



The Thousand Years PART 40

Introductions

Let's get started by sharing our names and answering this question: [*Choose your own question*].

Songs of Praise

Let's begin our time singing to the Lord. [*Sing additional songs if you prefer. Contact the church office for copies of our church songbooks.*]

A Mighty Fortress

A mighty fortress is our God,
a bulwark never failing;
our helper he, amid the flood
of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe
does seek to work us woe;
his craft and power are great,
and armed with cruel hate,
on earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide,
our striving would be losing,
were not the right Man on our side,
the Man of God's own choosing.
You ask who that may be?

Christ Jesus, it is he;
Lord Sabaoth his name,
from age to age the same;
and he must win the battle.

And though this world, with devils filled,
should threaten to undo us,
we will not fear, for God has willed
his truth to triumph through us.
The prince of darkness grim,
we tremble not for him;
his rage we can endure,
for lo! his doom is sure;
one little word shall fell him.

That Word above all earthly powers
no thanks to them abideth;
the Spirit and the gifts are ours
through him who with us sideth.
Let goods and kindred go,
this mortal life also;
the body they may kill:
God's truth abideth still;
his kingdom is forever!

Martin Luther, 1529

Church News

- Share any news for your own group at this time.
- Pray for City on the Hill: Wisdom for leadership, financial stewardship, and generosity in our giving.
- This is the last Home Group study guide before the summer break.

Study

[*This guide utilizes the Sunday sermon notes, please [click this link](#) to access them.*]

Q: Would someone open us in prayer, and then would someone read aloud Revelation 20:1-3?

This is our last study for the year, and even

though we will not gather as a group to see the series through to the end, we made it to chapter 20! This chapter is arguably the most debated chapter in all of the book of Revelation. But before we get to why, let's look back to this sermon series as a whole.

Q: As you look back on this sermon series, what have you appreciated?

Q: What is one way this sermon series has helped you in your Christian walk?

The sermon began by explaining the four views of the millennial (1000 year) reign of Christ. Let me read aloud the four views from the *Sermon Notes* so that we're all on the same page.¹

Q: Did you grow up being taught one of these four views? And how did that view shape your faith?

Q: Has this sermon series changed anything for you in light of how you were first taught Revelation?

Q: As we look at 20:1-3, can someone summarize what happens?

Q: Is Satan currently bound and in the pit? What does this mean?²

Good biblical interpretation means we interpret Scripture with Scripture. Let's read a few passages from Jesus' ministry which aid our understanding of what John sees in this vision:

Matthew 12:25-29; John 12:31-32;
Matthew 28:18-20; Matthew 24:14

Q: What can we gather from these supporting passages?

Q: If Satan is now bound in a shut and sealed pit, is he therefore no longer influential or active? If not, what has changed?

Like before, let's read a few passages from which can aid our discussion:

2 Corinthians 11:13-14; 1 Timothy 5:15
James 4:7; 1 Peter 5:8

Q: Why is the binding of Satan so important as we look back on the history of redemption beginning in the Old Testament until now?

Q: What is your reaction to the extraordinary advance of the gospel over the last two thousand years?

Q: Before we close, are there any other comments or questions?

Let's close this time by singing *The Doxology* together:

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise Him, all creatures, here below
Praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost
Amen

Notes...

¹ Refer to *Sermon Notes* for the four views.

² What John sees in this part of his vision is the breaking of Satan's stranglehold upon the pagan nations. Certainly, Satan has not yet been cast into the eternal lake of fire, but, like a rabid dog on a leash, he is able to inflict great harm. Yet, his power to blind entire nations has been taken away because of Christ's work and authority.

Prayer

Take time to pray as a whole group.