

Interpretation Study Handout #9

Study Outline – Grace Bible Chapel

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December 12th, 2021

Introduction:

Brief review:

- Is Israel yet to be what God literally has promised?

- Is the Millennial Kingdom included in the “Day of the Lord?”

Revelation 20 – Covenant interpretation: Revelation 20:1-3 “The introductory phrase ‘Then I saw’ does not indicate that John is having a vision of events temporally subsequent to the events of the previous nineteen chapters... Thus Satan is currently in the pit, he is currently bound. This does not mean that Satan is not active in many other ways. We wholeheartedly believe that Satan tempts people and that he prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour (1 Pet 5:8). But with respect to his deceiving the nations as he once did, he is bound. Put positively, the binding of Satan coincides with the progress and triumph of the Gospel among the nations. Consequently, this is a great missions text, giving the Church encouragement and confidence that the proclamation of the Gospel will bear fruit. The period of time during which Satan is bound and in the pit (and during which the martyrs reign with Christ) is a thousand years (a millennium). Numbers in the Bible are frequently symbolic. It would be natural to expect that in this, arguably the most symbolic book of the Bible, that we would find many symbolic numbers. Ten is a number of completeness. One thousand is ten cubed. Thus we would suggest that the thousand years is a long period of time of indeterminate length representing the present age in its fullness.” **David Sherwood**

Does this interpretation give you a sense of comfort in accuracy?

Rev. 20:1-3

For Christ to reign on earth as the Bible describes, what would be the first order of business be? –

- Vs. 1 – What does “then I saw” indicate?

- What is the abyss?

- What is signified by the “great chain?”

- Vs. 2 – What do we learn from this verse about Satan’s power?

- Why are there limits on the binding & sealing of Satan?

- What is this binding and sealing significance, and also in relation to today?

- Vs. 3 – Who is in charge of this binding & sealing?

- What does it state Satan does?

- If Satan is not active, does that mean those who are born during the time of the 1000 years are without sin?

- What will those who are born during the reign of Christ still need?

- Concluding notes:
