66-Revelation – 23-Transcript

welcome back to Wednesday night Bible study tonight were in Revelation chapter 20 and we just saw last week the triumph of Jesus Christ at his return and the question of this rebellion in chapter 20 we're going to see the imprisonment of Satan and the triumph of the saints let's begin with the word of Prayer our Heavenly Father we come before you and just thank you so much God for the precious gift that you gave to Jesus Christ for him to give to us so that we could understand and foresee what is going to take place on this earth very soon

we thank you so much Father for your graciousness for your kindness for your mercy we pray father for more of your mercy this evening the equate that you'll help us to better understand your word and that in this depth of understanding you will deepen our conviction deepen our faith just deepen our love for you for Christ and for one another we thank you Bullock and we ask this in Jesus Holy Name Amen so let's uh get straight into the text revelation chapter 20 and it begins in verse 1 where John says that he saw an angel come down from heaven having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand so he's definitely a being on a mission he's got this key to the bottomless pit which was opened earlier and the demonic forces came out but now he's going back to open it up and this time he has a great chain in his hand for a purpose and this defined the devil and many people believe that God is in a struggle with the devil nowhere in the book of Revelation do we get the sense that God is in a struggle

God is on his throne there's peace in heaven God is being glorified Satan is most certainly in a struggle but when when it's time now to bring Satan's misery to an end is struggle to an end God sends a mighty angel and the angel takes care

the devil there's no contest between God and the devil as many assumed so the angel comes down with this great chain in his hand and he laid hold on the dragon that old serpent john writes that he's the old serpent the ancient serpent which is the devil and saint Satan and bound him a thousand years so he's bound for a thousand years now this reference to the old serpent is going all the way back to Genesis chapter 3 that the serpent that was in the Garden of Eden and that that deceived our forefather and and Eve I'm sorry deceived Eve and triumphed over our forefather this is the ancient serpent that he is referring to and so he bound him and it says in verse 3 cast him into the bottomless pit and shut him up and set a seal upon him that he should deceive the nation's No More and this is going all the way back now to the first seal that we saw in Revelation 6 when this white horse this rider on a white horse went out conquering and to conquer and he was a deceiver and so this deception this blanket of deception has been covering all the nations and all the nations have gone mad and their gall they've all fully invested in this Babylonian system whether they're Kings or merchants great mighty billionaires they've all bought in to this this deception that has spread all over the world and so there is this global collusion with the devil and it's through deception and now he the devil is bound up here we see in

chapter 20 so that he can deceive the nation's No More that that is what he does he's the adversary but he's the deceiver and that what what the deceiver does is deceive and so his whole existence is around deception he says I be like the Most High and so he wants all the world to worship him and he has been working through as we've been reading through that self political beast as well as this religious beast to fool the world into worshipping him because he will be like the Most High and so now this mighty angel binds him and imprisons him in this pit for a thousand years so that he can deceive the nation's No More until the thousand years should be fulfilled so we get a sense here that there is this countdown that he is when he's bound that the clock is set and he's to be bound for a thousand years and then notice what the text says it says after that he must be loosed a little season so there's a little season that he's allowed to be loosed so he's bound for a thousand years the clock is ticking and he's a deceiver so there's no deception for a thousand years and then when the thousand years is fulfilled he's released and the scripture says it's necessary and so we'll talk about why it's necessary as we come further down in the text but but just note that the existence of the devil on earth interacting with mankind is necessary it was necessary in the Garden of Eden and it has been necessary ever since and it will be necessary right up until the marriage of Jesus Christ right up until the end of though as we see the end of this chapter the final judgment it's necessary and it says here and I saw Thrones so so John is saying look this

is what I saw I saw Thrones and they sat upon them so Satan has been bound and now John says he sees Thrones and 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 this really is the point so right at the beginning when we began in Revelation 1 verse 1 it opened with John writing the revelation of Jesus Christ which God gave unto him to show unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass and so the purpose of the revelation is for us to understand all these things that are going to happen but to actually see the finish line that the the beheading of the faithful Saints is not the end and so this is going to be a bloody mess it's going to be a terrifying mess but if we didn't have this revelation we would think that's the end and what a horrible end it was but because of Christ's gift to us which God gave to him he's given to us it's been coded signified but he's allowing us to decode it and understand what it says so as we come to understand what it says we see the end and we understand that Satan will be bound that the the beast and the false prophet was thrown into the lake of fire that all those who receive the mark of the beast or his name or his number worship him will receive the wrath of God but for those of us who are faithful witnesses and who washed our sins in the blood of Christ and faithfully hold to his testimony and keep the things that he has given us then the power of the beast is just a

blip it's a three-and-a-half-year blip and then it's over and so we hold on to the testimony of Christ and now John says wow look what I see I see Thrones and they sat upon and judgment was given to them and this is going to be righteous judgment but that we who are given this judgment are going to exercise the judgment of Jesus Christ all judgment the father doesn't judge all judgment has been given to Christ and Christ is going to delegate that judgment are much of that judgment to his Saints and so judgment was given he says this is just so inspiring I saw Thrones so so he sees these Thrones he says I saw Thrones and judgment was given unto them and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded why were they beheaded for the witness of Jesus and for the word of God so this is why they were beheaded they held on to the witness of Jesus and they taught the Word of God and which had not worshipped the Beast the whole world is going after the Beast they refused neither His image neither had received his mark upon their foreheads or in their hands and they they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years now notice again chapter 1 when when John opens up the revelation to us he says I John who also am your brother I'm also your brother so I'm a prophet and I've received this revelation but let me tell you I'm also your brother and not just your brother I'm your companion in tribulation so I'm walking the talk here I am suffering in tribulation for the word of God and I'm encouraging you to do the same and as you know Christ is not asking us to do something that he didn't do and John is not asking us to do something that he didn't do they've

