

Revelation 20

satan Bound

Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, holding the key of the abyss and a great chain in his hand. ² And he took hold of the dragon, the serpent of old, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years; ³ and he threw him into the abyss and shut *it* and sealed *it* over him, so that he would not deceive the nations any longer, until the thousand years were completed; after these things he must be released for a short time.

⁴ Then I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was given to them. And *I saw* the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony of Jesus and because of the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received the mark on their foreheads and on their hands; and they came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.

⁵ The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were completed. This is the first resurrection. ⁶ Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ, and will reign with Him for a thousand years.

satan Freed and Doomed

⁷ When the thousand years are completed, Satan will be released from his prison, ⁸ and will come out to deceive the nations which are at the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together for the war; the number of them is like the sand of the seashore.

⁹ And they came up on the broad plain of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city, and fire came down from heaven and devoured them. ¹⁰ And the devil who deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and ^[f]brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet *are* also; and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

Judgment at the Throne of God

¹¹ Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat upon it, from whose presence earth and heaven fled, and no place was found for them. ¹² And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and books were opened; and another book was opened, which is *the book* of life; and the dead were

¹³ And the sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades gave up the dead who were in them; and they were judged, each one *of them* according to their deeds. ¹⁴ Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. ¹⁵ And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

Abyss is an unfathomably deep or boundless place.

Hebrew abyss was the [chaos](#) out of which the ordered world was created [Genesis 1:2](#).

The term could also refer literally to the depths of the sea, the deep source of a spring or the interior of the earth.

In a later extended sense in [Jewish literature](#), the abyss was the [underworld](#), either the abode of the dead [Sheol](#) or eventually the realm of the rebellious spirits [Hell](#).

In the latter sense, specifically, the abyss was often seen as a prison for [demons](#).

Jesus sent pigs into the abyss [Luke 8:31](#)

The [beast from the sea](#) will rise out of the abyss [Revelation 11:7](#)

The book of Revelation is "the testimony of Jesus revealed to John by the Angel

The testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy." [Revelation 19:10](#),

In Revelation, Gog and Magog together are the hostile nations of the world.

We will use five tools on our expedition that are built around five questions

What questions were provoked within you?

Did anything confuse you?

Did anything move you emotionally?

Did God instruct you to do something?

Did you gain any insight into God's character?

Paul's Questions and insights

1. The great day had come and the angel with the key and the chain was coming to judge!
2. The chain represents captivity and the key represents a secured, locked entrance.
3. The key the angel held was to open the abyss.
4. This angel alone took charge of satan, put him into bondage and captivity for a time period of a thousand years. Why?
5. So that he could bring no more deception to the nations.
6. What is the abyss? Where is the abyss?
7. Has this thousand years already started? Or, is it still to come?
8. Why is satan to be released? And why for only a short time?
9. The thrones that John saw were for judgement.
10. They are sat upon by those who are worthy to judge. Who are the ones worthy to judge?
11. What is it to see someone's soul?
12. The persecuted and the faithful are about to receive their justice for the atrocities done to them.
13. They lost their lives because of the testimony of Jesus and the Word of God.
14. The worthy to judge are the resistant freedom fighters, in the time the beast and the prophet were experiencing their reign.
15. The worthy to judge come to life and reign with Jesus for the thousand years of his rule.
16. Why did everyone else stay in death for a thousand years of his reign?
17. The first resurrection of the dead is for the persecuted worthy who are able to judge the rebellious people.
18. Like Jesus resurrection, they too, have gone through death, out of death victorious.
19. Everyone resurrected in the first resurrection will not at all be overcome by the second death.
20. They will be the priests of God, to reign with Christ for the thousand years.
21. By this time the nations will spread over the earth.
22. Satan will be released to wage war against the saints, to deceive the nations once more.
23. Who are Gog and Magog?
24. What is this great war?
25. Where is the broad plain of the earth? Jerusalem!

26. But God destroyed them in their attempts to inflict great suffering on the saints.
27. At this destruction the devil, now defeated, is thrown into a lake of fire and brimstone to join the beast and the prophet.
28. What is it to be eternally tormented?
29. John's vision takes on a new focus as he is drawn towards the white throne.
30. What does it mean for the earth and heaven to flee away from Him who sits on the throne.
31. Why was there no place found for earth and heaven?
32. The dead great and small, that's all the dead, not just the worthy ones, are before the throne.
33. A book of Life that records names and deeds of the worthy to be saved is read. All the unworthy are judged.
34. So the sea, death and hades gave up the dead in them.
35. They were no longer held captive by them.
36. The judgement they received reflected the deeds they had done and their response to the gospel.
37. Notice paradise never gave up its dead as they were alive already in Christ with God.
38. Then death and hades are thrown into the lake of fire, this is the second death, the lake of fire, this is hell!
39. If your name is not written in the book of life, he or she will also be thrown into the lake of fire forever and eternity.