

The Wicked Remain Dead: Rev. 20 : 5, first part; Jer. 25 : 33.

Satan is Bound by a Chain of Circumstances: Rev. 20 : 3.

The Earth Lies at Rest: Jer. 4 : 23-26.

3.—EVENTS AT THE END OF THE MILLENNIUM

(Chart No. 10—Third Part)

This earth now becomes the scene of the closing events in the long conflict between Christ and Satan.

Christ, the Saints and the Holy City Descend: Rev. 21 : 2, 10; 20 : 9.

"The Beloved City" (v 9) is the heavenly—not the earthly—Jerusalem; for all earthly cities collapsed in ruins at the beginning of the Millennium (Rev. 16 : 19; Jer. 4 : 26). Up till that time, the Scriptures locate the Holy City in heaven (Gal. 4 : 26). Yet now, at the end of the Millennium, it is declared to be on earth. There is only one logical way in which a city which has been situated in heaven can be located on earth, and that is by being transported bodily thither by the power of God. And there is only one logical time for this re-location to occur—namely, at the end of the thousand years!

The Wicked Dead are Raised: Rev. 20 : 5, first part.

Satan is Loosed: Rev. 20 : 7-9.

As Satan was bound by the catching away of the righteous and the death of the wicked at the beginning of the thousand years, so now he is loosed by the resurrection of the wicked of all ages. Here again is his kingdom and again he plies his deceptions, taking up his stubborn and bitter warfare against God. Doubtless he finds it an easy task to persuade the wicked that it is by his power that they have been raised to life, and to inspire them with the hope that they may yet prevail against the Most High.

The Last Judgment: Rev. 20 : 11, 12.

Now, for the first and last time in the history of man, all who have ever lived upon this earth will stand alive before God and each other at the same moment. The godly will be safe inside the walls of the beloved city—redeemed, immortal. The ungodly will stand outside—in the devil's army—awaiting the sentence of everlasting doom. There will be no third side on which to stand.

Satan and Sinners Destroyed: Rev. 20 : 9.

The Earth Cleansed and Renewed: II Peter 3 : 10-13; Rev. 21 : 1, 5.

Conclusion From our study of the Millennium, three challenging facts emerge:

1. Each one of us will spend the Millennium in either one of two places: With Satan, on this lifeless, silent earth, or with Christ amid the joys of a sinless heaven.
2. Each one of us will be alive on the earth at the end of the Millennium, in either one of two places: With Satan, outside the Holy City, or with Christ, inside the Holy City.
3. Which place it shall be depends upon our individual decision now.

It will be too late to delay our decision until Jesus comes. The line between Christ's side and Satan's side will then be sharply and unalterably drawn. No longer will it be possible to transfer from one side to the other at will.

These are solemn thoughts, indeed. And no Bible subject brings them home to our hearts with greater force than the Millennium.

Thank God! The transfer of allegiance from Satan to Christ is still possible today. "Today, if ye will hear His voice, harden not your hearts." (Heb. 3 : 7, 8). Let us respond to this gracious invitation while there is still time.