A BIBLE STUDY WORKBOOK

Revelation 20

CHAPTER TWENTY

The King Reigns from Jerusalem

A guided walk through the Millennium, the resurrections, the Great White Throne, and the Book of Life — with insights from David Guzik and Amir Tsarfati.

OBSERVE · INTERPRET · COMPARE · APPLY

SECTION ONE

Answering the Workbook Questions

Capture the Scene *What do I see?*

1 How long will Satan be bound in the abyss?

REVELATION 20:2-3 (NASB1995)

“And he laid hold of the dragon, the serpent of old, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years; and he threw him into the abyss, and shut it and sealed it over him, so that he would not deceive the nations any longer, until the thousand years were completed; after these things he must be released for a short time.”

ANSWER For 1,000 years. An angel chains Satan up, throws him into the abyss, and locks it. He can’t trick anyone during that time. After the 1,000 years, he gets let out for a short while.

Insights from David Guzik

Guzik says this is real – Satan is truly locked up, not just limited. God wants to show what the world looks like without him around.

Insights from Amir Tsarfati

Tsarfati says this is a literal 1,000 years of peace, just like the prophets promised.

2 How long will the tribulation saints reign with Christ?

REVELATION 20:4 (NASB1995)

"Then I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was given to them. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony of Jesus and because of the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received the mark on their forehead and on their hand; and they came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years."

ANSWER 1,000 years. The believers who were killed during the Tribulation come back to life and rule with Jesus for the whole 1,000 years.

Insights from David Guzik

Guzik says this is the "first resurrection." The martyrs get to reign as priests and judges with Jesus.

Insights from Amir Tsarfati

Tsarfati says this is their reward for staying faithful. They rule from Jerusalem in a real, earthly kingdom.

3 How many years will pass before the rest of the dead are raised?

REVELATION 20:5 (NASB1995)

"The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were completed. This is the first resurrection."

ANSWER 1,000 years. The unbelievers stay dead until the 1,000 years are over. Then they are raised – but only for judgment.

Insights from David Guzik

Guzik says the "rest of the dead" are the unsaved. They're raised at the end of the millennium for the Great White Throne judgment.

Insights from Amir Tsarfati

Tsarfati says this shows two separate resurrections – one for the saved, one for the lost – just like Daniel 12 said.

Analyze the Message *What does it mean?*

1 What is meant by 1,000 years?

ANSWER A real 1,000 years. It's the time when Jesus rules on earth in peace. The Bible calls it the Millennium.

Insights from David Guzik

Guzik says take it literally. The Bible says "1,000 years" six times in this chapter – it means what it says.

Insights from Amir Tsarfati

Tsarfati says it's a real time period that fulfills Old Testament promises.

2 Who are the "souls who had been beheaded" (verse 4)?

ANSWER They're the people who became believers during the Tribulation and got killed for their faith. They refused to take the mark of the beast or worship him, so they were executed.

Insights from David Guzik

Guzik connects them to Revelation 6:9-11 – the martyrs who cried out under the altar. Now they come back to life and reign.

Insights from Amir Tsarfati

Tsarfati says these are end-times believers who stood strong through terrible persecution.

3 Describe the order of the first resurrection as you understand it (1 Corinthians 15:20-28).

1 CORINTHIANS 15:20-28 (NASB1995)

"But now Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who are asleep. For since by a man came death, by a man also came the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive. But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, after that those who are Christ's at His coming, then comes the end, when He hands over the kingdom to the God and Father, when He has abolished all rule and all authority and power. For He must reign until He has put all His enemies under His feet. The last enemy that will be abolished is death. For HE HAS PUT ALL THINGS IN SUBJECTION UNDER HIS FEET. But when He says, 'All things are put in subjection,' it is evident that He is excepted who put all things in subjection to Him. When all things are subjected to Him, then the Son Himself also will be subjected to the One who subjected all things to Him, so that God may be all in all."

ANSWER The order is: (1) Jesus first – He already rose from the dead. (2) Next, His church at the rapture. (3) Then the Old Testament saints and Tribulation saints when Jesus returns. (4) At the end of the 1,000 years, death itself is destroyed.

Insights from David Guzik

Guzik says the resurrection happens in stages, ending with Jesus handing the kingdom back to the Father.

Insights from Amir Tsarfati

Tsarfati explains it the same way – Jesus first, then the church, then the Tribulation believers.

4 What is the city that God loves (Revelation 20:9)?

REVELATION 20:9 (NASB1995)

"And they came up on the broad plain of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city, and fire came down from heaven and devoured them."

ANSWER Jerusalem. God calls it "the beloved city." It's the capital during the 1,000-year kingdom.

Insights from David Guzik

Guzik says Jerusalem is the capital of the earth during the Millennium, and this is where the final rebellion happens.

Insights from Amir Tsarfati

Tsarfati says Jerusalem is God's chosen city – the center of worship during Christ's reign.

