

Bible Study Notes

Wednesday, October 11th, 2017 - Bible Study Night Before Last Great Day

Gog And Magog - Last Great Day Meaning

We started the Bible study by reading the last section of Mystery of the Ages. That's what the Last Great Day is all about! The 7,000-year plan is over, and the rest of eternity lies ahead! It's just the beginning.

Rev. 20:5, 7-9

The Last Great Day pictures the time period after the 1,000-year millennium. The first thing that occurs is the "Gog and Magog Rebellion" against the "beloved city" of New Jerusalem which will exist during the millennium.

Gen. 10:1-2

One of the sons of Japheth was "Magog."

Ezek. 38:1-3, 6, 8

Dr. Hoeh said that these verses have a dual application - both before and after the millennium. This is all about the Japhetic people - Russia, Asia, etc. God is going to restore Israel before the millennium. The restoration will carry on throughout the millennium.

Ezek. 39:22-29

This is why these passages apply to the time just before the millennium. God will call and work with the modern descendants of Israel at the end of this age (Days of Trumpets and Atonement) in order to produce the first generation of the World Tomorrow - Bible prophecy has much to say about the restoration of Israel. The descendants of "Gog and Magog" apparently will try to attack and overrun the descendants of Israel at that time.

Ezek. 38:8-12

These people are going to be led by Satan. The Gog and Magog rebellion will come against those who live in "unwalled villages," are at rest and dwelling safely - the restored Israel.

Zech. 2:4-5; 9:8-10

Zechariah is describing the same conditions found in Ezekiel 38 - a land of "unwalled villages." Zechariah 9 tells us that the Messiah will protect Israel during the World Tomorrow, especially Jerusalem. Israel won't need any human military defenses at that time because Jesus Christ will defend them!

Ezek. 38:17, 22; 39:1-2, 6, 8-15

God is going to destroy this pre-millennial rebellion with fire and brimstone. Only 1/6th of the population of Gog and Magog will remain. Their weapons will be used for firewood for seven years. It will take seven months to bury the dead bodies of Gog and Magog. After these seven months, employees will be hired to seek and find any dead bodies that may still remain, in order to bury them.

Rev. 20:7-10

With Ezekiel 38 and 39 in mind, we now return to the account in Revelation 20. Notice how FAST people will turn away from God and turn to Satan, after Satan is released from his prison. Satan can RAPIDLY bring people to rebellion (consider what happened to the Worldwide Church of God after the death of Herbert W. Armstrong). In Ezekiel 38, it said that “an evil thought” came into the minds of Gog and Magog. Satan is the source of such thoughts (Eph. 2:2-4). At the end of this post-millennial rebellion, after it has been put down, Satan will be cast into the lake of fire and receive his final fate. This will put an end to Satan’s influence over God’s creation. On the Day of Atonement, Satan was chained for 1,000 years. After Gog and Magog, Satan will be cast into the lake of fire.

When the Bible says that “the beast and false prophet” are to be cast into the lake of fire BEFORE the millennium begins (Rev. 19:19-20), it really seems to mean “the beast POWER” (Dan. 7:11) and “the beast RELIGION” (Rev. 17). The final human leaders of the beast power and religion will have the evil nature of Hitler, Stalin and Judas, and will be led by Satan. God knows whether they’ll be given a chance for salvation in the Great White Throne period or not. But, the beast power and its false religion will be totally destroyed BEFORE the millennium begins, and Satan will be put into the lake of fire AFTER the millennium. This will erase Satan’s dominion over humanity forever. “Great Babylon” - Satan’s kingdom (Rev. 9:11; 13:2) - will cease to exist.

[Matt. 25:31-46](#)

This passage is not talking about the saints of the first resurrection, who will already have been resurrected. This is talking about the nations that are going to exist during and after the millennium. Christ will separate these people according to how they treat others (see Matt. 7:12). When verse 41 refers to “everlasting” fire, it means “supernatural.” When verse 46 refers to “everlasting punishment” it means eternal death.

[Rev. 20:10](#)

Satan is going to receive the same punishment and fate as his kingdom - “Babylon.” Satan is the one behind the scenes, hidden. He’s good at not showing himself, hiding the fact that he’s the one behind the kingdoms of this world. He gets into something but makes it seem as if he’s not involved.