done it and so this is what this is our calling and this is what understanding the book of Revelation is all about it's about faithfulness to Christ and we have so many Christians in the lap of luxury and abundance and just sort of skipping around is isn't it lovely to know Jesus do you know the Lord brother is lovely to know Jesus they have not faced this terror and this is more than I love Jesus this is I know Jesus and he's furious and you will get your comeuppance and I am NOT going to worship the Beast I'm going to stand faithfully in Christ that's what this is about and that's why it's important for us to see the end before the whole show even begins so that we can remain faithful and john is saying that this is on your brother and I'm your companion in tribulation and in the kingdom and notice and patience of Jesus Christ the kingdom and the patience of Christ go together you can't have the kingdom without the patience because Christ is not going to act right away he's waiting and he's waiting and he's waiting and more martyrs are being added and more martyrs are being added and the Saints just have to be patient because the kingdom we possess our souls with our patience the kingdom comes with patience and that patience comes with a vision or with V vision and that's what Revelation is all about to give us the vision so that we will have the conviction and the patience so he says I'm your brother and your companion in tribulation but that's not the end of the story I'm your companion in the kingdom and the patience of Jesus Christ and I was in the isle that is called Patmos that is I was banished I was exiled there why was he in in the isle that is called Patmos

well they tried to kill him and that didn't work so then they exiled him and I think legend has it that they tried to boil him alive but he lived through that and so then they exiled him to Patmos why was he exiled notice for the word of God and for the testimony of Jesus and the Saints that are beheaded are beheaded for the Word of God and for the testimony of Jesus Christ these are the things that he says blessed are it is he who reads and they that hear the words of this prophecy so here I am claiming this blessing because I'm reading the words of this prophecy and here you are claiming this blessing because you're hearing the words of this prophecy but we don't get the blessing just by reading and hearing he goes on to say and keeps those things that are written here in so so these things that that are written there in the prophecy we have to understand them and then keep them because somebody namely the devil is going to try to take this away from us and it's going to be a struggle and Christ says blessed is he that endures them to the end it's going to be a struggle it's going to be intense but we have to hold on to the Word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ and it may very well cost us our lives but this is just the physical life it's eternal life that we are laying hold on to and so our vision is to cross the finish line and have Jesus Christ say to us well done good and faithful servant and so he's been exiled and he's suffering in tribulation because he's held on to the Word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ and he's our companion eNOS he's saying look I've gone through this you have to go through it as well and now notice when he

introduced Jesus Christ he says that the revelation toward Lord said he says the Grace and peace he's writing to the seven churches which are in Asia he says grace and peace be unto you from Jesus Christ

notice who is the faithful witness Jesus is not asking us to do something that he hasn't done and so he's asking us to be faithful witnesses and just as he says to the Apostles you have to be faithful witnesses and all of them were martyred a john they tried to martyr him but it failed so he was exiled all the martyr all of the Apostles suffered by bearing witness of Jesus Christ this is not an easy load that were carrying to be Christians it is a very heavy burden and that's why he gives us this gift of Revelation so that we get the vision and we get the conviction and he's not asking us to do something he hasn't done he's the faithful witness and he was slaughtered he was martyred you know many sages Christ was the sorry Stephen was the first Christian martyr actually Christ was the first Christian martyr for his faithfulness but notice it doesn't end there he was the faithful witness but with that he became the firstborn of the Dead so now what we're seeing in revelation 20 are the rest of the second born you could say the firstfruits the second born so Christ is the firstfruits the first of the firstfruits and then we are the firstfruits oh we come after Christ he's the firstborn of the Dead and then the faithful Christians come up next as the firstfruits so it's this combination of being a faithful witness and then the resurrection faithful witness the resurrection Christ was a faithful witness the resurrection

John was a faithful witness looking forward to the resurrection Paul was a faithful witness look forward to the resurrection all the faithful Saints looking forward to the resurrection including those that we saw in Revelation chapter 6 which will go now he says I started let me just know I don't want skip over this so he's the faithful witness he's the firstborn of the Dead and also he's the Prince of the kings of the earth so all the kingdoms of the world are going to be given to him and then he's going to give these kingdoms to us the Saints and so he is the true Prince of the kings of the world Satan wants to be this but he's going to be chained and locked up and Christ is the Earth's rightful ruler he's going to be a king over the kings and he's going to give those kingdoms to since unto him that loved us and washed us from our sins in his own blood and this is now you know here we are the evening before Passover and this is what we're going to be celebrating at Passover that Christ has washed our sins away from us in his own blood he did this for us and this second Passover that we are looking forward to so there was the original Passover and the original Exodus now there's this second Passover and the second Exodus which is going to be on a scale that's going to cause the first Exodus not to be spoken of any more it's gonna pale into insignificance compared to the second Exodus which is coming but it comes after the second Passover and so we have to claim the blood of Christ so that the wrath of Christ passes over us he is fiercely angry he is fiercely angry and then what we see as we study revelation is how angry Christ is and

this is why we have to study Revelation because if we study the Gospels yes there are moments of anger in the Gospels but he came as the suffering servant in the Gospels and he was a man on a mission mission accomplished now that the mission is accomplished the Christ that's coming is fiercely angry is fiercely angry and the same way that the Jews didn't recognize Christ because they were looking for this this conquering king and instead the suffering servant came and they didn't recognize the suffering servant well I think many of us Christians were so steeped into the Gospels that were looking for the suffering servant but it's a conquering king that's coming and he is angry and so we have to get ourselves rid of any stains of the Babylonian system get rid of it wash these stains away in the blood of Christ and be pure before him so that when he comes his wrath passes over us but this is what he's done for us and he's asking us to be a Christian is to follow Jesus Christ and so we saw in revelation 6 that white robes were given unto the market every one of them and it was said to

every one of them and it was said to them that they should rest yet for a little season until their fellow-servants also and their brethren that should be killed as they were should be fulfilled and so these things many of them were beheaded slaughtered and they're told be patient you have achieved the great honor you have in you are going to rise first and you're going to be given positions of great honor but hold on there are more saints that need to be added to this number and symbolically this is a hundred and

