

REVELATION

The Final Rebellion
(Revelation 20:7~10)

Matthew 28:11-13: While they were going, behold, some of the guard went into the city and told the chief priests all that had taken place. And when they had assembled with the elders and taken counsel, they gave a sufficient sum of money to the soldiers and said, "Tell people, 'His disciples came by night and stole him away while we were asleep.' "



John 3:19-20: And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed.

People reject Christ because they love their sin and want to remain in it.

Revelation 20:7-10: And when the thousand years are ended, Satan will be released from his prison and will come out to deceive the nations that are at the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them for battle; their number is like the sand of the sea. And they marched up over the broad plain of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city, but fire came down from heaven and consumed them, and the devil who had deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and sulfur where the beast and the false prophet were, and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

At the conclusion of the Millennium, Satan tries to lead one final rebellion against God.

The rebellion of some reminds us of our need for God's grace in our own lives.

As Christians, we must seek God's grace to help us submit to His plan for our lives.

1. The events of the final rebellion.

A. Satan will be released from his prison and goes out to deceive the nations.

- ❖ Revelation 20:3 says he will be released for a short time.
- ❖ He was imprisoned so he could not deceive the nations, but as soon as he is released he goes back to deceiving.

1. The events of the final rebellion.

A. Satan will be released from his prison and goes out to deceive the nations.

1. Where do the nations come from?

❖ The Old Testament often refers to nations during the kingdom of the Messiah, but Christ conquered the nations at His Second Coming before the Millennium began.

Zechariah 14:1-2: Behold, a day is coming for the LORD, when the spoil taken from you will be divided in your midst. For I will gather all the nations against Jerusalem to battle, and the city shall be taken and the houses plundered and the women raped. Half of the city shall go out into exile, but the rest of the people shall not be cut off from the city.

The nations gather at Armageddon to attack Jerusalem.

Zechariah 14:3-6: Then the LORD will go out and fight against those nations as when he fights on a day of battle. On that day his feet shall stand on the Mount of Olives that lies before Jerusalem on the east, and the Mount of Olives shall be split in two from east to west by a very wide valley, so that one half of the Mount shall move northward, and the other half southward. And you shall flee to the valley of my mountains, for the valley of the mountains shall reach to Azal. And you shall flee as you fled from the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah. Then the LORD my God will come, and all the holy ones with him.

Zechariah 14:9-11: And the LORD will be king over all the earth. On that day the LORD will be one and his name one. The whole land shall be turned into a plain from Geba to Rimmon south of Jerusalem. But Jerusalem shall remain aloft on its site from the Gate of Benjamin to the place of the former gate, to the Corner Gate, and from the Tower of Hananel to the king's winepresses. And it shall be inhabited, for there shall never again be a decree of utter destruction. Jerusalem shall dwell in security.

Zechariah 14:12: And this shall be the plague with which the LORD will strike all the peoples that wage war against Jerusalem: their flesh will rot while they are still standing on their feet, their eyes will rot in their sockets, and their tongues will rot in their mouths.

Revelation 19:15: Christ strikes the nations with the word of His mouth.

Zechariah 14:16-19: Then everyone who survives of all the nations that have come against Jerusalem shall go up year after year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to keep the Feast of Booths. And if any of the families of the earth do not go up to Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, there will be no rain on them. And if the family of Egypt does not go up and present themselves, then on them there shall be no rain; there shall be the plague with which the LORD afflicts the nations that do not go up to keep the Feast of Booths. This shall be the punishment to Egypt and the punishment to all the nations that do not go up to keep the Feast of Booths.

1. The events of the final rebellion.

A. Satan will be released from his prison and goes out to deceive the nations.

1. Where do the nations come from?

- ❖ How can people rebel after living under Christ's perfect reign for 1,000 years?
- ❖ Zechariah 14 points to sin and attempted rebellion during the Millennium.
- ❖ If there's no rebellion and no sin, there's no need for Christ to rule with a rod of iron.

1. The events of the final rebellion.

A. Satan will be released from his prison and goes out to deceive the nations.

2. What is the reference to Gog and Magog?

- ❖ Genesis 10: The Table of Nations lists Magog as one of the sons of Japheth.
- ❖ Ancient sources connect the descendants of Magog to Turkey and Russia.

1. The events of the final rebellion.

A. Satan will be released from his prison and goes out to deceive the nations.

2. What is the reference to Gog and Magog?

- ❖ Ezekiel 38-39 speak of a great battle at Jerusalem with Gog, the leader of Magog.
- ❖ Some believe Revelation 20:7-10 fulfills Ezekiel 38-39, but others believe Ezekiel 38-39 refers to a different battle to which Revelation 20 alludes.

1. The events of the final rebellion.

B. At Satan's instigation, the nations will gather against God's people.

❖ Revelation 20:9: And they marched up over the broad plain of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city, but fire came down from heaven and consumed them.



1. The events of the final rebellion.

C. At the conclusion of the rebellion, Satan faces his final judgment.

- ❖ Revelation 20:10: And the devil who had deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and sulfur where the beast and the false prophet were, and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.
- ❖ Matthew 25:41: Hell was created for Satan and his angels.

2. Why do these events happen?

❖ Why does God permit this? Why does Revelation 20:3 say that it is necessary for Satan to be released?

A. Shows Satan does not change in his rebellion against God.

❖ He has had 1,000 years to think about his failed previous rebellions, but yet he tries one more time.

2. Why do these events happen?

B. This rebellion shows the sinfulness of people's hearts and their tendency to rebel.

- ❖ People have had 1,000 years to learn the truth of Christ without the threat of deception from Satan.
- ❖ Zechariah 14 shows the seeds of rebellion even during the Millennium.
- ❖ Adam and Eve lived in perfect conditions in Eden, but still rebelled.
- ❖ The religious leaders saw and heard Christ, but still rejected Him.

2. Why do these events happen?

B. This rebellion shows the sinfulness of people's hearts and their tendency to rebel.

- ❖ Satan and the world are our enemies, but so is our sinful flesh.
- ❖ We are naturally sinners and can sin even in a good environment.

2. Why do these events happen?

C. This rebellion shows the justice of God in judging sin.

- ❖ Revelation repeatedly emphasizes the failure of mankind to repent.
- ❖ Revelation 20:11-15 is the most sobering passage in Scripture, but Revelation 20:7-10 shows the depravity of people's hearts.

Conclusion: What do we do with what God has revealed?

- This rebellion shows our natural tendency to sin, even as believers.
- When we get comfortable with sin, we tend to try to justify it instead of giving it up.
- God's plan for us is to be conformed to the image of Christ, and He wants us to turn from sin.
- As Christians, we must seek God's grace to help us submit to His plan for our lives.

NEXT TIME:

REVELATION 20:11-15

- The Final Judgment