

"On the Way" 365 Bible Reading Plan

Revelation 20

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This chapter has been both a source of comfort for some and a source of confusion for others. The comfort and confirmation are to those who believe the Bible is to be read and understood in the context of its writing. It is a source of confusion for those who take the subject of prophecy and the entire study of the last things, called eschatology, as allegory and something to be spiritualized. Those who believe that God is finished with Israel and believe that because the leadership rejected Jesus as the Messiah 2000 years ago God has cast off the people called Israel and replaced Israel and all the promises made to them with the church; predominately Gentile. Those who believe this teaching believe that the church is now the recipient of all the promises made to Abraham and that the national and land promises, along with the Kingdom promises to King David are not spiritualized to the church. They believe there will be no literal, physical kingdom on the earth, certainly not for a thousand years. The reality is if you believe that then you must allegorize between a fourth to a third of what the Bible teaches. I cannot even go into the major problems this causes with God keeping His word to Abraham, David, and all the

patriarchs and how that affects our salvation today. That has been covered in previous podcasts. This is called "amillennialism" which means "a" no, mil, 1000, or not thousand-year reign physically, literally on the earth. I believe it is a grave error in theology, eschatology, and in the basic interpretation of the Bible called "hermeneutics."

The term "*thousand years*" is mentioned in five of the fifteen verses in Revelation twenty. This equals one-third of all the verses in the entire chapter that have the phrase *thousand years* mentioned. In order to be consistent, those who believe this do not take the book of Revelation as the key to the future, but rather simply a book of signs and symbols that deal with spiritual warfare and of things that were fulfilled before our present time in a spiritual way. This creates a non-sensical form of discovering the truth of the Bible. A third of the Bible is simply looked upon in the same way that John Bunyan wrote "*Pilgrims Progress*," which is a great allegory, the Bible is not a giant allegory, it contains that element of speech, but is not the proper method of interpreting the greatest book in the Bible on Prophecy.

Prayer and Action Steps

Dear Lord in heaven, thank you for giving us a sure word of prophecy in the Book of Revelation. May we learn the truth from its pages and look forward to the fulfillment of those as written in the days ahead.

Amen