forty-four thousand Saints that are going to be given tremendous honor because they stood up to the Beast they stood up to Satan in this last hour and Christ Christ is going to reward those of us who are so privileged to stand through this and it's why it's so important for us to really understand the Revelation because we have false teachers out there saying if you're faithful nothing will happen to you your skin will not be touched at all and it's only the unfaithful that will suffer martyrdom and as we read revelation it's actually quite the reverse it is the faithful that get the opportunity to suffer martyrdom and then Jesus Christ reward them so profoundly and that's what John is saying that he sees and here in Luke when Christ was on earth he said he said to him well you good servant because you've been faithful in a very little just very little have you authority over ten cities so all the kingdoms of this world are going to become the kingdoms of Christ and he then is going to give these kingdoms in these cities in this authority to his Saints and this is what we are this is our focus is to reign and rule with Christ not just for a thousand years but for eternity goes on here in Daniel 7 Daniel saw this vision he said I beheld till the thrones were cast down and the Ancient of Days that said so all of this Babylonian system gets thrown down when the Ancient of Days then sits whose garment was white as snow and the hair of his head like pure wool his throne was like the fiery flame and his wheels as burning fire in verse 22 until the Ancient of Days came and judgment was given to the Saints of the Most High our God speaks with one voice all the

prophets have the same vision and so John is now seeing that the judgment was given to the Saints well this is this is not new Daniel saw this thousands of years ago and he said he saw I saw a judgment was given to the Saints oh this is real this is real we are going to exercise the judgment of God and this again is why it's so important for us to wash our sins in the blood of Christ and get rid of the Babylonian system and an Ishtar and SEM Aramis that the great and all of these the sinfulness because we don't want to end up like the Corinthians when the Corinthians dabbled in sin when they compromised when they accommodated sin they became very sophisticated and believed themselves to be more righteous than God and Paul came in and looked at the situation and just said no no no no why are you rejoicing in this you should warn you should mourn and this person that's involved in this sinfulness should be taken away from you you should deal Evon your congregation because you have to face Jesus Christ and he's angry and so get rid of all of this the 11 years deliv in your lives so that instead of facing the wrath of God you can join the wrath of God and and he can he can trust you with his judgment he can give his judgment to you and know that you will judge the way he did you know when King Saul was given judgment he was told to a slaughter keep the king of a god and instead of slaughtering the king of EA that he spared him because he thought you know if we're not successful in the future and we get captured I hope that whatever we got can kind of set a tradition here among King that we don't slaughter each other Samuel came along with the judgment of

God and he slaughtered the king he hacked him to pieces and that was the judgment at the righteous judgment of God and that's the judgment that we will render when we when we see eye to eye with Christ and Christ knows that he can trust us and he can give us his judgment and it's not going to be this sort of wild-eyed you know we're so wrathful that we just jump no it's gonna be righteous judgment we're gonna look at the crime we're gonna look at the situation and then we're gonna look at the law book we're gonna we're gonna judge according to the law book you know there was a documentary that I saw on Nurenberg and how when the Allies came Winston Churchill actually wanted just to slaughter all the Nazis and and they said no we cannot do that because then you know brutality prevails we must subject them to law and order and so and I forget that the quote exactly but it was so poetic I should have actually memorized it but it had to do with you know at this time of judgment when they had the opportunity to just unleash revenge they didn't instead the rule of law prevailed and they they went through and they itemized the crimes and then they judged according to the law and that's what we will do if we are in league with Christ we will judge according to the law if we have our own desires where we're going to not really be in compliance with the way Christ thinks so judgment is given to the Saints of the Most High and the time came that the Saints possessed the kingdom so John is just seeing in more detail more much more vivid detail what the prophet Daniel saw and he says here in Daniel 12

many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake some to everlasting life and some to shame and everlasting contempt so Daniels making it clear to us that you know what not everybody that goes to sleep rises to glory some rise to glory because they compromised because they went along with the beast power when they rise its to everlasting content so this is again why were given this vision ahead of time so that we're not gonna be offended while these things are gonna happen to us and around us and we're just gonna hold the line because we have this vision of the future coming back to Revelation chapter 20 and verse 4 he says 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 so you would have thought that was the end but it wasn't the end because Christ has the keys to the grave and which had not worshipped the beast nor his image nor his received his mark on their foreheads or in their hands they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years but the rest of the Dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished this is the first resurrection so this is really important for us to understand now that John is telling us that there is a first resurrection and it is so superior so much superior to the second resurrection and you know I hear sometimes throughout life in Christ then I hear brethren sometimes say oh they'll come up in the second resurrection oh yeah you know they don't really accept Christ now but they'll come up in the second resurrection and they say it in such a way as if to say coming up in the second

resurrection is okay you know what they're not really called now or they're not accepting their calling now they'll come up in the second resurrection everything's over everything is okay second resurrection of business fine the first resurrection is the better resurrection and everything is not fine with the second resurrection it's two to any extent possible we are praying that people accept their calling of Christ from God to Christ now because if by any means they can attain the first resurrection

that's what this life is all about the second resurrection is dicey and this kind of notion that you know the second resurrection is okay and most everybody who has been created almost everybody will be in the kingdom because you know what they'll come up in a second resurrection the Bible says no such thing

so John points out to us here that this wonderful vision of those who were faithful to Christ to the very end and even to they loved not their life into the death they come up and he sees them seated in Thrones and he sees judgment given to them and and now the perpetrators and all the wicked are brought before them for judgment that's what he says he says this is the first resurrection then after this the rest of the Dead that their resurrection comes later but there's a resurrection of the saints now and then there's a resurrection that comes after a thousand years they says this is the first resurrection and then notice what he says blessed and holy is he that has part in the first resurrection so there's he sees this first resurrection a thousand years later he sees another

resurrection and he's like oh that that second resurrection who blessed it blessed and holy is he that that is a part in the first resurrection because the second resurrection is no picnic it's it's dangerous blessed it and that's why it says at the beginning of the text we're blessed for reading revelation and the one who reads it the one who hears it and the ones that keep what's in it because the blessing is here will be in the first resurrection why is the first resurrection so blessed and why are those in the first resurrection so holy he tells us on such the second death has no power so this notion that oh they'll be in the second resurrection oh yeah they didn't accept their calling now but they weren't baptized and so they'll be in the second resurrection well you know what everybody who comes up in the second resurrection the second death has power over them that coming up in the second resurrection is no picnic and in fact it could lead to their non-existence it could lead to them going out of existence and that's what that's what death means death means you cease to exist but this the first death is just a temporary death it's asleep Christ called it asleep when he was on earth because will wake up again but the second death is it you go out of existence and and John is saying here that the second resurrection is no picnic and do all you can to be in the first resurrection because you don't want the second death having power over here and the second death has no power over the sins that come up in the first resurrection instead it says they shall be priests of God and of Christ and shall reign with him a thousand years

