

**"The Millennial Kingdom of Jesus Christ"**

**Part 2**

**Revelation 20:1-6**

**Introduction:** Last week in our study we started into Revelation 20 where we were looking at the preparations for the establishment of the Millennial Kingdom of Jesus Christ. In our study last week, we looked at how there are many who disagree with the literal interpretation of this section which we are in and there are many who do not believe this section is prophetic. To be more specific we looked at a group known as:

**Amillennialists**

The teaching of these people is very popular. Augustine and the Catholic church have been the main reason for the rise of Amillennialism. They believe that Satan was bound at the cross when Jesus Christ was crucified, and they also believe that is when the Kingdom of Jesus Christ began. They see the Kingdom as a spiritual Kingdom in which Jesus Christ reigns from heaven.

**Notice Revelation 20:1-2**

The Amillennialists believe the 1000 years spoken of here are not literal but instead refer to an extended period of time thus believing the Kingdom began at the cross and will continue until Jesus Christ returns one day and judges the entire world. These people deny the 7 years of Tribulation as well as an EARTHLY reign of Jesus Christ. They teach that the chain in the hand of the angel here is the Gospel and it is the church who is responsible for restraining Satan's influence. Listen to the words of an Amillennialist:

*"There has been a binding of Satan. It is such a binding that he cannot touch a Christian. . . We read in Revelation Twenty that Satan is also bound as far as deceiving the nations is concerned. Where previously he had completely deceived the Gentile nations now [after the cross] he could no longer do so. **This does not mean that no one within a nation could not be deceived. There might be many within a Gentile nation that would be deceived by the cunning of Satan. Even though Satan is bound as far as the individual Christian is concerned, yet a Christian may, for a period of time or concerning a certain doctrine, be deceived.** So also, in regard to the nation. It simply means that Satan would no longer be in complete control of the nations as he was before the coming of Christ."*

So, the Amillennialist teaches this binding of Satan happened at the cross but they also teach that he is still able to influence people and nations.

Notice Revelation 20:1-3

God goes to great lengths here to make it very clear that when this happens Satan will have ABSOLUTELY no influence in the Kingdom of Jesus Christ. God tells us he is BOUND, SHUT UP and SEALED.

There is also another group who do not accept the Kingdom of Jesus Christ as being a literal 1000 years. They are known as the:

## POSTMILLENNIALISTS

These people believe the Kingdom exists today and that through the preaching of the Gospel the entire world will be Christianized. They believe Jesus will return after a long period of righteousness and peace which they call the Millennium. These people look forward to a golden age of prosperity in this present church age.

Listen to the words of one writer:

*"The millennium to which the postmillennialists look forward to is thus a golden age of spiritual prosperity during this present dispensation, that is, the Church Age. This is to be brought about through forces now active in the world. It is to last an indefinitely long period of time perhaps much longer than a literal 1000 years. The changed character of individuals will be reflected in an uplifted social, economic, political and cultural life of mankind. The world at large will then enjoy a state of righteousness which up until now has been seen only in relatively small and isolated groups: for example, some family circles, some local church groups and kindred organizations.*

*This does not mean that there will be a time on this earth when every person will be a Christian or that all sin will be abolished. But it does mean that evil in all its many forms eventually will be reduced to negligible proportions, that Christian principles will be the rule, not the exception, and that Christ will return to Christianize the world. The return of Jesus Christ will be immediately followed by a general resurrection, the general judgment, and the introduction of heaven and hell in their fulness."*

There is another group which we fit into:

## PREMILLENNIALISTS

We believe that Jesus Christ will return at the end of the Tribulation and He will then bind Satan and establish His Kingdom on the earth and He will rule on this earth for 1000 years. Let me show you a conversation between Jesus and His disciples.

### Luke 19:10-15

<sup>10</sup> *For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.*

<sup>11</sup> And as they heard these things, he added and spake a parable, because he was nigh to Jerusalem, and because they thought that the kingdom of God should immediately appear.

<sup>12</sup> He said therefore, A certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom, and to return.

<sup>13</sup> And he called his ten servants, and delivered them ten pounds, and said unto them, Occupy till I come.

<sup>14</sup> But his citizens hated him, and sent a message after him, saying, We will not have this man to reign over us.

<sup>15</sup> And it came to pass, that when he was returned, having received the kingdom, then he commanded these servants to be called unto him, to whom he had given the money, that he might know how much every man had gained by trading.

In this parable Jesus made it clear that He would not receive the Kingdom until He returned. It would not be at the cross, but it would be at His return after the ascension and after the Tribulation.

Now there is something else in this text that we have not looked at which I believe we need to see.

### I. The 75 Days after the Tribulation.

Now let me remind you that 3  $\frac{1}{2}$  years of Tribulation will be 1260 days. Now let me show you what Daniel wrote.

#### Daniel 12:11-12

<sup>11</sup> And from the time that the daily sacrifice shall be taken away, and the abomination that maketh desolate set up, there shall be a thousand two hundred and ninety days.

<sup>12</sup> Blessed is he that waiteth, and cometh to the thousand three hundred and five and thirty days.

Here we see there are 30 extra days. Then we see an extra 45 days beyond the 30. This raises a question, "What is the purpose for the extra days?" There must be something for us to see here for we can clearly see 3 distinct periods of time. Now there are those who say these numbers all refer to the same period of time, but I cannot believe that because they are called out distinctly.

