

## **THE APOCALYPSE – A STUDY OF THE BOOK OF REVELATION**

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### ***THE GREAT WHITE THRONE JUDGEMENT***

*(Rev 20-1-15)*

#### **1. The Millennial Kingdom – 20:1-6**

**20:1-3** (Satan is cast out) –

**Revelation 20:1-3**, *“And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season.”*

**20:1-3 (Satan in the Bottomless Pit)**-- Having dealt with the beast and the false prophet, it was now the turn of the main culprit, Satan. John “saw an angel come down from heaven” indicates the chronological progression between chapters 19 and 20. This sequential event reveals the judgement of Satan. This angel held in his hand the key of the Bottomless Pit (lit. “abyss” – a deep pit with no bottom cf. 9:1, 2, 11; 11:7; 17:8). This is always used to refer to a place of temporary incarceration. This will not be the final and eternal inescapable place of punishment. The final place is the Lake of Fire.

The teaching of a place of temporary incarceration is not found only in the book of Revelation also in the book of Jude.

**Jude 1:6**, “*And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day.*” This would mostly likely refer to Genesis 6 where the Sons of God (fallen angelic beings) did not keep their original state and married the daughters of men. This precipitated the first global destruction which was by water. What happened to these wicked demons? Jude tells us that they were incarcerated by everlasting chains **until** the Day of Judgement. These fallen demonic beings possessed the men in the days of Noah and cohabitated with the women of that day and gave birth to giants who were infamous in their wickedness and demonic activities. The result was global sin and evil resulting in the first global destruction by water, the Flood (cf. Genesis 6-9).

Likewise in the last Judgement by fire, the main perpetrator, Satan, will also be incarcerated temporary for 1,000 years.

The key given to the angel signifies his assigned duty. He has the power to open it and to shut it according to the authority given to him by God.

**20:2-3** -- In his hand was also a great (mega) chain. The angel laid hold (lit. held on tightly with considerable force) of the dragon, the old serpent, the Devil, and Satan. These are his four titles or names. The usage of the 2Aorist to describe the incarceration of Satan emphasizes the finality of the action. Satan was forcibly bound (emphasis is on the act of binding – same tense as laid hold). The period of time was 1,000 years.

MacArthur observed that “Satan’s binding poses a serious difficulty for both post-millennialists and a-millennialists. A-millennialists argue that Satan is already **bound**, since, . . . they believe we are in the Millennium now (though they do not view it as one thousand literal years in length). Many post-millennialists also believe that Satan is presently **bound**, because otherwise it is difficult to see how the church could usher in the Millennium. Yet the biblical description of Satan’s activity in this present age makes it impossible to believe he has already been bound. Satan plants lying hypocrites in the church (Acts 5:3), schemes against believers (2 Cor. 2:11; Eph. 6:11), disguises himself as an angel of light to deceive people (2 Cor. 11:14), attacks believers (2 Cor. 12:7; Eph. 4:27) and must be resisted (James 4:7), hinders those in the ministry (1 Thess. 2:18), and leads believers astray (1 Tim. 5:15). A-millennialists and post-millennialists generally argue that Satan was bound at the Cross, and that his binding simply means that he can no longer deceive the nations and keep them from learning God’s truth [e.g. Anthony A. Hoekema, **The Bible and the Future** (Grand rapids: Eerdmans, 1979), 228.]”

MacArthur is right to conclude that the a-millennialists and post-millennialists have no case at all based upon the evidence from Scripture. The demonic activities were very active since the Cross and will increase during the last days (seven years of Great Tribulation) as the book of Revelation has revealed. The only appropriate and biblical understanding is to interpret the 1,000 years (millennium) as a literal 1,000 years instead of a figurative one (by both “a-“ and “post-“ millennialists).