and that's again how the text opened that Christ washed us from our sins in his own blood and he made us kings and priests unto his God and his father and so this this is the mission is to bring Israel to God as kings and priests and so in the first resurrection this is our fate to be the priests of God and the kings for a thousand years with him now as the text opened John says he that has an ear let him hear what the Spirit says unto the churches so we have to listen to what the Spirit says to the churches he that overcomes shall not be hurt of the second death so the second death has a lot of power and it is it is terrifying but to come up in the first resurrection we don't ever have to worry about the second death that has no power over us and so this is the message to the churches get your act together get your act together D leaven your church D leaven your congregation fix what's wrong so that all the Saints in your congregation can come into the first resurrection that's the love of God and we will not be hurt by the second death now Isaiah speaks about these resurrections he says in Isaiah 26 and verse 19 the dead men shall live

Isaiah saw these that all these people are dying they're going to live together with my dead body shall they arise so Isaiah knew that he would be resurrected and he's saying the dead all these people that we see that have been slaughtered they're going to rise with me awake and sing you that dwell in the dust so that he could clearly see this resurrection awaken sing you that dwell in the dust and that's exactly what the Saints we we read the john saw this the 144,000 are like this choir praising Jesus Christ the lamb for what he has accomplished to awake and sing you that dwell in the dust for your do is as the dew of herbs and the earth shall cast out the dead so when Christ returns in flames

the earth will just cast out the dead the Saints are just gonna rise from their graves from our graves and meet Christ in the air that's what Isaiah saw this is the first. resurrection but notice Isaiah saw something else as well in verse 14 he says they are dead they shall not live they are deceased they shall not rise so there is a second death that it's not sleep it's it's going out of existence so these dead shall not rise therefore have you visited and destroyed them and made all their memory perish so Daniel saw it some will rise to glow some will rise to everlasting shame than contempt and then they'll just be thrown into the lake of fire and that's it for them but but so Daniel saw both Isaiah saw both as well now this becoming kings and priests all the way back to the Torah it is the very mission from the beginning like what Christ promised to Abraham that he would work through Israel through this nation and this nation he says you shall be unto me a kingdom of priests a kingdom of priests King priests it's going to be a ruling priesthood and a holy nation and it's going to rule over the whole earth with Christ and all nations are going to come to Christ through this nation of kings and priests these are the words which you shall speak unto the children of Israel Israel will be the nation that God will rule through and all Christians are grafted into Israel God only has

this this covenant relationship with Israel with nobody else God does not have a relationship with Gentiles Gentiles have to convert and be comes into the nation you know be converted into the nation of Israel for God to have a relationship with Israel well with anybody inside it is this nation of Israel that God will marry and that will rule over the whole earth and bring people to Christ back to Revelation now he says when the thousand years were expired Satan shall be loosed out of prison I just want to take a moment to talk about this for a moment and you know this this book is for the Saints and so we may have some people listening to this who are not baptized into Christ you know you should really pursue the baptism of Christ because this book is something that God has given to Christ for Christ to give to the Saints so I'm speaking to here an educated audience about the holy days if you don't know about the holy days go to CGI org in the search bar

just type Holy Days God you'll get a lot of educational material there but we know there are spring holidays and there are fall holy days chapter 19 where we were last week the triumphant return of Jesus Christ that is part of the fall holy day plan and it is pictured and signified by the Feast of Trumpets

that's the announcement of Christ's triumphant return then we saw this binding of the devil which is pictured by the Day of Atonement and you can compare Revelation 20 verse 4 or verses 1 to 4 with Leviticus 16 where we see the binding of the Azazel then we see the raining of the Saints for a thousand years pictured by the Feast of

Tabernacles and then the last great day what I want to call your attention to here is that Satan is bound for a thousand years and that is pictured by the Day of Atonement so he is bound for a thousand atonements the Saints rule for a thousand years but the rule of the Saints doesn't begin until trumpet our Tabernacles which is five days after atonement so there's this gap between atonement and Tabernacles there's a gap between the binding of Satan and the installment of the Saints as king priests and that gap is important that this is why the second resurrection is so dangerous because after a thousand atonements Satan is released out of his person but the thousand Tabernacles have not yet concluded and so there's this period of time that Satan has before the second resurrection so Satan is loosed out of his prison and noticed that he was bound here for a thousand years a thousand atonements and as soon as he's released what does he do he goes out to deceive the nation's that is his target as soon as he's released he says in verse it says in verse eight and he shall go out to deceive the nation's that is who he is that is what he is he's a deceiver and so as soon as he's released first order of business he's been there about a thousand years he's just been waiting for this moment because he knows he's gonna be released as soon as he's released on that thousands of tournement he's released he goes out immediately to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth and that's important for us to note as well is that when Christ returns and he crushes his enemies in in are in Armageddon he

doesn't crush the whole world people live the the armies are crushed and destroyed but the people of the nations are still there in those nations and they are they then go into the millennial rule of Christ and and the earth is repopulated from the people of these nations Satan now is released and he immediately first order of business is to go to the nations and to and to pursue them with his deceit so immediately he goes after the nations to pursue them with this deceit so there has just been this countdown all the way along he's just been counting counting counting waiting for his moment as soon as his moment guns he goes to the four quarters of the earth it says here Gog and Magog to gather them together to battle the number of whom is as the sand of the sea now gog and magog ezekiel spoke of these and this is really we could say it's the Antichrist and the land of the Antichrist and so there is this anti Christic power that continues when Satan is released and what I want to call your attention here is this deception when he goes out to deceive the world John says the number of those who go along with him is as the sand of the sea so so God promised to Abraham that he would have descendents like the sand of the sea

