

Revelation 20:1-10

The 1000 year reign of God's people

Reflection Questions

1. Recap Revelation chapters 12-13. What are the typical activities of the devil (chapter 12), and his two assistants- the beast of empire and the beast of false religion chapter (13.1-10 & 11-18)?

2. As we think about the picture of evil presented in Revelation- the murderous devil, the beast of totalitarian empire and the prophet of false religion- it is tempting to be discouraged. However, throughout John's vision he is given great encouragement. The people of God are presented as enduring and victorious.

Read Revelation 20.1-10.

(I) in what ways is the activity of the evil one limited by God?

(II) in what ways are the people of God enduring and victorious?

3. We take the view that the 1000 years (20.2, 4) is a symbolic figure, rather than a literal 1000 years. This reading fits with the highly symbolic nature of the book of Revelation.

(I) What event begins this time period (see 20.5)?

(II) What event ends it (see 20.6)?

(III) Where do we live in relation to this time period?

4. Between Christ's resurrection on that first Easter Sunday and the punishment of all evil in the lake of fire, the people of God experience two extremes. Our spirits have been made alive and are reigning with Christ, but our bodies may suffer for our witness.

(I) How do you see these two extremes in the life of the church today?

(II) What is encouraging about the idea that we are spiritually alive and reigning?