## The Millennial Reign of Christ Begins!

Revelation 19:17-20:6

"The Word of God makes plain that God so loved the word that He gave His Son and that all Who avail themselves of the grace of God are immeasurably blessed in time and eternity. On the other hand, the same Word of God states plainly that those who spurn God's mercy must experience His judgment without mercy. How foolish it is to rest in the portions of the Word of God that speak of the love of God and reject the portions that deal with His righteous judgment. The present age reveals the grace of God and suspended judgment. The age to come, while continuing to be a revelation of the grace of God, will give conclusive evidence that God brings every evil work into judgment and that those who spurn His grace must experience His wrath." Walvoord

I. Jesus is the only one who has the power to eradicate evil from this world. That will happen when He sets His foot on the Mount of Olives as a Warrior King who will go to war against Satan and his followers at the battle of Armageddon. Satan will call the nations to the Jezreel Valley of Israel with the purpose of annihilating God's covenant people, the Jews. It will be the culmination of a war that has been going on between Satan and God since Adam and Eve's fall from grace. That war is still raging, and God has called us to fight it in His almighty power as His church waits for the rapture to occur. Satan is already a defeated foe, he's toast, and he knows it. That is why he will do whatever he can to keep us defeated through temptation and sin if we are not careful. If we accompany Jesus in battle upon His return, which we will, then we can surely depend on Him to give us what we need to stay victorious in this life.

Rev. 19:17-21 Jude 14 Rev. 17:14 2 Thess. 2:8 Ps. 2:9 Rev. 2:26-27 Rev. 16:13-16 Matt. 24:27-28

**Ps. 149:5-9** For the Lord takes delight in his people; he crowns the humble with salvation. Let the saints rejoice in this honor and sing for joy on their beds. May the praise of God be in their mouths and a double-edged sword in their hands, to inflict vengeance on the nations and punishment on the peoples, their noble with shackles of iron to carry out the sentence written against them. This is the glory of all his saints. Praise the Lord.

II. John tells us that at the present time, the whole world is under the control of the evil one (1 Jn. 5:19). His control has influenced mankind since the fall. He is a tempter (Mt. 4:5), the ruler of demons (Matt. 9:34), the enemy of mankind (Matt. 13:39), the father of lies (Jn. 8:44), a murderer (Jn. 8:44), ruler of the kingdom or authority of the air (Eph. 2:2), an adversary (1 Peter 5:8), a roaring lion looking to devour(1 Peter 5:8), a deceiver of the world (Rev. 12:9), and an accuser of God's people (Rev. 12:10). During Jesus millennial reign, Satan's deceptive influence will be completely removed. All that will exist then, to influence man away from Christ, is his heart, which is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick, who can understand it (Jer. 17:9).

Rev. 20-1-3 Rom. 1:18-32

*James 1:13-15* Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God," for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. 14 But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. 15 Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

**III.** The fact that believers will be resurrected with imperishable, glorious, powerful, spiritual bodies is necessary for the church age saints, the Old Testament saints and the martyred tribulation saints to co-reign with Christ during His 1000-year reign over a world that is still dealing with sin. We are told that we will judge the world and have authority over the nations as His agents of righteousness who will make sure that His love, grace, mercy, and justice prevail during that time.

Rev. 20:4-6 Dan. 12:1-2 Rev. 2:26-28 Rev. 3:21

**1 Cor. 6:2-3** 2 Or do you not know that the saints will judge the world? And if the world is to be judged by you, are you incompetent to try trivial cases? 3 Do you not know that we are to judge angels? How much more, then, matters pertaining to this life!

"The first resurrection is not an event but an order of resurrection including all righteous who are raised from the dead before the millennial kingdom begins." Walvoord