REVELATION The Future unveiled

"Understanding the Millennial Reign of Christ" -- Part Two

The Great White Throne Judgement

DR. JOE K. TAYLOR, SENIOR PASTOR, SOUTH RENO BAPTIST CHURCH, RENO, NV • MAY 26, 2013 All Scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted. Pastor Joe's personal commentary is in brackets modifying the biblical text underlined with dots. The abbreviation "NIV84" stands for the New INTERNATIONAL VERSION of the Holy Bible published in 1984. You can find this passage in your Pew Bible on page 1140.

BEVIEW

- Jesus will return, Satan will be removed, the Saints will reign and Christ will rule forever.

Satan's Revolt

Revelation 20:7–10, NIV84 -⁷ <u>When the thousand years are over, Satan</u> will be released from his prison ⁸ and will go out to deceive the nations in <u>the four corners of the earth</u>—<u>Gog and Magog</u> [A biblical term basically describing the enemies of God spread throughout the remotest parts of the earth, cf., Ez. 38:2-3, they are geographically remote, generationally removed and spiritually dead]—to gather them for battle. In number they are like the sand on the seashore. ⁹ They marched across the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of God's people, the city he loves. But [before a single shot was fired] fire came down from heaven and devoured them. ¹⁰ And the devil, who deceived them, was thrown into the lake of burning sulfur, where the beast and the false prophet had been thrown [1,000 year earlier]. They will be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

A. <u>Who</u> is Satan being released to deceive? During the thousand-year reign the mortal survivors of the tribulation—Jews and Gentiles—will populate the earth by marrying and having children. By the end of the thousand years the world will be filled with numerous generations of their descendants, they will still have bodies of mortal flesh and, more importantly, will still struggle with sin and temptation as we do now.

B. <u>Why</u> is Satan being released to deceive? Satan's brief release and humanity's futile rebellion prove two things: (1) The total incorrigibility of Satan and (2) the total depravity of humanity. Though Christ's reign will turn the world right-side up, many hearts will remain upside down. (Current believers—*alive today*—will not fall to Satan's schemes during this millennial revolt.)

The Great White Throne Judgment

"The most serious, sobering and tragic passage in the entire Bible." - Dr. John MacArthur

Revelation 20:11–15, NIV84 -¹¹ <u>Then I saw a great</u> [ie., "with great authority"] <u>white</u> ie., indicating purity and holiness] throne and him who was seated on it. Earth and sky fled from his presence, and there was no place for them. ¹² And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life. The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books. ¹³ The sea gave up the dead that were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead that were in them, and each person was judged according to what he had done. ¹⁴ Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. The lake of fire is the second death. ¹⁵ <u>If anyone's name was not</u> found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

1. The Judge	His name is Jesus! • Rev. 20:11, NIV84 - ¹¹ Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. Earth and sky fled from his presence, and there was no place for them. John 5:22, NIV84 - ²² Moreover, the Father judges no one, but has entrusted <u>all judgment to the Son</u>
2. The Judged	The unsaved of all time! • Rev. 20:13, NIV84 - ¹³ The sea gave up the dead that were in it, and <u>death and</u> <u>Hades gave up the dead that were in them</u>
3. The Judgment	Eternal separation from God! • Rev. 20:12, NIV84 - ¹² And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life. <u>The dead were judged</u> according to what they had done as recorded in the books. (1) The Book of Works [unsaved]; (2) The Book of Life. [Saved].
4. The Justice	It's up to every individual! Rev. 20:13b, NIV84 - ¹³ and <u>each person was judged according to what he had</u> <u>done</u> . "The will be a Judge, but no jury, a prosecution but no defense, and a sentence but no appeal." – W. Wiersbe





Answers to "The Great White Throne Judgment" Sermon

Based on Revelation 20:7-13

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Your name *must* be written in the Book of Life!