Revelation 20:3 explains the reason for Satan’s binding. This will prevent him from deceiving the nations. He will not be found in the millennial kingdom. Deception is worse than lying. Deception spins yarns of half-truths but presented as whole-truths

to lead the person into a false conclusion. Lying is blatant and is completely false. Deception is more potent and more effective. For example what the serpent did in Genesis 3 when he said to Eve was a half truth to lead Eve into a false conclusion. **Genesis 3:4-5**, *“And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil!”*

The phrase *“ye shall not surely die”* is a direct lie. Eve did die eventually from physical death and she died spiritually immediately after Adam fell into sin.

But the next phrase *“and ye shall be as gods,”* is deception. The only God Eve knew was *“Elohim”* the capital “G” God. When the serpent used the same Hebrew word *“Elohim”* he meant the small case “g” which is rightly translated by the KJV translators as “gods”. But when Eve heard it she understood it as the capital “G” God. The serpent led Eve into sin causing her to believe she will be like the Most High if she were to eat of the forbidden fruit.

But at the end of the 1,000 year incarceration, he will be loosed for a little season. What will he do after his release? The next few verses will answer this question.

**20:4-6 (Only Believers are let in) – Revelation 20:4-6**, *“And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years. But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection. Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.”*

**20:4-5 (glorified saints)** – The glorified saints, comprising of all those who were raptured and all who participated in the First Resurrection, will be seated down on thrones making judgements. This kingly authority will be given to believers only. They will judge angels i.e. fallen angels. **1 Corinthians 6:3**, *“Know ye not that we shall judge angels? how much more things that pertain to this life?”*

John saw also the ones who died for their faith during the Great Tribulation in heaven reigning with Christ for 1,000 years. They were beheaded for the witness of Jesus and for the Word of God. Note the two reasons for their beheading, it was for the testimony of Christ and for the defense of the Faith, the very Word of God. Today’s battle lines are also on these two issues. Will you die for Jesus Christ? Will you die for the Word of God? These glorified saints did. They will be rewarded in heaven.

Who else will enter the millennium? Will there be unbelievers who will enter the millennium? If they did not then why are there unbelievers at the end of the millennium?

The three views of the millennium defined—

**POST-MILLENNIUM** -- Jesus Christ will return AFTER the 1,000 years.

**A-MILLENNIUM** -- There is no literal 1,000 years where Jesus will reign on earth. It simply refers to a long period of time. Jesus will return after this period is up. Eternity begins after His Second Coming.

**PRE-MILLENNIUM** -- Jesus will return BEFORE the literal 1,000 years begin. He will then rule on earth for 1,000 years.

Under this view there are two views.

- a. The Dispensational position
  
- b. Historic Pre-millennial position

Main difference between the two is that in the historic pre-millennial view, the NT church has replaced the nation of Israel which is also the view of the a-millennialists. This means that all the blessings and promises which God made in the Bible, especially in the Old Testament, to Israel is simply replaced by the NT church. Both views believe that there will be a 1,000 year rule of Christ on earth.

The ISSUE on the different view of the millennium IS ONE OF INTERPRETATION and it is NOT a MINOR ONE at that. There is a difference in interpretation of 4,200 verses between the pre-mill and a-mill position. This total about 10.2 % of the whole Bible OR 52.7 % of the whole New Testament OR more than ALL the New Testament Books added together except for the four gospels. [NOTE: All the books of the NT less the four gospels number 4,190 verses.]

### **THE THREE VIEWS explained in brief**

**POST-MILLENNIUM** -- 1. World gets better and better. The millennium is ushered in through the preaching of the believers. There will not be the absence of evil but it will be reduced to the barest minimum. This is achieved due to the moral and spiritual influence of the Christians who are supposed to increase in the last days. The millennial world is not too much different from the world in which we are living in today.

2. There is no literal 1,000 years of peace. The start of the millennium is unknown because like the a-mill position they also believe that the 1,000 yrs is figurative.

3. The millennium closes with the Second Coming of Christ, the resurrection of the dead and the last judgement. The rapture and the Second Coming are seen as one similar event.

**A-MILLENNIUM** -- 1. The world gets worse and worse. All, believers and unbelievers alike, will have to go through the tribulation in the last days of human history. This will finally culminate in the Second Coming of Christ and then eternity begins. [NOTE: The Historic Pre-mill. position believes in a 1,000 yr. reign on earth after which eternity begins. They see no distinction between the church and Israel. The church has replaced Israel.]

