Revelation 20:1-6

The Millennium

Part 2

1. Satan thrown into the abyss: verse 3
   1. The abyss is closed and sealed.
      1. Only God who authorized the closing and the sealing, can authorize the breaking of the seal and the uncovering of the abyss.
      2. 1000 years
         1. 1000 as a number
            1. Psalm 50:10

This is not a reference to exactly 1000 hills. Thousand is used as a general reference to all hills. All the cattle belong to God, even those on the 1001st hill.

The number 1000 is used for completeness. In our Revelation 20 context 1000 years means all the years. The millennium (1000 years) whatever the exact time is (2022, 2500, 2800 years) is a time in which God will accomplish what He has set out to do, through His church.

* + - * 1. Psalm 90:4 and 2 Peter 3:8

While a thousand years maybe a lengthy period of time from our perspective, from God’s perspective it is brief.

* 1. Released for a little while
     1. This “short time” is immediately after the millennium and before the final judgement.
        1. Verses 7-10 lets us know what the Devil will be doing during this short time.

1. The First Resurrection: verses 4-6
   1. Those who come to life and rule with Christ during the millennium:
      1. They sit on thrones and are given authority to execute judgment.
         1. They way the church exercises judgment can be seen in Matthew 16:16-19 and John 20:21-23.
      2. They suffer martyrdom because of their witness to Jesus.
         1. Beheaded. The Greek verb literally means “to cut off with an ax.”
         2. General sense of martyrdom:
            1. One who testifies or gives a witness.
            2. This certainly includes all Christians.
         3. Christians are willing to back up and confirm their testimony with their lives if need be.
      3. They do not worship the beat nor bear its mark.
         1. Christians have nothing to do with the beast.
         2. This beast is the one described in Revelation 13:1-10.
            1. This beast comes from the sea. It represents all earthly and human powers (government, economic, etc.)
            2. An image is made for the first, political beast by the second beast (13:14-15), which is the beast from the earth.

The second beast represents apostate Christianity.

* + - 1. Christians do not receive the mark because they do not belong to the dragon or beast.
         1. They have their own mark by which they are identified as saints of God in Christ. They are sealed on their foreheads (7:3; 9:4) with the seal of the name of the Lamb and the name of God the Father (14:1; 22:4).
  1. Two resurrections
     1. Spiritual
        1. John 5:24,25
        2. Spiritual resurrections in Paul’s epistles in the present age:
           1. Ephesians 2:1-6
           2. Colossians 3:1-4
           3. Romans 6:1-5
     2. Physical
        1. John 5:28,29
        2. Physical resurrections in Paul’s epistles at the end of the present age:
           1. 1 Corinthians 15:12-18
           2. 1 Thessalonians 4:14-16
     3. Revelation 20
        1. What is the first resurrection?
           1. What is the second?

Are they both physical?

* 1. Two deaths
     1. The second death is defined in verse 14 as the lake of fire.
        1. There is no mention of the first death in Rev. 20:1-10.
     2. John juxtaposes the first resurrection (verses 5,6) and the second death (verse 6).
        1. This relationship can be understood when we realize there is a second resurrection and a first death.
     3. The first resurrection corresponds to believers (verse 6). The second death corresponds to unbelievers (verses 6, 11)