

THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST

chapter 20

Lesson 21

In Revelation 20, John saw those who had their part in the first resurrection and those who would have their part in the second resurrection – fates literally as vast as heaven and hell. In this chapter we will see Satan bound, Satan loosed, and Satan cast into the lake of fire along with all those who are not found in the Book of Life. *This is the second death* (Revelation 20:15). *Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection* (Revelation 20:6).

OBSERVATION: Read Revelation 20

1. Read through this week's verses using both your Observation Worksheet (the last page of this homework) and another Bible translation or paraphrase. After reading through these verses, what would you say to someone if they asked you what they are about?
2. Key words help us to better understand the verses. We have listed below key words. Mark each one in a distinctive way (either with a symbol, highlighting, or some form of boxing, circling, or underlining). Mark each of the key words each time they are used in the text. Remember to mark any personal pronouns.
Key Words: God, Jesus, Satan, beast/his image/false prophet, angel, and Book of Life
3. The contrasting word *but* is used three times in Revelation 20. Mark the word and record what is being contrasted.
4. Using the text of Revelation 20, draw (on a separate sheet of paper) what you think John saw.
 - a. What did you observe by drawing the descriptions in chapter 20, that you had not noticed before drawing the chapter?

Read Revelation 20:1-3

1. According to Revelation 20:1a, what did John see?
 - a. What did the *angel* have? Revelation 20:1b

2. From Revelation 20:2–3a, list and comment on the five actions the *angel* took against Satan.
 - a. Compare Mark 3:26–27 with this event. What similarities do you find?

 - b. During this time, what will Satan not be allowed to do? Revelation 20:3b
 - 1.) What do these events reveal about Satan’s power?

3. Use three or more of the following Scriptures to review and remark on the influences and activities of Satan:

Matthew 4:1

Luke 22:31

John 8:44

2 Corinthians 4:4

2 Corinthians 11:3

2 Corinthians 12:7

Ephesians 2:2

1 Thessalonians 2:18

1 Peter 5:8

Revelation 12:9–10

- a. Share how you have seen Satan operating in one of these ways.
 - b. Briefly describe how you think life on earth will be altered when Satan is bound.
4. From Revelation 20:3c write what *must* happen *after these things*.
- a. What does the word *must* convey to you?

Read Revelation 20:4-6

1. According to Revelation 20:4a, what did John see?
 - a. Use Matthew 19:28 and 1 Corinthians 6:2-3 to comment on those to whom *judgment was committed*.
 - b. Describe the *souls* John *saw*. Revelation 20:4b
 - c. What were they privileged to do *for a thousand years*? Revelation 20:4c
 - 1.) Why do you suppose they were given this privilege?
2. Read the following Scriptures and comment on life during the *thousand years*:

Isaiah 11:5-9

Isaiah 35:5-7

Micah 4:2-4

 - a. What excites you most about the thousand-year reign of Christ?

3. What happened to the *rest of the dead*? Revelation 20:5a
 - a. Use Revelation 20:5b to identify this event.
 - b. There are two resurrections. The first involves believers; the second will come later for the *rest of the dead*. Use John 5:28–29 to remark on the first and second resurrections.
 - 1.) Considering the two resurrections, use your observation worksheet to separately mark those who will be in *heaven* and those who will be in *hell (lake of fire)*.
 - a.) What were your thoughts as you marked these two groups of people?
4. What blessings do those of the *first resurrection* enjoy? Revelation 20:6
 - a. Read 1 Peter 2:9 and Revelation 1:6; comment on these realities.
 - 1.) How are you blessed to know that you have a part in the *first resurrection*?

Read Revelation 20:7-10

1. What will happen after the *thousand years have expired*? Revelation 20:7
2. What will Satan *go out* to do? Revelation 20:8
 - a. Compare this event with Revelation 16:14,16. What do you see?

3. Even after a peaceful, prosperous millennium under the reign of Jesus Christ, mankind will still rebel against God. Share your response.
 - a. What does this reveal about the condition of man? See Genesis 6:5 and Jeremiah 17:9.

4. According to Revelation 20:9a, what did the *nations* do?
 - a. Jerusalem is referred to here as *the camp of the saints* and *the beloved city*. Recall from Revelation 11:8b its former nature. Why do you think it changed?

 - b. How did God protect His *saints* and *beloved city*? Revelation 20:9b
 - 1.) What does this demonstrate concerning the power of God?

 - 2.) Use Psalm 59:8 and Isaiah 40:22–23 to remark on God’s perspective of these seemingly mighty *nations*.

5. From Revelation 20:10, describe the fate of the *devil*.
 - a. Comment on the justice of his fate. See also Isaiah 14:15–17.

 - b. Share how you feel about the devil’s fate.

Read Revelation 20:11-15

1. How did *heaven* and *earth* react to the One sitting on the *great white throne*?
 - a. Link this description with 2 Peter 3:10 and record your observations.
 - b. Read John 5:22–23 to identify the One on the throne.

2. Briefly summarize the judgment scene in Revelation 20:12–13.
 - a. Who will be *standing* before God? Revelation 20:12a
 - b. What type of *books* do you think will be *opened*? See also Psalm 139:16.
 - c. By what standard will the *dead* be *judged*? Revelation 20:12b
 - d. Why do you think this judgment follows Satan's final stand? Revelation 20:7–9
 - 1.) Why is this a sobering reality?

3. Use Revelation 20:14–15 to describe *the second death*.
 - a. How is hell described in Mark 9:43b–44?

b. Link the reality of hell with what you observe in 2 Peter 3:9. How does this explain the longsuffering of God?

1.) From John 3:16,17, describe the glorious provision God made to spare men from such horrific condemnation.

a.) Why do men go to hell?

c. Why is it important that Christians are aware and warn others about hell?

Review Revelation 20

1. Share one thing that impacted you as you studied this chapter.

*"He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.
He who overcomes shall not be hurt by the second death."*

- Revelation 2:11

Observation Worksheet

Revelation 20:1-15

¹ Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. ² He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is *the* Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years; ³ and he cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal on him, so that he should deceive the nations no more till the thousand years were finished. But after these things he must be released for a little while. ⁴ And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Then *I saw* the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received *his* mark on their foreheads or on their hands. And they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years. ⁵ But the rest of the dead did not live again until the thousand years were finished. This *is* the first resurrection. ⁶ Blessed and holy *is* he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years. ⁷ Now when the thousand years have expired, Satan will be released from his prison ⁸ and will go out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle, whose number *is* as the sand of the sea. ⁹ They went up on the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city. And fire came down from God out of heaven and devoured them. ¹⁰ The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet *are*. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever. ¹¹ Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them. ¹² And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is *the Book* of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books. ¹³ The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works. ¹⁴ Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. ¹⁵ And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.