

THE THOUSAND YEARS

REVELATION 20:1-10//TODD DUGARD

MARCH 19, 2023



When God finally and completely deals with the problem of evil, I will....witness the judgment of those who authored it (20:1-3)...experience the vindication of its victims (20:4-6)...resist its ongoing deception (20:3, 8)...and enjoy freedom from it forever (20:7-10)

GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

1)How do you deal with the uncertainty of why God allows evil in the world? How does knowing that God will eventually deal with *the problem of evil* help you as you walk daily? How does that help to appease your sense of justice? Or does it?

2)In his sermon, Todd mentions that *"When God finally and completely deals with the problem of evil, (we) will...witness the judgment of those who authored it."* (v. 1-3) How confident does it make you feel to know that one angel with the power of God was able to bind Satan (the author of all evil)? How might this help you as you deal with the power of sin in your own heart? As you look at evil in the world around you?

3)Revelation 20 tells us that Satan will be bound and that the saints will reign with Christ for a thousand years. Is it hard for you to imagine a world without evil? What do you think this might look like? How will it be different on a personal and global level?

4)When God deals with the problem of sin, the victims of evil will experience a certain vindication (v.4-6). Who does this passage identify as the victims? What will their vindication look like? How does this truth impact you?

5) Todd said that *when God finally and completely deals with the problem of evil, (we) will.... resist its ongoing deception (v.3, 8)*. He then identified three ways that Satan tries to deceive us...(that) every human being is seeking: identity, destiny, and purpose—*Who am I? Where am I going? What am I doing here?*

How do we see this play out in our culture today? How do we help each other resist deception?

6)It can be hard for us to understand why God chooses to release Satan after the thousand years before finally destroying him for eternity in the “lake of fire” (Rev. 20:10). According to Ladd, this is done to demonstrate, once and for all, that sin cannot be justified as the product of unfortunate environment or circumstances, but that it is ultimately a product of an utterly rebelliousness human heart. How does this perspective of sin impact our personal responsibility? In what ways, have you experienced freedom from sin in your own life and what are your greatest obstacles to experiencing this?