



2. [about 5 minutes] Read Revelation 20. It is suggested that different readers take 20:1-3, 20:4-6, 20:7-10 and 20:11-15.

1. [about 5 minutes] How do you see the tension between good and evil playing out in the world at the moment?

The 'thousand years', or the 'millennium', is mentioned only seven times in the New Testament. Six of these are in Revelation 20. In spite of this limited data, the concept has spawned many divergent views. Leon Morris counsels 'we approach the chapter with humility and charity'. As you discuss the different options, keep this in mind.

*one thousand years; the judgement*

## Revelation 20

Week 8 • Sunday 25 September 2016

**The thousand years—actual or metaphor?** (20:2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7)  
In Revelation 20, does anything make you think the thousand years is a literal 1,000 years? Is there anything to make you think it is metaphorical, standing for a certain period of time; if so, why has one thousand been specified? See 2 Peter 3:8. [about 8 minutes]

**The thousand years—when is it?** (20:1-10) [about 8 minutes]  
There are several views on when the thousand years is.

- before Jesus' return (*post-millennial*)
- after Jesus' return (*pre-millennial*)
- since Jesus' death, before his return; so, now (*amillennial*)
- don't care (*pan-millennial* — it will all pan out in the end!)

What support do you see Revelation 20 giving to each of these views?

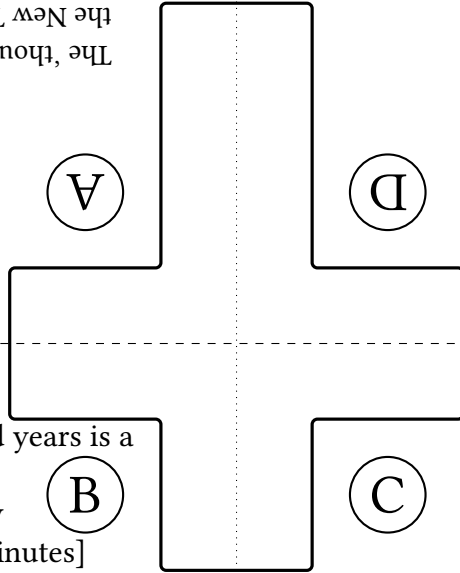
**The first resurrection—what is it?** (20:4) [about 4 minutes]  
Different views on 'the first resurrection': Jesus' resurrection; when someone becomes a Christian; when Christian believers are raised.

What support do you see Revelation 20 giving to each of these views? (Note: there is no mention of 'second resurrection'.)

**The second death—what is it?** (20:6) [about 4 minutes]  
(Note: no mention is made of 'first death'.)



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**The judging of Satan** (20:7-10)  
[5 minutes]  
How is Satan described?  
What does he do?  
What is his final destination?

**The judging of the dead** (20:11-15)  
[5 minutes]  
Who are judged?  
Who does the judging?  
What are the outcomes?

**The forest and the trees—Revelation 20 as a whole**  
[6 minutes]

Although some parts of this chapter might be perplexing, or even controversial, the overall message is clear.  
What is the overall message of Revelation 20?  
How would you sum this up in a sentence?



Looking ahead: Next week is Revelation 21.

**Worth remembering** (from Revelation 20:15)  
Anyone whose name was not found written in the book of life was thrown into the lake of fire.

1. Whose names are written in the book of life?  
2. Is yours?

From there to here  
[spend about 10 minutes on this page]

*fold away here first*