Satan wants the same thing and so he is so bent on on conquest that he's able to deceive so many all these people who've lived through the millennium and and seen Jesus Christ reigning on earth the Saints on earth seen the beautiful construction that has been taking place for a thousand years as soon as Satan is released the number of people that go along with him is as the sand of the sea and this is where I

take exception to people saying oh they'll be in the second resurrection everything's fine and you know what most of humanity will be in the kingdom of God the text says that when Satan is released the number of people who follow him is as the sand of the sea after a thousand years of the millennial rule of Christ that there's a huge number of billions of people is uncountable how many people go with Satan Buchan so John says blessed and holy is he that has part in the first resurrection on such the second death has no power the second death has a lot of power over these people who go along with Satan and the reason they go along with Satan I certainly believe is this deep-seated hatred of God's plan they hate what God is doing that God has chosen a a select group of a select ethnic group that he's going to work with and this gets under people's skin this was the Jewish problem and they're called it I'm not really understanding that it's not just tribe of juda it's the twelve tribes of Israel that God will be working with in this time but look at this [Music] and in these reports they don't say why they just say it because she was Jewish here on jihad watch they actually report a bit more detail and they should they explain that they explain here they were able to explain here to us that she was stabbed to death eleven times by a Muslim neighbor that she knew well the granddaughter of the victim Noah Goldfarb wrote on Facebook

20 years ago I left Paris knowing that neither my future northern that of the Jewish people is to be found there but who would have thought that I was

leaving my relatives where terrorism and cruelty would lead to such a tragedy grandmother was stabbed to death 11 times by a Muslim neighbor she knew well who made sure to set fire to her home and left us not even one object a letter a photograph to remember her by all we have are our tears and each other the two men arrested for killing an 85 year old French Jewish Holocaust survivor are expected to be charged with the equivalent of a hate crime prosecutors want the Muslim suspects to be charged with murder with an additional penalty for killing because of the victims religion 85 year old amir al null was found stabbed to death enjoy her Paris apartment investigators say one of the killers had a close relationship with null and the tomb a five-year-old Holocaust survivor and unfortunately the odd 24 years friendship in public with the victim's son is outraged and his father suspects background Jewish woman is what caused this listen everyone thinks that this was premeditated vou'll see that the Jews are now realizing it might be time for them to leave Europe there is so much anti-semitism now in Europe against the Jews where they've made their homes that they're all saying you know what let's go to Israel let's all let's all migrate back to Israel and we know from the prophecy that armies are going to surround Jerusalem that that when all the Jews are there it's like the hatred is just so deep that like let's just get rid of them once and for all and solve this Jewish problem well the problem is not Jewish the problem the problem is Jesus Christ it's not that they hate the Jews it's

that they hate what Jesus Christ has done they hate the fact that God has selected an ethnic group and that it's not them and so this is a problem and and so right before Christ returns that this hatred for this ethnic group that God has selected it boils over and they they just go at it and just want to destroy these people then Christ returns and he rules these nations with an iron rod that there's no tolerance for nonsense and so the whole and ineffective if they do not come to Jerusalem if you read Zechariah 14 if they do not come to Jerusalem on the feast days and observe the Feast of Tabernacles with this kingdom of priests then they'll have no rain they'll be cursed they will suffer and so this is the iron rod that is symbolized by an in the book of Revelation Christ is not tolerating any nonsense and so the whole world is in compliance to Christ well what we see here is deep in the heart there is still this resentment that God has chosen a specific people and Isaiah says that Israel will milk the breasts of kings that all these nations are going to come with their offerings to Israel and so deep down inside even though they've been alive for a thousand years they've they've lived with Christ they've seen the beauty and the graciousness of Christ this bitter resentment is still deep down inside and when Satan is released he's able to tap into that human vanity that says why then why not you you should be the ones and so this anti Christic sentiment rises once again and so continue where we left off then this this gog and magog ezekiel saw this in ezekiel 38 and a lot of people trying to figure out who's gog and magog and they place this battle

before christ's return but revelation tells us it comes after the Millennium and we know this if we were to read Ezekiel because in Ezekiel 37 is the vision that Ezekiel had of the valley of dry bones and that all Israel and Judah all these bones were resurrected and came back to life that that's the second resurrection Ezekiel 37 is the second resurrection and Israel will be resurrected and put in pride of place they will be part of this kingdom of priests and all the other nations are going to have to come and serve them according to the Word of God and then he's eco 37 now rolls into Ezekiel 38 with the prophecy of Gog and Magog and that matches perfectly with what we see in Revelation 20 so all these interpretations of Ezekiel 38 Gog and Magog is Russia and all this stuff it's all nonsense because this happens after the second resurrection son of man set your face against GOG and the land of Magog the chief Prince of Meshech and tubal and prophesy prophesy against him so as this anti Christic force that is gonna come up based on the deception of the devil he's released for a thousand years so again he has that he has a five year heads a five day head start at the end of the earth half a thousand atonement before the end of the thousand Tabernacles and and then the resurrection the second resurrection so he's out and so before the second resurrection even happens he's already out deceiving all the nations and so now when the people come up in the second resurrection it's not that they come up into the millennium and everything's just so wonderful the number of people who follow Satan is as the sand of the

sea and now these people come up in the second resurrection and just as it is today we Christians have to make a choice and and and many times were ostracized many times were persecuted we suffer for this choice but we make this choice to resist the devil and to follow Christ and nobody gets a free lunch here there's there's no free pass everybody has to make the same decision to turn away from the devil and to turn toward Christ and so that's why John says it's necessary that he be loosed for a little Caesar because everybody has to make the same choice do you want Christ or not or do you want that do you want your lusts because the devil is gonna feed us our lusts and many people's number of the sand of the sea are gonna go after their lusts the sort of human vanity whatwhat what they want to believe about themselves despite the love that Christ wants to bestow upon mankind now here it says continue in verse nine revelation twenty and they went up on the breadth of the earth this is amazing this is the power of the devil after a thousand years of the millennial rule of Christ they went up on the breadth of the earth and compassed the camp of the saints about so before Christ returns Jerusalem is surrounded by armies the hatred for this ethnic group is so intense that Jerusalem is surrounded by armies and they just want to destroy these people and if Christ did not cut these days short no flesh would be saved alive but for the elects sake that is Israel in this case in Judah for the elects sake Christ cuts this time short so that he can fulfill the promises that he has made to Abraham through to this ethnic group or through this ethnic group he cuts it short now a thousand