Some have thought that Satan will not be destroyed, but perhaps be imprisoned in some black hole in outer space - restrained forever, tormented forever (because he, of and by himself, is supremely unhappy). We will find out in due time. Perhaps he will be destroyed, perhaps he will not, since spirit cannot be destroyed. It has also been noted that the Word (Jesus) was made flesh, became a human being and died. Therefore, it is possible that Satan could be converted into flesh and destroyed. Several Scriptures seem to indicate this. Only God and Christ know for certain what Satan’s ultimate fate will be.

[Rev. 20:11-15](#)

The Great White Throne judgment will take place AFTER Satan had been put into the lake of fire. All human beings who ever lived and died will come to life again in a resurrection (1 Cor. 15:22). Those who were never called during the 6,000 years will be given their FIRST opportunity for salvation after the millennium (Rev. 20:5).

They will all be judged guilty of sin, for all have sinned (Rom. 3:23 5:12). Unless they repent of their sins, they will face eternal punishment (death) in the lake of fire. Most likely, they will come to loathe their sins and be broken in sincere repentance. Then they’ll learn that Jesus Christ, the Passover Lamb of God, has paid the penalty of their sins! That will be the

best news they could possibly hear. The Being in the Godhead called “The Word” divested Himself of His glory and became a human being. He lived a perfect life and was killed by His own creation as the Passover Lamb. Since He was the Creator of all that exists, His one life was worth more than all the human lives that have ever existed. His one sacrifice is sufficient payment (legally, in God’s eyes) for all of the human sins that have ever been committed, when repented of. These resurrected mortals will be given the opportunity to accept Jesus Christ’s sacrifice, overcome the sins which occurred during their first human lifetime and have the chance to qualify for eternal life as members of God’s Family, just as the saints of the first resurrection had before them, and those who were made immortal during the millennium. This process may take a long time - to resurrect and work with all human beings who ever lived during the 6,000 year period! One time at Ambassador College Mr. Armstrong stated, before the Last Great Day, “Last year I didn’t preach the 100-year period, but this year I am going to.” There has been some uncertainty about that.

After the Great White Throne Judgment, the Bible does not reveal much. We need to be content with what God has revealed: Christ’s Kingdom will continue to expand and increase forever (Isa. 9:7). We will bring LIFE to the billions of now dead planets and will beautify the entire universe, just as the Earth is going to become a utopia during the millennium (see Mr. Armstrong’s books, “Mystery of the Ages” and “The Incredible Human Potential” for more on this). The end of the Holy Day plan of salvation is just the beginning! Earth will become Universe Headquarters, with God and Christ reigning supreme.

John 6:44-45

Notice that right now, only a very few in this age have been “predestined” and “called” to salvation (Rom. 8:28-30). Most human beings are “cut off” from God right now. But - verse 45 - ALL will be taught of God! There is an implied “eventually” inserted in there. Only a few now, but everyone later. This is pictured by the Holy Day plan of salvation for all who have ever lived!

John 12:47-50

The people who are not being judged now will be judged later by the words that Christ spoke at His first coming. In fact, Jesus IS “The Word of God” and the entire Bible is His Word (Heb. 4:12; Rev. 1:16)! We in the Church are being judged today by the same Word of God (1 Pet. 4:17). God and Christ always speak the same thing (Mal. 4:6; Heb. 13:8). Either one will give you exactly the same truth.

Matt. 10:14-15; 11:20-24; 12:36-42

“Judgment Day” - the Last Great Day period. These sets of scriptures point toward a future time of judgment when people of many different generations will be judged by Jesus Christ. The people of Nineveh and the Queen of Sheba will condemn the people of Jesus’ day because of their response to the Word of God which they heard during their first human lifetime.

Acts 24:14-15

There will be a resurrection of the dead, Paul said, of both the just and the unjust.

Rev. 20:13-15

This time of judgment is what the Last Great Day is all about. People will be resurrected to mortal life. They will be worked with. If they refuse, they will simply be put to death a second time, this time forever. This is a very merciful end, compared to the false teachings of many religions. The uncalled of this world, and those who have died uncalled, are neither

saved nor lost. Their fate is yet to be determined. All people will learn that their previous beliefs were wrong (Jer. 16:19), that they were deceived (Rev. 12:9) and will have to be re-educated in the ways of the true Church of God, as we are doing today.