5 What is the basis of God's judgment at the Great White Throne?

REVELATION 20:12-13 (NASB1995)

"And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and books were opened; and another book was opened, which is the book of life; and the dead were judged from the things which were written in the books, according to their deeds. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead which were in them; and they were judged, each one of them according to their deeds."

ANSWER God opens two sets of books. One set has a record of every deed people did. The other is the Book of Life. People are judged by their deeds, but the real question is: is their name in the Book of Life? If not, they're thrown into the lake of fire.

Insights from David Guzik

Guzik says the deeds prove people are guilty. But nobody is saved by works – salvation is only by God's grace through Jesus.

Insights from Amir Tsarfati

Tsarfati says this shows God's justice. No one can earn salvation; it comes only by trusting in Christ.

6 Describe, to the best of your ability, the meaning of Hades.

ANSWER Hades is a temporary holding place for people who died without Jesus. They're conscious and in torment there, waiting for the final judgment. It's not the final destination – the lake of fire is.

Insights from David Guzik

Guzik says Hades is the same as the Old Testament "Sheol." Luke 16 shows it has a side of torment for the lost.

Insights from Amir Tsarfati

Tsarfati says people in Hades are conscious and suffering while they wait for judgment day.

7 Do you believe that the 1,000 years are literal or figurative?

ANSWER Literal. The Bible says "1,000 years" six times in this one chapter. When Scripture repeats something that much, it means it.

Insights from David Guzik

Guzik says the literal, premillennial view fits the Bible best.

Insights from Amir Tsarfati

Tsarfati takes it literally and rejects views that turn it into a symbol.

8 If you see them as figurative, what, then, do they represent?

ANSWER Not applicable, since I take the 1,000 years literally. But some people (called amillennialists) see it as a symbol for the current church age – the time between Jesus' first and second coming.

Insights from David Guzik

Guzik explains the amillennial view treats the 1,000 years as the church age, but he disagrees with that view.

Insights from Amir Tsarfati

Tsarfati rejects the figurative view because it waters down God's promises to Israel.

9 What is the ultimate destiny of the devil?

REVELATION 20:10 (NASB1995)

"And the devil who deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are also; and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever."

ANSWER The lake of fire, forever. Satan is thrown in with the beast and the false prophet, and they will be tormented day and night for all eternity. No escape.

Insights from David Guzik

Guzik says this is eternal punishment – Satan joins the beast and false prophet who were already there.

Insights from Amir Tsarfati

Tsarfati says this is Satan's final defeat. He never gets out again.

10 On what basis are the people judged at the Great White Throne judgment?

ANSWER By their deeds – what they did while they were alive. Their works prove they rejected Christ. And since their names aren't in the Book of Life, they are condemned.

Insights from David Guzik

Guzik says the works show people are guilty sinners. The Book of Life is what matters for salvation.

Insights from Amir Tsarfati

Tsarfati says this is God's just response to a life of unbelief.

Compare with the Rest of Scripture *Is this supported elsewhere?*

1 There are three times that individuals will be thrown into the lake of fire.

a. Who will be the first occupants (19:20)?

> **REVELATION 19:20 (NASB1995)**
>
> *"And the beast was seized, and with him the false prophet who performed the signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who had received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image; these two were thrown alive into the lake of fire which burns with brimstone."*

ANSWER The beast (Antichrist) and the false prophet. They go in first, alive, when Jesus returns.

b. Who will be the next occupant (20:10)?

ANSWER Satan. He's thrown in 1,000 years later, after his short release and final rebellion.

c. Who will be the occupants after that (20:14-15)?

ANSWER Death itself, Hades, and every person whose name is not in the Book of Life. This happens at the Great White Throne judgment.

Insights from David Guzik

Guzik shows how evil is sent to the lake of fire step by step – first the two human leaders, then Satan, then death and all the lost.

Insights from Amir Tsarfati

Tsarfati explains this order as the final defeat of every enemy of God.

2 What comes out of the abyss in Revelation 9:1-3?

REVELATION 9:1-3 (NASB1995)

“Then the fifth angel sounded, and I saw a star from heaven which had fallen to the earth; and the key of the bottomless pit was given to him. He opened the bottomless pit, and smoke went up out of the pit, like the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by the smoke of the pit. Then out of the smoke came locusts upon the earth, and power was given them, as the scorpions of the earth have power.”

ANSWER Smoke pours out and darkens the sun. Then demonic locusts come out with power to hurt people, like scorpions. This happens during the Tribulation.

Insights from David Guzik

Guzik says these are demonic creatures released to torment people during the Tribulation.

Insights from Amir Tsarfati

Tsarfati says this is part of God’s judgment on the world.

3 What goes into the abyss in Revelation 20:1-3?

ANSWER Satan. He is chained, thrown in, and sealed inside for 1,000 years so he can’t deceive anyone.

Insights from David Guzik

Guzik says it’s temporary – not his final destination, but a holding cell.

Insights from Amir Tsarfati

Tsarfati says this allows the Millennium to be a time of real peace.

