

## SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

Title: The Millennial Kingdom

Scripture Text: Revelation 20:1-15

Up to this point in our study of Revelation, the church has been raptured and all of creation endured the great tribulation, during which the rise of the antichrist occurred. At the end of the seven years of tribulation, the battle of Armageddon takes place, where Jesus wipes out the millions of followers of the antichrist. Then the antichrist and the false prophet are then both thrown into the lake of fire. As we start chapter 20, we see Christ has one last bit of business to take care of, then the Millennial Kingdom is established.

Date: April 30, 2023

#### I. The Incarceration of Satan (Rev. 20:1-3)

Satan is referred to by four descriptive names: "dragon" (a dangerous, vicious beast), "serpent" (slithering, hiding in dark places), "devil" (meaning the 'accuser'), and "Satan" (meaning 'adversary', one who opposes God). Satan is sentenced to be chained and put away for 1,000 years. This timeframe corresponds with Christ's millennial kingdom. He is put away, so he won't be able to deceive as he has done so well and for so long. But this is not a permanent arrangement.

- Satan will be bound in the abyss for the 1,000 years. What is the abyss?
- What are characteristics of a world without Satan?
- How does Satan deceive today?
- Describe a situation when you, or someone you know, felt you were deceived by Satan.
- How can you protect yourself from the deceptions of Satan (James 4:7)?

### II. The Coronation of the Saints (Rev. 20:4-6)

After Satan is put away, the Apostle John sees the souls of the martyrs who died during the tribulation. They are resurrected and reign with Christ during the millennium. They are joined by those who were part of the rapture. They all are part of what John describes as the "first resurrection". They are blessed and holy! The group that is not included are all those who rejected Christ; the lost. Their judgement is yet to come.

As Christ's millennial reign begins, He is surrounded by His followers.
 What a blessing that will be! How can we be a blessing to Jesus today?

## **Morningside Church**

If you have a need or a prayer request, contact the church office.

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office@morningsidetlh.org



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- The martyrs mentioned in <u>vs. 4</u> demonstrated their commitment to Christ, even to the point of death. How do you demonstrate your commitment to Christ each day?
- We see in <u>vs. 6</u> the blessing enjoyed as a result of obedience. Describe how Christians are blessed today by their obedience.
- In <u>John 14:21</u>, Jesus states: "He who has My commandments and keeps them is the one who loves Me..." How is our obedience to Jesus a reflection of our love for Him?

### III. The Eternal Destination of Satan & Sinners (Rev 20:7-15)

At the end of the Millennium, Satan is loosed from his imprisonment. His goal is to deceive the nations, as he has done so well in the past, and raise them up against Christ and the saints. Jesus has one last confrontation with Satan. With fire from heaven, Satan is defeated for the last time and thrown into the lake of fire where he is tormented day and night for all eternity.

After this, those who were not part of the first resurrection (vs. 5), the lost, are judged. These have not accepted the redemptive work of Christ. Instead of being judged by Christ's righteousness (as Christians are), they are judged by their own deeds, which fall short (Rom. 3:23, Rom. 6:23). "All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God". As a result, they join Satan in the lake of fire and eternal torment.

- Why are the deeds of individuals never enough for salvation?
- How does this passage address the belief many people have that if they do more good than bad, God will allow them to enter heaven?
- How would you describe the 'lake of fire' (hell)?
- Describe what is needed for someone not to go to hell?
- How is it that accepting Jesus as your personal Savior merits your entrance into heaven?
- Who is someone you can pray for that has not accepted Christ as their personal Savior?
  - o Pray for opportunities to share the gospel message with them.
  - Pray that they accept Christ's free gift of salvation.