

SRMBC Family Bible Study

Revelation - The Triumph of God

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Lesson 13 The Last Battle Revelation 20

Finality is something we crave and which God graciously provides. A relationship needs to be broken, an assignment needs to be completed, an extended friendship needs to become a committed marriage—all require closure.

Group Discussion. What do you look forward to most about Christ's return?

Fast and Furious (2009): "Dom's Sentencing"



Despite Dom's long list of crimes, his lawyer presents to the Judge Dom's efforts in assisting law enforcement to capture drug smugglers.

After the Judge reviews the case, Dom's awaits the verdict and his final fate.

Questions:

- Did you think about the verdict was fair? Why or why not?
- How do you Dom felt prior to the verdict? After?
- How does this scene answer people who reject Christ who say: "I'm a good person" or "My good outweighs my bad?"
- What does marriage convey about our Relationship with Christ?
- How does this scene demonstrate our need for a Savior and being ready for the future judgment?

The previous study explored our inexpressible hope to be reunited with our Lord. This chapter enlarges our appreciation of God's master plan: his settled decision to be with us forever and to establish his glorious rule over everything.

Read Revelation 20

1. Why is Satan, previously thrown down to earth (12:9), now bound (20:1-3)?
 - God is demonstrating to Satan and to us – That Satan is not in control – God is.
 - As God sets up His Kingdom, He is not going to allow Satan have any hand or opposition to it.
 - God desires to have us experience the great joy of a Kingdom where God's rule and righteousness prevail.
 - To allow us to join in with Our Lord Jesus in His reign and rule over the New Earth.
 - To allow for unhindered Praise and Worship of the Lord to be experienced by His people (Satan hates the Praise of God).

2. The thousand-year reign of Christ (20:4-6) has been interpreted as referring to: (a) a period of righteousness and peace on earth before Christ's return; (b) Christ's reign in heaven between his first and second coming; (c) Christ's reign on earth after his return. Which view (if any) do you think best fits this passage and the book of Revelation?

- **Pretribulation** – Rapture before 7 yr. Tribulation followed by 1000 yr. reign and then the judgment.
- **Mid-tribulation** - Rapture during the Tribulation followed by 1000 yr. reign and then the judgment.
- **Post-Tribulation** - Rapture after Tribulation followed by 1000 yr. reign and then the judgment.

Pretribulation provides the best view of the Millennium as it is the most consistent with scripture (Dan. 9:24 – 27; I Thess. 4:17, 5:9; Rev. 1 – 3; 19 – 20).

3. How might verses 4-6 be an answer to the believer's prayer, "Your kingdom come, . . . on earth as it is in heaven"?

- Without realizing it many Christians pray the Lord's Prayer while thinking only of a heavenly kingdom.
- In Rev. 20:4, we see that Christ will restore the earth as part of the Heavenly Kingdom.
- This prophecy of Kingdom fulfillment in the earth should make us more hopeful than we are about this world.

4. How can verses 4-6 help us to see life and death in proper perspective?

Life Perspectives

- The better we serve and obey Christ – the greater our reward in eternity (Our lives have meaning)
- As the church, our mission to spread the Gospel so that as many as possible can avoid the Judgement
- Our sufferings today a light when weighed against eternity
- We can see world events the good and the bad from God's viewpoint.

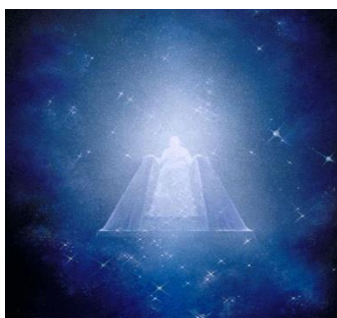
Death Perspectives

- Death is not the end. There is an eternity of time that awaits us for which we need to ready.
- What we do or fail to do matter for all eternity.
- Sin, Evil and Unbelief will not go unpunished – even after death.
- After death, believers can look forward to joy and blessings – Unbelievers will judgment and punishment.

5. What is the nature and outcome of Satan's last fling (vv. 7-10)? Why do you think God allows this brief parole of Satan?
 - Satan loosed goes back to His nature – devouring seeking to deceive and destroy the works and the people of God.
 - He seems to have more power than ever before – deceiving nations and creating an army from the 4 corners of the earth to destroy the saints
 - The battle is fierce and short – fire from heaven consumed the Army and Satan finds his final end in the lake of fire.

Note: Gog and Magog: *We should not ponder which powers/nations these are since the army was gathered from all parts of the world.*

6. God allows this brief pardon to identify the last of the unbelieving and to demonstrate His ultimate power and authority of Satan Sin and Evil. Who will be judged at the great-white-throne judgment (vv. 11-15)? On what basis will they be judged?



The White Throne Judgment

All of the dead (great and small) that have rejected Jesus and His Gospel of Salvation by sin and unbelief – who names are not in the Book of Life.



The Books Are Opened

All of the Dead are going to be judged – weighing their works in comparison to God's Perfect and Holy Law. Every public and secret sin will be made known. All and any excuses will be futile.



The Lake of Fire

The final judgement against sin and sinners. The eternal, never-ending, horrific unimaginably painful punishment – Ironically prepared of Devil and his Angels (Matt 25: 41)

7. How can we reconcile this judgment according to deeds with the doctrine of salvation by grace through faith?
 - While we are saved by grace through Faith in Jesus Christ (Eph. 2:8 – 9). When that Grace is rejected in sin and unbelief, we are left open to God's Judgment.
 - Our works are the evidence of whether we have true saving faith or not. While we may fool others, we cannot ever fool God.
 - Just as our rewards will be in proportion to our works – the same is true for the punishment of the wicked.
 - God's Amazing Grace and Awesome Judgment are seen most vividly at the Cross of Jesus Christ.

8. How should the ultimate judgment of evil and the reward of faithfulness affect the way we live now?

- **Ignite our passion to evangelize** – to warn others of the coming Judgement and point them to Jesus the Savior. (Col. 1:28 – 29)
- **Implore Our People To Discipleship** - To be in the church – encouraging one another to continue in the Life and work of ministry. - Jesus' Cross and Resurrection (Heb. 10:25)
- **Influence Our Perspective toward the Present/Future** – Our present service will directly affect our future reward. (I Cor. 15:58)

Our present circumstances are a under God's control. We can be confident that no matter what, God's purpose and plans will prevail (II Cor. 4:17)

Pray that you will be made faithful in every way.

Keys For Living



Believers need to realize that as powerful as Satan is, he is ultimately a defeated foe (Even he knows it). Satan knows he cannot thwart God's plans, so his goal is to take as many people as he can down with him.



As God's Kingdom is sure to come, we need to make sure that we have put our faith in Christ for salvation and zealously (being All-In) proclaim the Gospel to everyone – before it is too late!



Even after death, everyone will stand before the Lord Jesus in Judgment – either for eternal reward (II Cor. 5:10) or eternal punishment (Rev. 20:11). How live today has eternal consequence.