

In Matthew 24:3, Jesus's disciples come to him privately and say, "Tell us, when will this happen, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?"

"Jesus answered, 'Watch out that no one deceives you.'"

Later in the same chapter, Jesus says, "But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father" (Matthew 24:36).

People have always been intrigued by the "when" questions, along with the "signs," i.e., *What are we to look for?* More than a thousand books, articles, essays, and sermons have been written about the millennium ("a thousand years") in Revelation 20. And they're all speculative, because "no one knows..." but the Father.

What God does clearly reveal to us is *who*. If you know who to look for, you needn't worry about anything else. Just fix your eyes on Jesus, and he will take care of the rest.

I. Now, about that "thousand years" – Rev. 20:1-6

- a. Literally, "a really long time," humanly speaking
- b. It's Satan's temporary holding cell, before "hell"
- c. It's the martyrs' special time to reign with Christ

II. Why on earth is Satan released? – Rev. 20:7-10

- a. Because earth is still here, and Satan's still "alive"
- b. To gather the remaining hordes, aka Gog and Magog
- c. To be deceived, mocked, devoured, and condemned

III. Judged by the Book, the books, and the book – Rev. 20:11-15

- a. The Book: God's Word (Hebrews 4:12)
- b. The books: people's words, secrets, motives, deeds
- c. The book of life

Jesus said, "...do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven." (Luke 10:20)