

November 8, 2011

Revelation Outline:

I. Introduction

Rev. 1 - Commissioning of John & Vision of Christ

Rev. 2-3 - Letters of Preparation to the Churches (*seven churches!*)

II. The Prophetic Message

Rev. 4-5 - The Vision of The Throne & The Coronation of Christ.

Rev. 6-8 - The Seven Seals (*1st seven*)

Rev. 8-11 - The Seven Trumpets (*2nd seven*)

Rev. 12-14 - Interregnum - The Cosmic Battle

Rev. 15-16 - The Seven Censers (*3rd seven*)

Rev. 17-22 - The End & The New Creation ← **You are here!**

III. Epilogue

Rev. 22 - The conclusion following the prophecy.

Revelation 20

Listen carefully as the entire chapter is read aloud. What does this chapter describe?

Brief review of the millennial views:

- **Pre-millennialism** (Historic /Dispensational) - Expects a literal 1000 year "kingdom" period which follows the return of Christ.
- **Post-millennialism** - Expects a unique/utopian kingdom period that precedes/ushers-in the return of Christ.
- **A-millennialism** - Recognizes the kingdom of God as a present reality represented by the millennium and realized as Christ expresses His reign in and through the church.

The binding of Satan.

The essence of binding = restraint.

Key represents authority.

The image conveys the truth: Satan is presently restrained by the authority of Christ.

How do we see Satan restrained or unrestrained in each of these passages?

Job 1:6-12

Luke 10:17-20

Luke 22:3, 31-34

Romans 16:20

2 Cor 11:13-15

2 Thes. 2:1-8

Matthew 16:16-19

Mark 5:3-4

1 Peter 5:8-9

If we accept the a-millennial interpretation, then the restraint of Satan in the present day is apparently exceptional. Why might that be? (Matt 28...)

The restraint of Satan is not such that he is powerless! But his power is severely limited.

He still deceives, but deception does not triumph over the Gospel.

He still possesses and oppresses, but in the power of the Holy Spirit, God's people are able to cast out demons and release the oppressed.

TLSB Note (Rev. 20:3): *"Christ has authorized His Church to share in this binding and overthrowing of Satan's power, through the administration of the Word and Sacraments...During his protracted confinement, while awaiting execution, Satan cannot withstand the triumphs of the Gospel (e.g., the worldwide growth of the Church after Jesus' resurrection)."*

Read Matthew 12:22-29

What does this passage describe?

Brighton (p549) *"Jesus answered his critics by asserting that in his ministry of exorcising demons he was setting people free from the demonization and slavery of Satan. And by such exorcising of demons he was displaying the power and authority by which he was binding Satan. Jesus was clearly demonstrating that the kingdom of God had come because he was doing this by the power and authority of the Spirit of God...According to the four gospels, then, the devil was bound, conquered, judged, and cast out as a result of Jesus' saving ministry, culminating in his death on the cross and his resurrection...."*