

UNRAVELLING THE BOOK OF REVELATION | SESSION 51

# THE ULTIMATE VICTORY OF THE SAINTS AT JESUS' SECOND COMING

REVELATION 20:1-10



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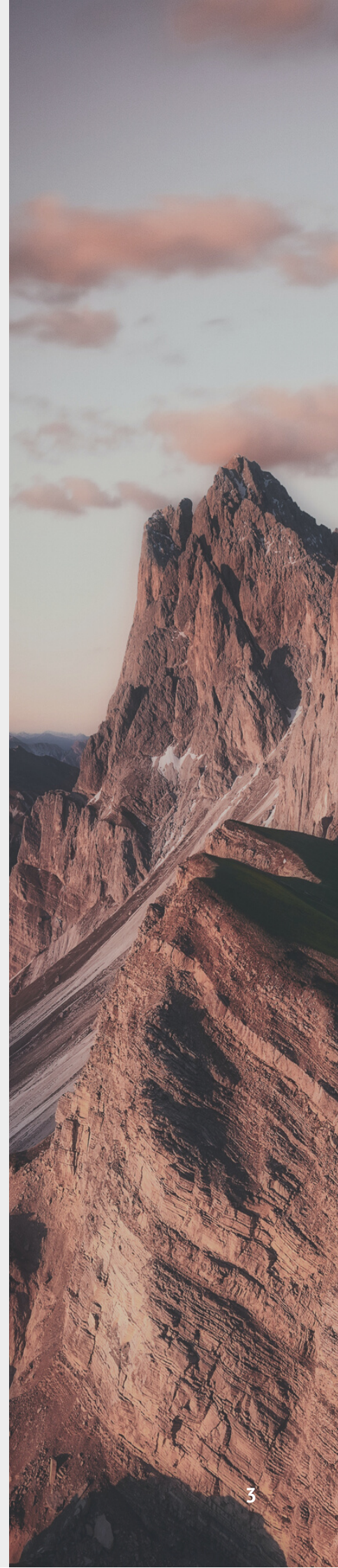
Revelation 20:1–10 gives us a clear picture of the ultimate victory of the saints at the Second Coming of Jesus, and the final defeat of God’s enemy, specifically Satan, the Antichrist and the False Prophet.

God wants us to know that **the ultimate victory is ours and that it is wisdom to persevere, endure and overcome until the end.** Seven times in Revelation 2 and 3, God exhorts us to overcome by using the phrase, “*To **him** who overcomes...*” or “***He** who overcomes...*”. **The requirement to overcome is addressed to individuals.** Only the saints who overcome will rule and reign with Jesus in the Millennial Kingdom.



Revelation 20:1–10 give us the most in-depth teaching of the Millennial Kingdom in the New Testament. It gives us **four insights** and **two understandings** concerning the Millennial Kingdom and is to be studied with Old Testament books such as Isaiah, Jeremiah and Ezekiel. The **four insights** are:

1. **The length of the Millennial Kingdom** — It is literally 1000 years (Rev. 20:2,5,6,7).
2. **The saints will rule and reign with Jesus as kings and priests** — the raptured and resurrected saints will either be kings or priests. Some could be both.
3. **Satan is imprisoned in the bottomless pit for 1000 years** (Rev. 20:1–3).
4. **Satan will be released after 1000 years to deceive the nations** (Rev. 20:7–9).



The **two understandings** are:


1. **The justice of God's judgement** — God will vindicate His judgements that they are true, right and just.
2. **The sinful nature of mankind** (Rev. 20:7–10).

**THE WHOLE OF REVELATION 20  
HAS TO BE TAKEN LITERALLY.**

It is not figurative or symbolic. The events that are written are real events that will happen in real-time. It gives us a picture of how the heavenly, supernatural and natural realms are intertwined and how they work together.







Verses 1 to 10 can be divided into three sections. Verses 1 to 3 are about events that occur **at the beginning of the Millennial Kingdom**. Verse 4 to 6 describes what happens **during the Millennial Kingdom**, and verse 7 to 10 tells us what happens **after the end of the Millennial Kingdom**. We will be dwelling more on the first and third sections today.

Revelation 19:11 – 21:8 is written in chronological order. There are a series of seven events that will unfold, one after another, that will transit human history from this age to the Millennial Age and from the Millennial Age to Eternity. The events are:

1

## THE SECOND COMING OF JESUS

*(Rev. 19:11–16)*

2

## THE BATTLE OF JERUSALEM

*(Rev. 19:17–21)*

3

## THE JUDGEMENT OF SATAN, THE ANTICHRIST AND FALSE PROPHET

*(Rev. 19:20; 20:1–3)*

The Antichrist and the False Prophet are captured and thrown into the lake of fire. Satan is bound up and cast into the bottomless pit. Then the Millennial Kingdom begins.