years later it's the same hatred and so these the same hatred it's the same devil it's the same lust of the people it's the same resentment that God has chosen an ethic that we people they come and they surround the camp of the Saints about and the beloved city and notice what happens now fire comes down from heaven so God God is just gonna deal with this once and for all so he says here they surround the camp of the Saints and the the Jerusalem and fire came down from God out of heaven and devoured them this is the second death and it's the number of them as the sand of the sea now notice here in Isaiah Isaiah prophesied that God will destroy in this mountain the face of the covering cast over all people and the veil that is spread over all nations

so when Christ returns the deception of the devil is lifted and people finally see what God's plan was all along they're educated they know all about Adam and Eve and and Abraham and Israel and everyone's educated the veil is now lifted but when Satan is released even though these people know the truth because of the lust and the resentment they turn to the devil and now they are there they are just dealt with once and for all

Ezekiel says that he will serve same prophecy again this is why we have to match Ezekiel with revelation that the timing is the same as Gog and Magog is after the second resurrection

I will send a fire on Magog and among them that dwell carelessly in the aisles and they shall know that I am the Lord so God is gonna deal with it once and for all now this fire from heaven is an echo of the story with Elijah Elijah and

certain you'll recall I'm sure many of you will remember that the king wanted Elijah arrested and so these these envoys went out from the king to arrest Elijah and Elijah answered and said unto them if I be a man of God let fire come down from heaven and consume you and you're 50 and fire came down from heaven and consumed him and is 50 and this one on several times until finally somebody went and just said please Elijah can you come down and acknowledge that he was the man of God and so we are dealing with God here and we're dealing with the people of God and and that's why we have to have this vision because the Beast will not be successful neither will GOG be successful after the Millenium because we're dealing with the true and the Living God not nonsense not fanciful nonsense that we just make up and put in the book that all the prophets saw and spoke the same thing from Deuteronomy here it says for the Lord your God walks in the midst of your camp to deliver you so this is the right from the Torah and to give up your enemies before you therefore shall your camp be holy that he see no unclean thing in you and turn away from you so the camp of the Saints is protected and these people come from all over the earth to destroy Jerusalem and fire just consumes them because this is the holy camp of God continuing revelation now now that they're dealt with so that's the final blow of the devil and now all humanity has made their decision we've all been faced with the Tree of Life which is Christ or the tree of the knowledge of good and evil which is the devil and all of us from Adam right down to the very last human being we've all made our choice and now Satan's purpose

is no longer it's fulfilled he's no longer useful and basically Satan is a useful a terrible terrible terrible but a useful idiot and it's over now and so God now deals with the devil and the devil that deceived them was cast in the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet were should be and shall be tormented day and night forever so that's it

Satan is now the first he was just bound because he still had a purpose and that purpose is to deal with the second resurrection to deal with those who live through the Millennium and those who come up in the second resurrection make your choice

is it God or is it the devil and then once that's done

the devil has no more purpose and he says I saw a great white throne he sees now this great white throne from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away so we know from Revelation 21 and 22 that a new God is gonna create a new heaven and a new earth so this old earth in this old heaven symbolically flees away and there was found no place for them so this is language that is borrowed from Daniel that this old earth and this old heaven there's no place for them well in Daniel 2 the the vision that Nebuchadnezzar saw when Daniels interpreted interpreting it for him he says then was the iron the clay the brass the silver and the gold this whole image of all these kingdoms through time broke into pieces together and became like the chaff of the summer threshing floors and the wind carried them away that no place was found for them so this is the language that John is borrowing and from Daniel that it's over though the rule of the devil the influence of

the devil this Old Earth and the heavens all of it is just gone so that this new heavens and this new earth comes and there's no trace not a single trace of the old world and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth and so that's a language that is echo echoing here in Revelation and John goes on to say and I saw and I saw the dead small and great stand before God so now this resurrection he sees this with the dead small and great stand before God now it's judgement time and the books were opened and another book was opened which is the book of life so the books that were opened are the books of the Bible so this library of books that all humanity has been working with these books are now opened and the book of life and so that judgment is going to be according to the law that how people have decided to live we're going to look at the books and compare their lives to what's written in the law and then there's also this other book which is the book of life and basically if there's compliance with the law then they can be in the book of life if they've rebelled against God's law then they're not going to be in the book of life and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books according to their works so this book of life again it's not new revelation is not this brand new thing it's constantly borrowing from the Old Testament and so here in Exodus in Torah yet now Moses is pleading on behalf of Israel if you will forgive their sin and if not blot me I pray out of your book which you have written so Moses understood that God had a book of life and he's pleading with God for the sake

of Israel to redeem Israel otherwise he really saw no purpose in him living he saw himself as a failure if there's no place for Israel and God answered the Lord said to Moses whosoever has sinned against me him will I blot out of my book so these people of Israel who are in the book of life God will says he will he will remove them he'll blot them out the church is Israel and so the same thing is told to the church he that overcomes the same shall be clothed with white in right white raiment and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life so our names are in the book of life but if we don't overcome Christ is saying I will blot your name out of the book of life so we have to overcome to secure our salvation we have to make our calling and election sure our names are in the book of life but Christ is saying he personally will etch the name out if we do not overcome but I will convince Ted if we do overcome he'll ensure that we stay in the book of life and we'll confess our name before his father and before the angels and so this is the question of life but does the second death have power over us and that's what that means being etched out of the book of life means the second death has prevailed over our lives and that's why we must do all we can to keep those things that are written here in Revelation and to be blessed to be part of the first resurrection because the second death has no power over us here in Daniel 12 again speaking of this book of life that Daniel saw Michael stand up the Great Prince which stands up for the children of Israel and there shall be a time of trouble such as never was since there was a nation until that time and