#### A. The Extra 30 Days

This seems to be the time when Satan is bound, and the judgment of the nations will take place.

**Matthew 25:31-41**

*<sup>31</sup> When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory:*

*<sup>32</sup> And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats:*

*<sup>33</sup> And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left.*

*<sup>34</sup> Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:*

*<sup>35</sup> For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in:*

*<sup>36</sup> Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me.*

*<sup>37</sup> Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink?*

*<sup>38</sup> When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee?*

*<sup>39</sup> Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee?*

*<sup>40</sup> And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.*

*<sup>41</sup> Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:*

In these 30 days there will most likely be the resurrection of Old Testament Saints and the Saints of the Tribulation who were martyred for their faith. These individuals will be resurrected, their works will be judged, and they will then be rewarded.

**B. The Extra 45 Days**

Let me show you the verse from Daniel again.

**Daniel 12:12**

<sup>12</sup> *Blessed is he that waiteth, and cometh to the thousand three hundred and five and thirty days.*

Here we see that those who come to these 45 days will be blessed.

Let me give you my thoughts on these days. I believe in this time Jesus will take His Throne and all the saved will receive their blessed orders of service for the Kingdom Age.

**Matthew 25:14-23**

<sup>14</sup> *For the kingdom of heaven is as a man travelling into a far country, who called his own servants, and delivered unto them his goods.*

<sup>15</sup> *And unto one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one; to every man according to his several ability; and straightway took his journey.*

<sup>16</sup> *Then he that had received the five talents went and traded with the same, and made them other five talents.*

<sup>17</sup> *And likewise he that had received two, he also gained other two.*

<sup>18</sup> *But he that had received one went and digged in the earth, and hid his lord's money.*

<sup>19</sup> *After a long time the lord of those servants cometh, and reckoneth with them.*

<sup>20</sup> *And so he that had received five talents came and brought other five talents, saying, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me five talents: behold, I have gained beside them five talents more.*

<sup>21</sup> *His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.*

<sup>22</sup> *He also that had received two talents came and said, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me two talents: behold, I have gained two other talents beside them.*

<sup>23</sup> *His lord said unto him, Well done, good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.*

This then brings us to the next verse.

**II. The Appointed Positions**

Notice Revelation 20:4a

Now the question is, "Who are these whom John saw sitting upon the thrones?" I believe if we search the Scriptures we can answer that very question.

### A. The Church

Notice Jesus Words to the church at Thyatira.

#### Revelation 2:26-29

<sup>26</sup> And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations:

<sup>27</sup> And he shall rule them with a rod of iron; as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to shivers: even as I received of my Father.

<sup>28</sup> And I will give him the morning star.

<sup>29</sup> He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

Notice what Jesus said to the church at Laodicea.

#### Revelation 3:21-22

<sup>21</sup> To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne.

<sup>22</sup> He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

Notice what Paul wrote to the saints at Corinth.

#### 1 Corinthians 6:2-3

<sup>2</sup> Do ye not know that the saints shall judge the world? and if the world shall be judged by you, are ye unworthy to judge the smallest matters?

<sup>3</sup> Know ye not that we shall judge angels? how much more things that pertain to this life?

### B. David

#### Ezekiel 34:23-24

<sup>23</sup> And I will set up one shepherd over them, and he shall feed them, even my servant David; he shall feed them, and he shall be their shepherd.

<sup>24</sup> And I the LORD will be their God, and my servant David a prince among them; I the LORD have spoken it.

#### Ezekiel 37:24-25

*<sup>24</sup> And David my servant shall be king over them; and they all shall have one shepherd: they shall also walk in my judgments, and observe my statutes, and do them.*

*<sup>25</sup> And they shall dwell in the land that I have given unto Jacob my servant, wherein your fathers have dwelt; and they shall dwell therein, even they, and their children, and their children's children for ever: and my servant David shall be their prince for ever.*

### 1. Old Testament Saints

In the Kingdom there will be princes and governors given different authority by Jesus Christ.

#### **Luke 19:12-19**

*<sup>12</sup> He said therefore, A certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom, and to return.*

*<sup>13</sup> And he called his ten servants, and delivered them ten pounds, and said unto them, Occupy till I come.*

*<sup>14</sup> But his citizens hated him, and sent a message after him, saying, We will not have this man to reign over us.*

*<sup>15</sup> And it came to pass, that when he was returned, having received the kingdom, then he commanded these servants to be called unto him, to whom he had given the money, that he might know how much every man had gained by trading.*

*<sup>16</sup> Then came the first, saying, Lord, thy pound hath gained ten pounds.*

*<sup>17</sup> And he said unto him, Well, thou good servant: because thou hast been faithful in a very little, have thou authority over ten cities.*

*<sup>18</sup> And the second came, saying, Lord, thy pound hath gained five pounds.*

*<sup>19</sup> And he said likewise to him, Be thou also over five cities.*

#### **Conclusion:**

#### **Romans 5:9-11**

*<sup>9</sup> **Much more** then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.*

*<sup>10</sup> For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, **much more**, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.*

*<sup>11</sup> And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement.*

When you come to Jesus Christ you do not just get restored what was lost in Adam when he sinned, but we get much more. Part of the MUCH MORE is to rule and reign with Jesus Christ in the coming Kingdom with all the Old Testament Saints, Church Saints and Tribulation Saints.