4

**THE SAINTS WILL RULE  
AND REIGN WITH JESUS  
FOR 1,000 YEARS**

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*(Rev. 20:4–6)*

5

**SATAN WILL BE RELEASED TO  
DECEIVE THE NATIONS AFTER  
1,000 YEARS. HE WILL  
GATHER NATIONS TOGETHER  
TO FIGHT AGAINST GOD**

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*(Rev. 20:7-10)*

# THE GREAT WHITE THRONE JUDGEMENT

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(Rev. 20:11–15)

There are two judgements of God. One is at the Second Coming of Jesus, and the other, the Great White Throne Judgement, is at the end of the Millennial Kingdom.

**The Great White Throne Judgement** is the final judgement of God on mankind. It is for **unbelievers**, as well as **believers who have not been raptured and do not have resurrected bodies**.

There will be no tears in eternity, but at the Judgement Seat of God (which is before eternity), there will be grief and regrets for many believers when we realise how worthy God is (1 Cor. 3:10–15; 2 Cor. 5:9–11).

We know that the phrase “*weeping and gnashing of teeth*” is used to describe unbelievers going to the lake of fire. But do you know that there are also passages with that phrase referring to believers experiencing deep regrets at the Judgement Seat of God (Matt. 22:13; 24:51; 25:30)?

That is why Paul in 1 Corinthians 9:24–27 exhorts us to **run the race well and in a focused manner so as to win the race God has marked out for us**.




## THE FATHER'S THRONE WILL COME DOWN WHEN THE EARTH IS MADE READY FOR HIM

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*(Rev. 21:3)*

Revelation 21:3 is the **pinnacle verse of the entire Bible**. It is the crescendo and climax of the whole redemption storyline because **the ultimate desire of the Father is to come down and dwell on earth with men forever!** This is also the whole goal of redemption.

This is what 2 Corinthians 6:14–18 is about. God wants a holy people so that He can tabernacle with men forever. The Millennial Kingdom is only a transition because Jesus is preparing the earth to be ready for the Father. It will take 1,000 years because discipleship and transformation of lives and nations are not instantaneous but progressive (Isa. 9:7; Jer. 33:15; Zech. 6:12).



Revelation 20:1–3 speaks about the imprisonment of Satan for 1,000 years. An angel will come down from heaven with the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain. He will lay hold of Satan, bind him up and cast him into prison. Satan will be shut up, and a seal will be placed on him.

After 1,000 years, Satan will be released from his prison. He will go to the four corners of the earth to deceive nations (Rev. 20:7–9)! The meaning of the terms Gog and Magog in Revelation 20 differs from that in Ezekiel 38 – 39. In the latter, Gog is Antichrist, and Magog is a nation far north of Israel. In Revelation 20, Gog represents kings with natural bodies, and Magog refers to nations all over the earth.

Many kings and many nations will be deceived by Satan and they will gather to fight against God! God will send fire from heaven to devour them and Satan will be cast into the lake of fire.

**CAN YOU IMAGINE THAT AFTER  
1,000 YEARS OF A PERFECT  
ENVIRONMENT, MAN WILL STILL  
BE DECEIVED BY SATAN?**

Why is Satan released after 1000 years?

Why does God allow Satan to  
deceive the nations?

Why this final battle?







You see, the argument of man throughout history has been, *“God, You are not fair. We are living in an imperfect environment where there is sickness, sin, injustice and suffering. If only the world is perfect, just like the Garden of Eden, surely we would have loved You.”*

In the Millennial Kingdom, God will give man a perfect environment with Jesus in our midst for 1,000 years. Nations will be disciplined and taught the ways of God, and we will experience the goodness and greatness of God. **But after 1,000 years, man will still choose to sin and rebel against the Lord!**



## WHAT IS GOD SAYING?

**Firstly, God is awakening us to the depths of our sinful nature.** It's not about having a good environment or circumstances. **It is the issue of our heart because evil comes from within, out of the hearts of men** (Mk. 7:15,20–23). **Our heart is also deceitful above all things, and there is the mystery of lawlessness at work in our hearts** (Jer. 17:9; 2 Thes. 2:7).

We have to honestly acknowledge, recognise and diligently deal with the issues of our hearts now (Matt. 5:21–48). If we do not, the issues will eventually surface, usually when the heat is turned up, because they have been in our hearts all along.

**Secondly, this is a vindication of God's judgement, that His judgements are righteous and true.** There is this age-old question of why man has to face eternal judgement. We question God's fairness and accuse His judgements of being harsh because we don't know and realise the full extent of the evilness and wickedness of our hearts.





**HOW SOBERING!**

**EVEN AS WE PRESS IN TO THE  
ULTIMATE VICTORY THROUGH  
PERSEVERANCE AND  
OVERCOMING, LET US BE  
DILIGENT TO DEAL WITH THE  
ISSUES OF OUR HEARTS NOW.**

**MAY WE BE THE ONES WHO  
OVERCOME AND PARTNER  
WITH THE LORD TO RULE AND  
REIGN IN HIS GLORY DURING  
HIS MILLENNIAL KINGDOM  
HERE ON EARTH!**



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