at that time your people shall be delivered so Israel will be delivered every one that shall be found written in the book so this again Revelation is not making up some new thing it's it's the same God that speaks from Genesis to Revelation and so God has this book this book of life and names are in it and some names are being removed right up to the end continuing revelation 20 verse 13 and the sea gave up the Dead which were in it and death and he'll delivered up the Dead which were in them and they were judged every man according to their works and now let's look at this works issue works

it did an armor of God broadcast and some person some random person I don't who yes

came in the comment section say a whole stay away from this church they believe in works they don't believe in John 3:16 and they don't answer questions I didn't even know what this person is so I just post this that excuse me the other question he says yeah why don't you believe in John 3:16 and something like that I said well no why don't you believe in salvation as a gift I said we do believe in salvation absolutely it's a gift but we also believe that you can lose your salvation all is he just went wild and he actually posted on Facebook in the comment section that joke because of John 3:16 Christ has done it all for us and that practicing murderers practicing rapists and I forgot what else he said we definitely said practicing murderers and rapists will be in the kingdom of God that gave them some scriptures to think about and I just cut off communication because works matter and we just seem that there is a book of life and Christ

Himself will personally blot us out of that book of life if we do not obey Him and so here everyone is judged according to their works so the whole whole purpose of the Holy Spirit is to enable us to do the works of God and then we can be judged according to our works because the Holy Spirit God is working in us and we're doing the work of God and God does not play favorites he does not respect he's not a respecter of persons everybody gets the same judgment and he says I know your works here to the church and so so these he says he says to John write to the seven churches which are in Asia and he tells him what to write this this is Christ personally communicating to the seven churches which are in Asia and then these seven churches are symbolic of the whole church through time and sold to the whole church here's the message in Revelation 2 verse 2 I know your works in Revelation 2 verse 5 do the first works in revelation 2:9 I know your works in Revelation 2:13 I know your works in Revelation 2:19 I know your works in Revelation 2:23 he says I will give unto every one of you according to your works in revelation 3:1 he says I know your works in Revelation 3 - he says I have not found your works perfect before God in Revelation 3:8 I know your works in Revelation 3:15 I know your works and so I hope we get it the communication to the church is clean up your act and get busy and do the works of God and don't do the works of the devil because I'm coming to judge and I will judge you according to your works so even though salvation is a gift there's a requirement that goes along with it that were called to be kings and priests and

in order to serve in that capacity we must do the work of God and these people in the end time when they're brought before God they must also face God and be judged by according to their works and so you know here we are on this side of the first resurrection we must do all we can to be in the first resurrection and Christ personal letters to the church say get busy and do them do the first works to Ephesus do your works you know make sure that your you know you're washing your sins in the blood of Christ so that we can be acceptable to him and we're doing the works of God and then in verse 14 and death and he'll were cast into the lake of fire so now that's it so the wicked are are subjected to the second death and then death is subjected to death so there's no no more death now everybody that lives after this lives eternally and death and he'll were cast into

lenka fire this is the second death so he says this is the first resurrection and no the second death has no power over overdose and now he says this is the second death and whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire and so that is quite an end a tragic end to human life that anybody who is not found in the book of life is then cast into this lake of fire so again we must do all we can to be on the right side of God to think like God to work like God to act to have the character of God now that is the end of chapter 20 it ends with the second death and that anybody who now is not in the book of life is in the lake of fire so it was in the book of life now go on to life eternal life and just a little bit of review chapter 21 in chapter 22 we did already but just to

call out a couple of verses as we conclude here I saw a new heaven and a new earth sort of old heaven and the Old Earth they fled away the first heaven and the first Earth were passed away there was no more sea and I saw the holy city New Jerusalem coming down from God out of heaven prepared as a bride adorned for her husband and so now this is the marriage of Christ and this is what everything has been moving toward and this bride is now ready for her husband and I heard a great voice out of seventh heaven saying behold the tabernacle of God is with men and he will dwell with them so God personally will dwell with us now that the world is there the earth is purified Christ has done everything now he's going to turn it over to the father and the father is going to come and dwell with us on earth and we shall be his people and God Himself will be with us be our God God will wipe away all tears from our eyes and there'll be no more death this is now eternal life everybody now lives forever and ever and ever no more death neither sorrow nor crying all of this terrible tribulation and suffering that's a thing of the past there'll be no more pain no more pain and the former things are passed away and he that sat upon the throne said behold I make all things near any seven to me right for these words are true and faithful there's a lot of words and a lot of the words are false and faithless and made-up but these words are true and faithful and he said unto me it is done I am Alpha and Omega so Christ again the holy days he is the beginning the Passover and the last great day is the end and all this has all been about Christ and what Christ is doing for

mankind and mankind marrying Christ is the beginning and the end I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of water of life freely he that overcomes shall inherit all things and I will be his God and he shall be my son and he's jumping ahead now to chapter 22 he said unto me these sayings are faithful and true again it's repeated we can really hold on to these sayings and I think as we've gone through this book of Revelation we've just seen how tightly integrated it is with the whole Word of God that these are its own 44 different authors three different continents three different languages but it's the same Holy Spirit that is inspired all of these men to speak the Word of God and because it is the same God they all spoke the same vision and John said this you know this this book of Revelation is looks like the buckle on the belt that just pulls it all together and holds it all together and he says

these sayings are faithful and true so we just have to be immersed in this and see this is reality in other words this is reality there's a lot of deception going on and if we kind of look just with our eyes and listen to the news and listen to these false prophets there's a lot of ways we can be deceived but these sayings are faithful and true and the Lord God of the Holy Prophets sent his angel to show unto his servants the things which must shortly come to pass that's really interesting it's the Lord God of the Holy Prophets so all the holy prophets spoke the same thing they all saw the same thing and the god of these prophets sent his angel to John to show us the things which must shortly be done so it's the same God and we can take all