2. There is no 1,000 literal years of peace on earth. The beginning of the millennium is unknown because it is a spiritual one. Christ is said to be reigning on earth now in our hearts and in the church. It is more of a spiritual reign than a literal one.

3. The Rapture and Second Coming of Christ will be seen as one similar event. Eternity will begin with the new heaven and new earth.

**PRE-MILLENNIUM** -- 1. The world gets worse and worse. The world will usher in the reign of the Antichrist (1Jn 2:18) who will reign on earth for 7 years (Dan. 9:25-27; 2Thess. 2; Rev. 13). He takes over the world through peaceful means (Rev. 6). In the middle of the last seven years he will break his covenant with Israel and will install the abomination of desolation into the Temple of God (which will be rebuilt before the seven years of Great Tribulation begin). This will be a time of great turmoil. The earth will be severely devastated by the wrath of God. READ Rev. 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 16, 17, 18.

Your view on the beginning of the Wrath of God will determine the view of the Rapture, whether it be Pre-tribulation, Mid-tribulation or post-tribulation rapture. The rapture view is understood in relation to the Tribulation of the last days, whereas the millennium is in relation to the Return of Jesus Christ with his saints and angels to fight the Antichrist at the battle of Armageddon (Rev. 16:15-16; 19:11-21).

2. The millennium begins immediately after 75 days of re-creation and cleansing. See Daniel 12:11-13. The world has been so badly devastated that recreation is most necessary. There will be the cleansing of the temple mount for the millennial Temple to descend from heaven. Furthermore there will also be the separation of the sheep and the goats (Matt. 25:31-34). The sheep i.e. the earthly Christians who came to believe during the Great Tribulation Period will enter the millennium with the earthly mortal body that will still allow them to marry and given in marriage. This means that they can still die and so can their offspring.

The millennium is a time of peace on earth where Jesus Christ will reign for 1,000 years. See Isa. 65:17-25, Rev 5:10; 20:1-7. During this time the Antichrist and the false prophet would have been cast into the Lake of Fire. Satan would be thrown into the bottomless pit which he will remain throughout the millennium. At the end of the millennium, Satan will be released and gather the rebellious people throughout the four corners of the earth and then the Great White Throne Judgement begins. Although only the glorified saints and the sheep (believers with earthly bodies) will enter the millennium, their children who will be born and inhabit the earth at that time are the ones whom Satan will gather at the end of the millennium. There will be unbelievers at the end of the millennium.

The following are some passages from the Bible that reveal a great separation at the end of the period of the last days.

**Parable of the Wheat and Tares -- Matthew 13:30**, *“Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn.”* The explanation of the end of this parable is given by our Lord Himself in **Matthew 13:40-42**, *“As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this world. The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.”*

**Parable of the Good and Bad Catch -- Matthew 13:47-50**, *“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a net, that was cast into the sea, and gathered of every kind: Which, when it was full, they drew to shore, and sat down, and gathered the good into vessels, but cast the bad away. So shall it be at the end of the world: the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just, And shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.”*

**Separation of the Sheep and the Goats -- Matthew 25:31-33**, *“When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats: And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left.”* The right hand and left hand seating of God is explained in the following verses in Matthew 25.

**Matthew 25:34**, *“Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.”* The sheep are the believers who will enter the millennium.

**Matthew 25:41**, *“Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels.”* The goats are the unbelievers who will join Satan and his demons after the Great White Throne Judgement.

No unbelievers will enter the millennium. They will be cast into Hell until the Great White Throne Judgement where they will be judged for the final time and then they will be cast into the Lake of Fire. They will remain there forever.

There are two kinds of saints entering the millennium. The saints with the glorified body where they can never sin again or die will be the first group. The second group of saints would include the 144,000 Israelites mentioned in Revelation 7 together with other Gentiles and the Danites. The second group includes those who have come through the Great Tribulation with their mortal bodies. The sinful nature would still reside in their mortal body. They will still be able to procreate and have children. They would live long years like the time before the Great Flood of Noah's time. But there will still be death.

