

Growth Groups Lesson

April 2 & 3

Revelation 20

Recap from Rev. 19: Jesus will return at His second coming, leading the armies of heaven, to destroy the beast (antichrist), the false prophet, and the evil kings of the earth, prior to establishing His Millennial Kingdom.

Big Idea: Jesus will reign in the millennium and judge sin at the great white throne of judgment. In that day, Jesus will remove evil and sin providing justice and mercy to His church.

Spend some time praying with your group and ask for help in seeing and applying His Word. Review and reflect on the prayer requests given the previous week. Give the Lord praise for the answers to your group's prayers.

Opening questions

1. Who have been the most evil rulers in history? What characterized their reigns?
2. Who have been some of the best rulers? Why did they fall short in creating world peace?

Read Revelation 20:1-6

Satan will be bound for a thousand years to no longer deceive the nations. The martyrs who took a stand for Jesus Christ will reign with Christ for a thousand years.

1. What various names did John call the dragon? Do the various names have significance?
Gen. 3:1
2. Where did the angel throw the dragon, and how long was the dragon locked up?
3. Who will reign with Christ in the millennium? **1 Cor. 6:2**
4. What do you think is the point of God binding Satan and then releasing him? **Rev. 20:3**
5. Who notices when we give our allegiance to Christ?

Read Revelation 20:7-10

Satan is released and successfully leads many people in another rebellion against God. There is no battle because God devours them, and deals with Satan forever. This scene is a reference from Ezekiel 38-39, where Gog and Magog refer to the gathering of evil nations against God. God dispenses judgment, which is a mercy to His people by removing sin and evil from the world. This story of judgment is surrounded by the promises of the New Covenant (Ezek. 36-37) and the vision of the heavenly Temple that will pour God's healing presence into the world (Ezek. 47).

Extra Credit Research: Read Ezekiel 36-39, 47

6. What will Satan do right after his release from the Abyss? **Verse 7**
7. How does Satan try to fight against God in this war?
8. What is unique about the place where the people of God gathered? **Verse 9**

- 9.** How did God defeat the armies of Satan? **Verse 9**
- 10.** What is the final destination of Satan, the beast, and the false prophet? **Verse 10**
- 11.** What can we do to keep from being deceived by Satan? **2 Timothy 3:16-17, 1 John 4:1-6, Col. 2:6-8**

Read Revelation 20:11-15

Standing before the great white throne are the resurrected dead, who were not saved. God's justice will be done, and it will be terrifying.

- 12.** According to **Rev. 20:11** and **II Peter 3:7, 10-13**, what happens to the universe and earth after the millennial kingdom's end, and Satan's final defeat? Why do you think this will take place?
- 13.** Who is judging the people? See **John 5:22-29** and **2 Timothy 4:1**.
- 14.** On what basis will people be judged at the end of time? **Rom. 6:23, Eph. 2:1-10**
- 15.** How does God respond to the death of the wicked?
See **Ezekiel 33:11**, and **2 Peter 3:9**.
- 16.** What happens to those whose names are not found in the Book of Life? **Verse 15**
- 17.** How does a person get their name recorded in the Book of Life? **Ephesians 2:8-9**

The matters in this chapter have eternal consequences for ourselves, the people we love, and our neighbors.

- 18.** Who needs to hear the good news of Jesus in your life?
- 19.** Are you willing to share with them? Are you willing to take steps towards sharing with them?

End the evening praying ...

- ✓ for those who have not experienced God's forgiveness, &
- ✓ to meet the needs of your group and community.