

THE MILLENIUM REV. 20:1-10

Revelation 20:1 And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. **Revelation 20:2** And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him **a thousand years (χίλια ἔτη)**,

Revelation 20:3 And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till **the thousand years (τὰ χίλια ἔτη)** should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season. **Revelation 20:4** And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ **a thousand years (τὰ χίλια ἔτη)**. **Revelation 20:5** But the rest of the dead lived not again until **the thousand years (τὰ χίλια ἔτη)** were finished. This is the first resurrection.

Revelation 20:6 Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him **a thousand years (χίλια ἔτη)**. **Revelation 20:7** And when **the thousand years (τὰ χίλια ἔτη)** are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison, **Revelation 20:8** And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea.

Revelation 20:9 And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them. **Revelation 20:10** And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

3 BASIC VIEWS OF THE MILLENIUM:

1. Post-millennial

Christ returns after the millennium.

The millennium (1,000 years) is taken symbolically → as a large, indefinite number.

Christ rules & reigns progressively on the earth (evolution / progress anyone?)

Matthew 13:31 Another parable put he forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is like to a grain of mustard seed, which a man took, and sowed in his field: **Matthew 13:32** Which indeed is the least of all seeds: but when it is grown, it is the greatest among herbs, and becometh a tree, so that the birds of the air come and lodge in the branches thereof.

Matthew 13:33 Another parable spake he unto them; The kingdom of heaven is like unto leaven, which a woman took, and hid in three measures of meal, till the whole was leavened.

2. A-millennial

There is no millennial → Christ returns and establishes eternity.

The millennium is obviously symbolic: for some Christ reigns in heaven or He reigns in the hearts of believers.

3. Pre-millennial

Christ returns before millennium and establishes the Davidic Kingdom on earth.

The Pre-millennial view:

1. The millennium takes place after the second coming!

Matthew 19:28 And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed me, **in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.** **Matthew 19:29** And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life. **Matthew 19:30** But many that are first shall be last; and the last shall be first.

Revelation 19:11 And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. **Revelation 19:12** His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but

he himself. **Revelation 19:13** And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. **Revelation 19:14** And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. **Revelation 19:15** And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. **Revelation 19:16** And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS. **Revelation 19:17** And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God; **Revelation 19:18** That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all men, both free and bond, both small and great. **Revelation 19:19** And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army. **Revelation 19:20** And the beast (τὸ θηρίον) was taken, and with him the false prophet (ψευδοπροφήτης) that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both (οἱ δύο) were cast alive into a lake of fire (εἰς τὴν λίμνην τοῦ πυρὸς) burning with brimstone. **Revelation 19:21** And the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, which sword proceeded out of his mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh.

2. The millennium takes place for a thousand (1,000) years!

Millennium is Latin:

Mille = 1,000

Annus = year

1,000 is Greek is χίλια

Immediately many will become angry & irrational! This is 10x10x10! This means a large, indefinite number!

OK, let's examine the actual text itself!

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Revelation 20:3 And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years (τὰ χίλια ἔτη) should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season (μικρὸν χρόνον).

Revelation 20:4 And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years (τὰ χίλια ἔτη).

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Revelation 20:8 And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number (ὁ ἀριθμὸς) of whom is as the sand of the sea (ὡς ἡ ἄμμος τῆς θαλάσσης).

Revelation 20:9 And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them.

Revelation 20:10 And the devil (ὁ διάβολος) that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast (τὸ θηρίον) and the false prophet (ὁ ψευδοπροφήτης) are, and [they] shall be (βασανισθήσονται) tormented day and night (ἡμέρας καὶ νυκτὸς) for ever and ever (εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας τῶν αἰώνων).

What do we actually find?

An exact number 1,000 – used 6 times

A small, indefinite number

An exceptionally large, indefinite number for time

A large, symbolic number

A figurative number – day & night = 24 hours

All these figures we can figure out quite easily!!!