

REVELATION Lesson 173

Chapter 20:1-3, The Dragon, That Old Serpent, Which is the Devil, and Satan

30 August 2021

20:1 John says “**And I saw...**” ten times in Revelation 19-21. He sees ten things in chronological sequence which mark the conclusion of God’s program in time and usher us into eternity:

1. And I saw—the revelation of Christ (19:11).
2. And I saw—the invitation to the supper (19:17).
3. And I saw—the destruction of the armies of the beast (19:19).
4. And I saw—the binding of Satan (20:1).
5. And I saw—the millennial kingdom (20:4).
6. And I saw—a great white throne (20:11).
7. And I saw—the lake of fire (20:12).
8. And I saw—a new heaven and a new earth (21:1).
9. And I saw—the holy city, New Jerusalem (21:2).
10. And I saw—no temple... (21:22).

Vs 2 God will send an angel down from heaven to bind Satan with a great chain.

Mark 5:1-5 Devils are able to break chains made by men.

Jude 6 Fallen angels are being held captive by everlasting chains.

Rev 12:9 Satan is identified here as the one “which deceiveth the whole world.”

Rev 20:1 Satan is again identified, but this binding signifies the end of his days of deceiving men. One of God’s angels is able to bind Satan with one hand. Satan was never going to win.

Satan’s Titles:

The dragon: this title emphasizes Satan’s cruelty. He’s a fire-breathing monster (Job 41).

That old serpent: this speaks of Satan’s maliciousness, guile, and deception (2 Cor 11:3).

The devil: this speaks of Satan’s work as the arch-tempter of man (Mt 4:3, 1 Thes 3:5, 1 Cor 7:5).

Satan: here is the accuser of the brethren (Rev 12:10). This is the one who hates God’s people.

All of the workings of Satan will come to an end once he is bound with a great chain.

Isaiah 24:20-23 is fulfilled at this time.

God will take Satan down in an instant. The Church is not going to *gradually* bring in the kingdom and conquer the devil with gospel preaching. God will arrest Satan suddenly by force.

Note: Satan is not bound today. You cannot bind Satan. God never said you could bind Satan.

Note: Satan's power and influence grows through miracles, signs, wonders, and a denial of the literal truth of the word of God. Churches who practice "binding the devil" emphasize all those things.

The Devil's Work Today

- Acts 5:1-11** Satan is filling the hearts of church members to lie and to glorify themselves.
- 2 Cor 4:3-4** Satan (the god of this world) prevents people from seeing Jesus Christ.
- 2 Cor 11:3-4** Satan beguiles people through subtility, leading them to believe another gospel, another Jesus, and another spirit. i.e. Mormonism, Jehovah's Witnesses, Charismatic Movement.
- 1 Thes 2:18** Satan hinders the missionary outreach of the New Testament Church.
- 2 Tim 2:25-26** Satan is capturing men and women with his enticements and temptations and allurements.
- 1 Cor 5** Satan destroys the flesh of believers who sin.
- Rev 2:10** Satan throws Christians in prison.
- 1 Pet 5:8** He seeks whom he may devour.
- The world has made it easier to spend time with the devil today than ever before.
 - We've got to work hard to make it difficult to fellowship with the devil.
 - We've got to work harder than ever before to push aside the devil's enticements and choose to fellowship with the Lord.
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What must you do?

- James 4:7** Submit yourself to God. Resist the devil. He will flee.
- Eph 6:10-18** Put on the whole armour of God and stand. Be prepared to wrestle against the enemy. Don't be lazy. Don't get caught off guard.
- Yes, the devil is stronger than you and more powerful than you, but if you heed what the bible says, you can have victory over him. You can't bind him (Jesus Christ will do that later), but you can make him flee.
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- Lk 11:14-22** Satan (the strong man) will continue to keep his hold on this earth until Jesus Christ (a stronger than he) returns and takes him away. Then Satan's days of dominion will be over.
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