

# The Final Revolt

## Study 21. Revelation 20:7-10

By James T. Bartsch, WordExplain.com

### A. REVOLT: The Post-Millennial, Satanically-Inspired Revolt of Gog and Magog against King Jesus and His Administration. 20:7-9a

1. When will this revolt take place? 20:7a \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ <sup>1</sup>
2. Satan will be the instigator of this revolt. Why will he be able to instigate a revolt against King Jesus? 20:7b \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ <sup>2</sup>
3. What will be Satan's objective? 20:8a \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ <sup>3</sup>
4. There are two names John used to represent the nations "in the four corners

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<sup>1</sup> 20:7 - When the thousand years are completed. This is speaking of Jesus Christ's literal, 1000-year reign upon earth. I use the term "Post-Millennial" to indicate that the time of the revolt is *after* the *Millennium*.

<sup>2</sup> 20:7 - released from his prison: During Christ's 1000-year reign upon earth, Satan will be imprisoned in a deep place called the Abyss (20:1-3), the location of which is unknown. He was imprisoned in the Abyss so he could not deceive the nations of the world during Christ's Millennial Reign. At the end of the 1000 years, however, he will be released from his temporary prison and will be given access to the nations of the earth once again.

<sup>3</sup> 20:8 - to deceive the nations: Satan's favorite tactic, from the very beginning of human history, has been to deceive human beings. He succeeded in deceiving Eve, a woman who had no sin nature to cloud her perception (Gen. 3:1-6, cf. 1 Timothy 2:14). And he will be able to deceive multitudes who have lived for centuries under the beneficent rule of the wisest and fairest ruler in the history of earth. This seems unimaginable, but, sadly, it is true. Satan's most potent weapon has been, is, and will, in the future, be deception. People who are deceived are unaware they have been deceived.

That raises a significant question. How can millions, if not billions of people who have lived under the best conditions known to man since the Garden of Eden, be duped into revolting against the good, but powerful King? The explanation is that only those who are believers in Jesus will be left alive to enter into Christ's Millennial Kingdom after His Second Coming in Power (Zech. 14: 1-15; Matt. 24:27-31; 2 Thess. 1:6-9; 2:8; Rev. 19:11-21) and after His judgment of all survivors of the Tribulation (Ezek. 20:33-38; Joel 3:1-17; Matt. 25:1-30; 31-46). Those believers in Jesus who survive the Tribulation and the ensuing Judgments will be left alive in their natural bodies to repopulate the earth through their descendants. Some of these descendants will place their faith in Jesus as the King. Others, however, will be outwardly subservient, but inwardly rebellious. It will be this latter group of people that Satan will succeed in deceiving to revolt against the King at the end of His 1000-year reign. God permits those who reject the truth to be deceived (2 Thess. 2:9-12).

- of the earth.” What are they? 20:8b \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.<sup>4</sup>
5. For what purpose will Satan gather the nations from the four corners of the earth? 20:8c \_\_\_\_\_<sup>5</sup>
  6. How many humans, deceived by Satan, will participate in the war against King Jesus and His administration? 20:8d \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  7. Where will the hordes of enemy combatants emerge? 20:9a \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  8. What will they surround? 20:9b The \_\_\_\_\_ of the saints and the \_\_\_\_\_.
    - a. The “camp” of the saints seems to refer to the camp of the armies of Christ.
    - b. What city does John refer to? \_\_\_\_\_

## B. DESTRUCTION. 20:9b

1. Will this battle even be fought? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What will happen to end the battle before it will even begin? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. This judgment may seem to be too harsh and severe to some who read this text. From God’s point of view, however, the participants in this attempted coup d’état were beyond redemption. They revolted against King Jesus because their hearts were never with Him in the first place. Granted the opportunity to rebel, and willing to trust Satan instead of Jesus, their evil hearts hardened against Jesus and they were willing to kill Him and all His followers to gain their own independence. They would next face Jesus in  
\_\_\_\_\_

<sup>4</sup> 20:8 - Gog and Magog: In Ezekiel 38:2, Gog is a ruler, and Magog is the land over which he rules. In Ezek. 39:1, Gog is the prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal. God is against God. In Ezek. 39:6, Magog appears to be a country or region. In Rev. 20:8 it does not appear that Gog and Magog are identical to the Gog and Magog of Ezekiel. In Revelation Gog and Magog are identified with “the four corners of the earth,” not a specific ruler and region. So here Gog and Magog appear to describe the enemies of the Messiah, of Israel, and of those who choose to identify themselves as Christ’s followers.

<sup>5</sup> 20:8 - for the war: This particular war is not to be identified with the “Battle of Armageddon” (Rev. 16:16). This war is called “the war” because, most likely, it is the ultimate and final war in the history of mankind. It, like the “Battle of Armageddon,” will fail in its objective, which is to overthrow God and His King.

person at the final, “Great White Throne” Judgment, described in Rev. 20:11-15).

### C. DOOM: What will become of the Unholy Trinity? 20:10

1. What happened to the Devil, who had deceived all these hordes of people?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Who will have already been there for a thousand years? <sup>6</sup>
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_
3. This is the doom of the “Unholy Trinity.” Satan attempted to counterfeit God. The “Beast” (World Ruler) had attempted to counterfeit Jesus Christ as the Antichrist. And the False Prophet had attempted to counterfeit the Holy Spirit.
  - a. What was their doom? \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. How long would it last? \_\_\_\_\_

### D. PAUSE TO REFLECT

1. How long had these rebels lived under Christ’s reign?
2. What kind of existence had they experienced?
3. What induced them to revolt against His reign?
4. What did they hope to gain?
5. What does this prophecy teach you about human nature?
6. Do you think God was too severe on the human rebels?

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<sup>6</sup> 20:10 - where the beast and false prophet are also: These two had already been cast alive into “the lake of fire which burns with brimstone” at the Second Coming of Christ (Rev. 19:20), which had taken place prior to His 1,000 year reign upon Earth (Rev. 20:1-6). But a thousand years later, they still were existing in this terrible place. This demonstrates that the final doom of unrepentant man will continue forever. The reader is urged to make his or her peace with God through Jesus, who is the only way to God (John 3:36; 14:6).

7. Do you think God was too severe on the Devil, the Beast, and the False Prophet?
8. Why do many attempt to explain away the literalness of this event and its outcome?

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