4 What do the following passages tell us about the Book of Life?

a. Philippians 4:3

> **PHILIPPIANS 4:3 (NASB1995)**
>
> *"Indeed, true companion, I ask you also to help these women who have shared my struggle in the cause of the gospel, together with Clement also and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the book of life."*

ANSWER Believers who serve Christ have their names written in the Book of Life. Paul knew his co-workers were in it.

b. Revelation 3:5

> **REVELATION 3:5 (NASB1995)**
>
> *"He who overcomes will thus be clothed in white garments; and I will not erase his name from the book of life, and I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels."*

ANSWER Jesus promises He will NOT erase the names of those who overcome. He will speak up for them in front of His Father.

c. Revelation 13:8

> **REVELATION 13:8 (NASB1995)**
>
> *"All who dwell on the earth will worship him, everyone whose name has not been written from the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb who has been slain."*

ANSWER People whose names are NOT in the Book will worship the beast. God wrote the names in the book before the world was even made.

d. Revelation 17:8

> **REVELATION 17:8 (NASB1995)**
>
> *"The beast that you saw was, and is not, and is about to come up out of the abyss and go to destruction. And those who dwell on the earth, whose name has not been written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, will wonder when they see the beast, that he was and is not and will come."*

ANSWER People whose names are NOT in the Book will be amazed by the beast and follow him.

e. Revelation 20:12

ANSWER The dead are judged by what's written in the books. The Book of Life decides who is saved.

f. Revelation 20:15

ANSWER If your name is NOT in the Book of Life, you are thrown into the lake of fire.

Insights from David Guzik

Guzik says the Book of Life is God's record of His people. Believers are safe and secure in it.

Insights from Amir Tsarfati

Tsarfati says everyone who accepts Christ is written in the Book.

5 **In Luke 16:19-31, Jesus tells a parable about a rich man and Lazarus. Both die, and the rich man ends up in Hades.**

a. **Describe what Hades is like.**

ANSWER A place of flames, terrible thirst, and no relief. The rich man begs for just one drop of water. It's horrible suffering that never stops.

b. **Is there consciousness in Hades? Explain.**

ANSWER Yes. The rich man is fully awake. He can see, feel pain, remember his life, worry about his family, and talk. People don't just "sleep" in Hades – they're conscious.

c. **When the rich man asks Abraham to help his five brothers to avoid Hades, what does Abraham say to the rich man?**

ANSWER Abraham says they already have Moses and the prophets (the Bible). If they won't listen to God's Word, they won't believe even if someone rises from the dead.

Insights from David Guzik

Guzik says this parable shows that once you die, your fate is sealed – there's no crossing over.

Insights from Amir Tsarfati

Tsarfati says it proves people are fully aware and suffering in Hades while they wait for judgment.

Execute *So what? How does this affect my life?*

1 **How can you be sure that your name is in the Book of Life?**

ANSWER If you've asked Jesus to be your Savior and Lord, your name is in the Book. Salvation comes by trusting in Him – not by being good enough. Once you're His, you're in.

2 **Can you point to a time in your life when you recognized that you invited Christ to become your Savior and Lord?**

ANSWER Think back to when you first trusted Jesus. Maybe at a church service, with a friend, or alone in prayer. Write down your story – it's worth remembering. If you've never done this, you can do it right now with a simple prayer: "Jesus, I know I'm a sinner. I believe You died for me and rose again. Please save me and be my Lord."

3 **What do you plan to do about your family members, friends, and neighbors who do not know Christ?**

ANSWER Pray for them by name every day. Share your story of what Jesus has done for you. Time is short – the judgment is real, and we want people we love to be in the Book of Life too.

4 **If not, why not?**

ANSWER If you're not sharing, it might be fear, feeling unprepared, or just being too busy. Ask God to help you with whatever is holding you back.

5 **If yes, what are some ways you can make opportunities arise to talk with them?**

ANSWER Build real friendships – people listen to people they trust. Share your testimony naturally. Invite them to church or a Bible study. Offer to pray when they're going through hard times. Live in a way that makes them curious about your faith.

Insights from David Guzik & Amir Tsarfati

Both teachers say the same thing: be sure of your own salvation, and then tell others while there's still time. The judgment is real, and Jesus is coming back.

SECTION TWO

Integration with the Club of Rome Discussion

Purpose of the Club of Rome (1974)

A model for managing resources and coordinating the economies of the Middle East and North Africa (called **Region 7**).

Region 7 Countries

Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey, UAE, and Yemen.

Current Fracturing & How It Connects to Revelation 20

Right now, this region is broken by war and division. The old plans for unity have fallen apart. But Revelation 20 paints a very different picture of the future. During the 1,000-year reign of Jesus, there will be true peace. The nations will come to Jerusalem to worship Him. Isaiah 19 even talks about a highway connecting Egypt, Assyria, and Israel.

The struggles we see today — oil crises, wars, broken alliances — point ahead to the judgment God is bringing. They also remind believers to stay separated from the world's failing systems and keep their eyes on Jesus, the only true King who will finally bring peace to this region and the whole earth.

THE HEART OF IT ALL

What matters most is that your name is in the *Book of Life*.