soon? *See: Revelation 20:1-3*

Here is revealed Christ’s plan for the greatest criminal of the universe. This sentence is called the “millennium”. Satan will be imprisoned for 1,000 years, and then released for a “short time” to prove to the world that he has not changed! To understand this prophecy, we need to find out how it starts and ends and what happens in between.

-The Millennium Bound in By Two Resurrections-

- The resurrection of life at the beginning of the period.
- The resurrection of damnation at the end of the time.

See: John 5:28-29. The Good News of the gospel incorporates what is said about the 1st resurrection. *See: Revelation 20:5-6* This text is in harmony with what Paul said in I Thessalonians 4:16-17, “*...and the dead in Christ will rise first...*” The Old Testament prophets understood this bible truth. *See: Isaiah 26:19*

Where will the righteous dead, now resurrected go from here? *John 14:2-4* provides the answer. This is where the saved will spend the millennium. IN HEAVEN! But, what will they be doing there during the 1,000 years? John gives us a glimpse in *Rev.20:4* “*And I saw thrones, and they sat on them. **And judgment** was committed to them...*” The all-wise, all-powerful God of the universe has included feeble men and women in the solemn task of

judging fallen angels and the unsaved. I Cor.6:2-3 says, “Do you not know that the saints will judge the world?...and angels”.

In other words, the Creator God will “allow” the redeemed to *review* or *audit* the heavenly books of life and remembrance to see if God is just and good and fair! Finally, after years of accusation from Satan to the contrary, **God’s** character **will be vindicated** before the universe once and for all.

But you say, haven’t evil angels and the wicked been judged before Christ comes again? True! But **we** might still have questions about God’s fairness in judgment if some loved ones are either missing or actually in the heavenly kingdom. During the millennium the records of the lost will be opened. The most guarded secrets and purposes harboured in each mind will be exposed. God’s love and justice will be affirmed. Those of us who inspect the records will be left with only one response:

See:Rev.16:7

But, you ask, ‘What happens to those who have not accepted salvation at this time?’ *See: Rev.19:21* There is no way that the lost will be able to stand before the glory of the coming Christ with all His holy angels! Remember what just **one** angel did to the Roman guards at Christ’s tomb! Jeremiah 25:33 gives added detail to this event affecting the wicked. This text refers to the “living wicked” at the 2nd coming of Christ. What about the “wicked dead” who are still in their graves? *See: Rev.20:5* They remain in the grave **until** after the 10,000 years period.

-Chronological Review at Christ’s Coming Using Bible as Its Own Interpreter-

- Jesus will return, with all the holy angels *Matt.25:31*
- The dead in Christ will rise first *I Thess.4:16*
- The living saved and caught up to meet Jesus in the air *I Thess.4:17*
- The saved go home with Jesus and reign with Him for 1,000 years. *Rev.20:4,6*
- The unsaved are slain by the brightness of the coming of Christ. *Jeremiah 25:33*
- The wicked dead are not raised until after the 1,000 years.

Rev.20:5

- Satan is bound for the 1,000 years by a chain of circumstances-no one to tempt or destroy! *Rev.20:5*
- The righteous are in heaven, and all the wicked are dead. Everyone is gone! Everywhere, there is ruin. *Jeremiah 4:23-26*
- This **uninhabited** earth becomes the devil’s prison house in solitary confinement! *See: Jeremiah 4:24-27*
- This text says that Satan and the wicked angels have nothing to do but wander to and fro on the dark, devastated, lonely planet and reflect on the results of their rebellion against God!

-Events that take place During the 1,000 Years-

- The earth is desolate and devastated.
- All the unsaved are dead, slain by the brightness of Jesus’ coming.
- All the saved are in heaven, reigning with Christ.
- Satan is bound on this dark, devastated planet to reflect on his rebellion.

One of the reasons God has chosen to put the millennium in His timetable is that He wants **to demonstrate** to the universe that if the devil, his angels, and those who have chosen to follow him on this earth were given a **second chance**, they would make the same (**to deceive...**) decision and choose the same master!

See:Rev.20:7-8.

And where do all these people come from who wish to do battle against the Lord? *See: Rev.20:5* All the wicked from Adam’s day to the 2nd Advent. *See:Rev.10:8*