



Revelation 20—part 1
Sermon 2.17.19
Verses 1-3

Read *Revelation 20:1-3*

Questions, Answers, and Review from Sunday's sermon: all unredeemed people have been dealt with, at this point. The only enemy of Christ left is the devil. He is captured, bound, and imprisoned for 1000 years (the demons also). We cannot fully appreciate how blessed this event is and how liberating the Millennium will be without reviewing what will be absent—the work and ministry of the devil. By studying him (in a healthy way and season), we are better equipped to withstand.

What do we know about Satan's beginning? He was created. He was once an angel—a cherub. Sometime, after Creation, he became prideful, filled with violence and sin. God cast him out of heaven as a resident*. The devil took 1/3 of the holy angels with him. He headed straight to man and got him to join the cosmic rebellion. He is the father of all men at their birth.

See *Ezekiel 28:14-16, Genesis 3:1, & John 8:44*

Satan's original sin was pride. It led to all his other sins and his fall. How is pride also at the heart of every sin of ours as well? Various answers. We put our agenda, our wisdom, our strength ahead of God's. We effectively decide to be our own god. We ignore clear, biblical consequences.

What is the devil actively (and effectively) doing in the Church today? Discuss each.

- Corrupts the Church: plants "wolves in sheep's clothing", gets the leave the Word.
See also *2 Corinthians 11:13-15*
- Divides the Church: creates strife. Cliques. Battles over meaningless things. Takes contentment
- Attacks the Church: puts stumbling blocks, goes after families, marriages, submission...
- Accuses the Church: constantly reminds God and the believer of believer's sin...doubt

What is he actively and effectively doing in the unbelieving world? Discuss also.

- Controlling the empires and institutions of man: governments, leaders, economies, markets, education, culture, media/publishing, entertainment, religion...
- Blinding Unbelievers to the Truth of God's Word—See *2 Corinthians 4:4*

What is the biblical warning to individual believers concerning the devil? Various answers: be very aware that he is real. Don't become over fixated on him...fixate on Christ. Be aware of his schemes and tactics. Know what sin trips us up—he does—and he uses it. Stay in the family of God—a local body of believers for support, protection, and to avoid isolation. Don't view people as the enemy, but the enemy as the enemy. See also *2 Corinthians 2:10-11 & 1 Peter 5:7-11*

Because Satan (and his demons) are bound and powerless in the Millennial Kingdom, does that also mean that sin and sinning is absent? Explain. No. Yet-to-be-glorified believers will enter the Kingdom. They still have a sin nature and pass that on to their children and all future generations. Sin will happen, but will be dealt with swiftly and justly. The universe is not sinless until very end.