**Isaiah 65:17-25**, *“For, behold, I create new heavens and a new earth: and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind. But be ye glad and rejoice for ever in that which I create: for, behold, I create Jerusalem a rejoicing, and her people a joy. And I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and joy in my people: and the voice of weeping shall be no more heard in her, nor the voice of crying. There shall be no more thence an infant of days, nor an old man that hath not*

filled his days: **for the child shall die an hundred years old; but the sinner being an hundred years old shall be accursed.** And they shall build houses, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and eat the fruit of them. They shall not build, and another inhabit; they shall not plant, and another eat: for as the days of a tree are the days of my people, and mine elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands. They shall not labour in vain, nor bring forth for trouble; for they are the seed of the blessed of the LORD, and their offspring with them. And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear. The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, and the lion shall eat straw like the bullock: and dust shall be the serpent's meat. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain, saith the LORD." [emphasis added]

Some of these children born in the millennium from the second group of believers will become unbelievers. These are the ones whom Satan will gather for one final confrontation before the Great White Throne judgement.

The new heavens and a new earth of Isaiah refer to the recreation of the present earth and heaven. What will the millennium be like on earth? Isaiah gives us the answer in chapters 11 and 65.

**Isaiah 11:1-9**, "And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots: And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD; And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the LORD: and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears: But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked. And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins. The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together: and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice' den. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea."

**20:6** – This is the fifth beatitude. The ones who experience the First Resurrection are called holy and blessed by Christ. They will not suffer the Second Death. Instead they shall be priests of God and of Christ. They will be kings for they will reign with Christ for 1,000 years. This dual role of the believers was clearly stated by the apostle Peter.

**1 Peter 2:5**, "Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ"

**1 Peter 2:9**, "But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light."

Please note that the Bible in 1Peter is not referring to a future event but a present state of the believers in relation to God.

In millennium it will much clearer as seen by the believer's glorified body. But the believer is already a holy and royal priest NOW in the eyes of God. Hence he must live as such. The first thing he must do is to abstain from all that might cause him to sin such as drinking alcohol, gambling (Thou shall not covet – Exodus 20:17) and smoking (your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit – 1 Cor. 3:17; 6:19).

Kings are not supposed to drink in the OT as they need to perform their kingly duties. **Proverbs 31:4-6**, *"It is not for kings, O Lemuel, it is not for kings to drink wine; nor for princes strong drink: Lest they drink, and forget the law, and pervert the judgment of any of the afflicted. Give strong drink unto him that is ready to perish, and wine unto those that be of heavy hearts."*

Priests are also not allowed to drink in the OT. **Leviticus 10:8-9**, *"And the LORD spake unto Aaron, saying, Do not drink wine nor strong drink, thou, nor thy sons with thee, when ye go into the tabernacle of the congregation, lest ye die: it shall be a statute for ever throughout your generations."*

## 2. The Final Conflict and Great White Throne Judgement – 20:7-15

**20:7-10 (the blessed millennial reign ends) – Revelation 20:7-10**, *"And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison, And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea. And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them. And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever."*

**20:7-8 (Satan released from Bottomless Pit)** – Satan will be released from the Bottomless Pit at the end of the thousand years. He will gather from the four quarters of the earth all the unbelievers to battle against the Lord Jesus Christ one final time.

**God and Magog** – Ezekiel 38 and 39 describe the period of the Great Tribulation. From **Ezekiel 38:2**, *"Son of man, set thy face against Gog, the land of Magog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal, and prophesy against him,"* we see that Gog refers to the name of a king and Magog either refers to a people or a country. From Ezekiel 38:8 it appears that Gog would be the name of one of the kings who will help the antichrist at the Battle of Armageddon. What their identities are is difficult to determine with any degree of certainty.