of the prophets and the book of Revelation and put them all together and understand what's going to happen because these sayings are faithful and true behold I come quickly it you know here we are Passover is tomorrow night and after the Feast of Tabernacles it just seems so far away but Passover was coming quickly and now here it is and the Lord is coming quickly and one day we're gonna say here he is here he is blessed is he that keeps the sayings of the prophecy of this book and Satan will want us to forget this but the text opens by singing blessed is he that reads and they that hear and that is in the present continuous tense really what you should be translated blessed is he that reads and keeps reading and they that hear and keep hearing the the words of this prophecy so we have to in other words Jesus Christ wants us immersed in the book of Revelation we should be immersed in the book of Revelation and because it's the same God of all the holy prophets any other book that we study can be tied back in to the book of Revelation so we have to what did what the devil wants is for us to turn in Revelation oh that's too difficult it's too strange and why why bother that's what the devil wants what Christ wants is that we're in the book of Revelation and we never weak we've got in detail and anything that happens we're like you have us that's in the book isn't that I think that's in Chapter thirteen that's how God wants us to think he says for I testify unto every man that hears the words of the prophecy of this book so we've now heard the words of the prophecy of this book If any man shall add unto these things God shall add unto Him the plagues that

are written in this book so we have to be very careful reading it line by line going back to the Torah going back to the prophets trying to understand what it is that say because we don't want to be somebody who's adding to this and you know may God forgive me if I've said anything incorrect then that you have the ability to search the Scriptures and see are these things so because we don't want to fall into this category nor do we thought won't fall into this category and if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy God shall take away his part out of the book of life again this book of life if we're not in the book of life we don't have eternal life and people can be in the book of life and then they can be removed and so if somebody's in the book of life but they start taking away words from this prophecy God will take them out of the book of life and all these false prophets I mean don't do they not realize that we're dealing with God I don't know why words fail me running them down saying allies God and it doesn't it doesn't align with the holy prophets here we read revelation and it aligns perfectly with the holy prophets so anybody who takes anything away from this so in other words the book has to be preserved and we have to read the whole book we have to study the whole book and Christ doesn't want us messing with the book he doesn't want us just reading part and leaving out part he wants us to digest the whole thing and be immersed in the whole thing continually he which testifies these things says surely I come quickly and there's just this definitiveness about this statement there's no rewind when Christ comes it's

over and wherever we are we are and if we're ready for him and are those oil in our lamps and we're looking go out to meet him wonderful and if we're not ready for him oh well oh well there's no rewind there's no oh can we do this over sit right here surely I come quickly amen

even so come Lord Jesus we need you to come you know ready or not here he comes even so come Lord Jesus the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all amen what a great way for us to end this study of the book of Revelation is simply to say the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with us all amen now in Revelation 2 verse 11 let's just go back over that again he that has an ear let him hear what the Spirit says unto the

churches so this judgment this wrath that is coming down upon the earth the church is also subject to it and that's why Christ is saying to John write to the seven churches and tell them from me get your act together because I'm coming with fierce anger and you don't want to be the subject of my fierce anger so he that has an ear let him hear what the Spirit says into the churches and as we've been reading the book of Revelation the Spirit has been speaking to us so let's hear what the Spirit says to the churches he that overcomes shall not be hurt of the second death so the book of Revelation is all about overcoming and we need the vision in order to have the conviction to overcome and here in Chapter 12 verse 10 and I heard a loud voice saying in heaven now is come salvation and strength and the Kingdom of our God and the power of his Christ for the accuser of our brethren is cast down which

accused them before our God day and night and they overcame him how did we overcome him by the blood of the Lamb so tomorrow we're going to be observing the Passover and it's all about the blood of the Lamb and when we understand the blood of the Lamb and the love of the Lamb

this is how we overcome the devil that as powerful as the devil is and we see when he was loosed from prison after a thousand years that he goes I would need to seize the whole world all over again he's by the sand scene of the sand the sand of the sea but that's how many he successfully converts back to his way but those that overcome we don't know come him with our own intelligence you don't overcome him with our own strength we overcome him by what we're going to be observing tomorrow night with the Passover by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony understanding the blood of the Lamb he he gave His life to wash our sins away from us in his blood and when we understand that it gives us a conviction to hold on to our tests Satan is angry his slaves are angry and they hate Jesus Christ they mace they may talk about Christ but they hate him and so in that face of hatred because we understand the sacrifice of the Lamb and the blood of the Lamb we hold on to our testimony and we keep those things that are written therein and they loved not their lives unto the death it's okay we are willing he died for us we're willing to die for him it's okay we're not among those that oh no harm can come to me I must be in the place of safety otherwise God has let me down no if God requires me to give my life for him even so amen because look what he's done for me he

says that he he washed our sins away from us in his own blood and he's made us kings and priests unto God and his father so here again you see this exactly what he says here that he loved us and washed us washed our sins in his own blood so I think that's a great place for us to end this ends the study of the book of Revelation I want to spend one more week next week just going over the whole block so let's just look at the structure of the book let's do a little bit of analysis of the book but as far as the line-by-line study of the book of Revelation we conclude tonight thank you so much those of you have been with me from the very beginning going line by line here we have done it and it's not it's not such a scary book in fact it's a very inspiring book it's not such a complicated book it does make sense we don't have all the answers yet that's why Christ says blessed is he or John says inspired by Christ blessed is he who reads and keeps reading and they who hear and keep hearing because you have to stay on top of it and we it's it signified it's coded and over time allows us to decode it partially just as things develop in the world but also partially it's like God puts these hurdles and it's only those who hunger and thirst who are going to make the effort to get over the hurdles to seek the understanding it's kind of this apocalyptic literature turns away the lazy and it turns away those who are not serious but those of us who are serious we're going to struggle with it and then Christ through His grace is gonna give us answers and then as time unfolds and things begin to happen around us prophecies will begin to make sense to

us

so let's not end it here we'll come back next week we'll do a summary and an analysis of the book and then let's not end it there either and let's keep studying this but notice this he loves us and he's washed us from our sins in his own blood and with that I'll say have a wonderful most meaningful Passover service tomorrow night have a wonderful feast of unleavened bread god bless you and look forward to having another study next week as we summarize and analyze the book of