



## Today's Message

Date: August 24, 2014  
Speaker: Pastor Steven Thomas  
Title: ***Chained, Shut Up, and Sealed for 1,000 Years***

Text: Revelation 20:1–3 (ESV)

<sup>1</sup> Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, holding in his hand the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain. <sup>2</sup> And he seized the dragon, that ancient serpent, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years, <sup>3</sup> and threw him into the pit, and shut it and sealed it over him, so that he might not deceive the nations any longer, until the thousand years were ended. After that he must be released for a little while.

Introduction: Revelation 20 is one of the most controversial chapters in the history of biblical interpretation. In the first seven verses we find six references to a kingdom that lasts a thousand years. We call this kingdom the “millennium” (a word that means “a thousand years”). There are three broad interpretations of the millennium:

Premillennialism—Christ returns *before* the millennium

Postmillennialism—Christ returns *after* the millennium

Amillennialism—the millennium is *symbolic* of the church

The first of these best fits the details of Revelation 20 (and the rest of Scripture). In today's text, we learn that Satan will be bound during the millennium, a fact that carries several implications for Christians today.

**Today's take-home truth: When Christ returns Satan, the great deceiver, will be securely bound for 1,000 years.**

- I. Be alert because Satan is real.**
  
- II. Trust God's word because Satan is the great deceiver.**
  
- III. Do not give in to fear because even Satan serves God's purposes.**
  
- IV. Persevere in hope because Satan's doom is sure.**
  
- V. Trust Christ because the ultimate problem is not Satan—it is the depravity of the human heart.**