These same names are used here at the end of the millennium. They refer to the enemies of Christ and therefore are used in Revelation 20:8 as figures of the old enemies during the Great Tribulation. This was how the name Babylon was used. The use of Gog and Magog also points to the fact that even though it may have been a 1,000 years later,

Satan has not changed one bit and his consuming desire will still be to go against God and Christ and God's people. He truly lives up to his name sake, Satan which means an adversary!

The number would be enormous as they numbered as the sand of the sea!

**20:9-10 (Satan's final adversarial act)** – They encircled the people of God and the city of Jerusalem. Again it was a very one sided battle. The Bible says, "*Fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them*". They were thoroughly destroyed by God.

Satan will join his two sidekicks in the Lake of Fire. The unholy trinity will remain together forever. They will be tormented day and night for ever and ever. There is absolutely no doctrine of annihilation! To believe in such a diabolical doctrine is to make light of sin and the salvific work of Christ on Calvary!

**20:11-13 (the Great White Throne Judgement)** – **Revelation 20:11-13**, "*And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works.*"

**20:11 (The Great White Throne Final Judgement)** – The Great White Throne Judgement is the final place of judgement for all unbelievers. Great not only points to its size but also its majestic authority and significance, it being the final throne scene. White as usual symbolizes purity, holiness and perfect justice.

The person who sits on the throne is none other than the Lord Jesus Christ Himself. **John 5:22-23**, "For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son: That all men should honour the Son, even as they honour the Father. He that honoureth not the Son honoureth not the Father which hath sent him."

The phrase "*the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them*" means that the earth and heaven will vanish away i.e. literally go out of existence. For at the end of the millennium, all believers will be given the glorified body. All unbelievers will be sent to Hell for they shall fight against God with Satan. The earth will be emptied of all inhabitants except perhaps for the creatures.

Donald Barnhouse rightly observed, "There is to be an end of the material heavens and earth which we know. IT is not that they are to be purified and rehabilitated, but that the reverse of creation is to take place. They are to be uncreated. As they came from nothing at the word of God, they are to be sucked back into nothingness by this same word of God."

**20:12-13 (All unbelievers will be "resurrected" and judged)** – All the unbelievers who had died and sent to Hell will be delivered from Hell and be forced to stand before God for judgement. This scene is reminiscent of the one described in **Daniel 7:9-10**, "*I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit, whose garment was white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne was like the fiery flame, and his wheels as burning fire. A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him: thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him: the judgment was set, and the books were opened.*"

What are these books? The identity of these books is not revealed to us. One of them would obviously be the Book of Life. In this book would be written and found all the names of believers.

Out of the books the unbelievers will be judged according to their works. But all unbelievers who are judged according to their works can have only one conclusion. They will be condemned. Their righteousnesses are like filthy rags in the sight of God. **Isaiah 64:6**, "*But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.*" And **Romans 3:23**, "*For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God,*"

"The sea gave up the dead." The "sea" is used probably because it was a very difficult place to find any dead bodies after they had died in the sea. It was impossible actually in the days of the apostle John as they did not have diving gear to help them search the bottom of oceans. The message then would be that no matter how impossible it might appear, these who have died and ended up in Hell will be released and will be judged according to their works.

**20:14-15 (The End of Death and Hell)** – **Revelation 20:14-15**, "*And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.*"

Since there will be no more mortals with the sinful nature, there will be no more death and hence no more need for Hell, the place for the dead. The act of casting these two into the Lake of Fire is symbolic of their ultimate and final destruction.

Death came into the scene in Genesis 3 when Adam disobeyed God and ate the forbidden fruit. He died immediately, the spiritual death. He died 930 years later, the physical death. If he was born again, then he will escape the second death. This is true

of all sinners. Now the good news is that death and Hell, the place of the dead, will be destroyed forever.

Anyone whose name was not written in the Book of Life will be cast into the Lake of Fire.

The words from the book of Hebrews expresses well the somber warning to all sinners . . .

**Hebrews 10:26-31**, *“For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries. He that despised Moses' law died without mercy under two or three witnesses: Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace? For we know him that hath said, Vengeance belongeth unto me, I will recompense, saith the Lord. And again, The Lord shall judge his people. It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.”*