Revelation Ch. 20
M. K. Scanlan

Revelation Chapter 20

THE MILLENNIAL KINGDOM, 1,000 REIGN

The millennium completes or repeats a process that follows the pattern of creation as described in the book of Genesis.

- **2 Peter 3:8** "But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day."
 - Creation: 6 days + 1 day of rest.
 - Earth history: 6,000 years + 1,000 years of "rest" during the millennial reign.
 - Similar to the laws of redemption: 6 years of slavery, set free in the 7th year.
- V: 1 "And" connecting this verse to what has taken place at the end of **Revelation**Ch. 19: 20-21.
 - The Anti-Christ, the False Prophet, his followers have been dealt with <u>and</u> now Satan is dealt with in a direct manner.
 - Having the key to the bottomless pit = "abusso".
 - Different parts of Hell
 - Abusso: bottomless pit, a shaft, center of the Earth, constantly falling. Less than 10 mile diameter could contain the whole of the unrighteous dead.
 - Sheol / Hades / Tartarus: in the heart of the earth, (no sign but that of Jonah, 3 days/nights in the heart of the earth.) demonic angels incarcerated.
 - 3. Gehenna / perdition: outer darkness, place of final judgment away from God.
 - Gehenna is a valley just North of Jerusalem. During time of apostasy, while worshipping the gods of Baal and Molech, they would build bonfires and take their babies and throw them into the fire. That was their method of abortion, not having the skills that we have today, causing their children to pass through the fire. Later that same area became a garbage dump which they were constantly burning. You could always look towards the valley of Hinnom or Gehenna and see the smoke rising day or night, the fire that never ended, thus the name of Gehenna being used to describe such an eternal place.
 - Abraham's bosom: place of comfort until Messiah came, <u>currently vacant</u>. Luke
 Ch. 16, Jesus speaks of a certain rich man who faired sumptuously and a beggar named Lazarus who lived on crumbs, with dogs licking his wounds.

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Isaiah 61:1 "He came to open the prison doors to those that were bound to set at liberty those that were captive."

Ephesians 4:8 "And so he led the captives from their captivity,"

But the un-righteous dead are still there awaiting their final judgment.

Jesus said of Himself:

Revelation 1:19 "I am He that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death."

(Trumpet judgments of men upon the earth)

Revelation 9:1 "And the fifth angel sounded, and I saw a star fall from heaven unto the earth: and to him was given the key of the bottomless pit."

- We see that the keys to Hell have been in Jesus' hands, given to Satan for a time to turn loose his hoards to inflict mankind, then taken from Satan and given to another angel along with a chain to bind Satan for a time.
- The first angel came to release, this angel comes to bind up.
- V: 2 Dragon, Serpent, Devil, Satan: all terms for the fallen angel formerly know as Lucifer, an arch angel.

Revelation 12:9 "Great Dragon, that Old Serpent" Genesis Ch. 3

"Devil": Diablos (Greek); accuser, slanderer.

"Satan": Adversary.

- Oh what a sigh of relief there will be when Satan is bound up.
 - **Romans 8:22** "For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now."
 - 2 Peter 2:4 "For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment;"
- V: 3 Cast into the abusso.
 - "Shut him up", that will be nice!
 - Set a seal upon him:
 - **Genesis 4:15** "And the LORD said unto him, Therefore whosoever slayeth Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold. And the LORD set a mark upon Cain, lest any finding him should kill him."

Isaiah 14:15-16 "Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit. They that see thee shall narrowly look upon thee, and consider thee, saying, is this the man that made the earth to tremble, that did shake kingdoms:"

- It is good that God marks the Devil, because otherwise many times we don't recognize him, we don't discern who is coming against us.
 - 2 Corinthians 11:14 "And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light."

Twilight Zone: Beautiful woman, a banker, car salesman, cartoon character pushing some toy on TV.

- Nations: Not national identities, but gentile peoples.
- Zechariah 14:16 "And it shall come to pass, that every one that is left of all the nations (GOIIM (Gawi' inm)) which came against Jerusalem shall even go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to keep the feast of tabernacles."
- 1,000 years a millennium.
- Loosed for a little season: verse 7 beings to explain why.
- Why not just save everybody all the trouble and keep him bound up from the beginning? Answer: Satan serves an eternal purpose. (valid choice)

Illustration: Need son to stay home for task upon your return. Options: love = obedience or chain? Neighbor witness / born innocent not righteous.

- Jesus refers to Satan as the prince of this world, he has control.
- Job is an example of obedience in spite of adversity. Naked I came into this world, naked I will go out, blessed be the name of the Lord!
- 6,000 years, our day of redemption is at hand.
- V: 4 Thrones: Upon which the church sits.
 - Revelation 2:26-27 (Thyatira) "And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations: And he shall rule them with a rod of iron; as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to shivers: even as I received of my Father."
 - **Revelation 4:4** "And round about the throne were four and twenty seats: and upon the seats I saw four and twenty elders sitting, clothed in white raiment; and they had on their heads crowns of gold."

Luke 22:30 "That ye may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, and sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel."

- Two groups; the church and the tribulation saints.
- 1 Corinthians 6:2-3 "Do ye not know that the saints shall judge the world? And if the world shall be judged by you, are ye unworthy to judge the smallest matters? Know ye not that we shall judge angels? How much more things that pertain to this life?"
- Those who had not worshipped the beast or received his mark:
- Revelation 14:9-12 "And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, ¹⁰the same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb: ¹¹And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name. ¹²Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus."
- John writes this in past tense, saying this group the tribulation martyrs have reigned with Christ for a thousand years the millennial reign.
- The earth will probably be restored to a Garden of Eden like state, the world we see now is the result of mans rebellion against God, the result of sin.
- The millennial reign, no pain, no handicaps, no blindness, none halt or maimed, no disease, peace, prosperity, joy, lacking for nothing.

"17 For, behold, I create new heavens and a new earth: and Isaiah 65:17-25 the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind. ¹⁸But be ye glad and rejoice for ever in that which I create: for, behold, I create Jerusalem a rejoicing, and her people a joy. ¹⁹And 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. ²⁰There 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. ²¹And they shall build houses, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and eat the fruit of them. ²²They 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. ²³They 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. ²⁴And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear. ²⁵The 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."

• No more "natural" disasters, no earthquakes, floods, storms, hurricanes.

- No murders, no abortions, no one killed by drunken drivers.
- Church living in glorified bodies, the survivors in mortal bodies being ruled while they re-populate the Earth.
- V: 5 But the rest of the dead, the un-believing dead, were not resurrected yet, not until after the millennial reign.
 - The first of two resurrections:
 - John 5:28-29 "²⁸Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, ²⁹ and shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation.
 - **Mathew 25:32-33** "³²And before Him shall be gathered all nations: and He shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats: ³³And He shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left."
 - Jesus was the beginning of the first resurrection.
 - **1 Corinthians 15:23** "But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming."
 - **Colossians 1:18** "And he is the head of the body, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things He might have the preeminence."

This is the fulfillment of what Jesus said:

- **John 6:40** "And this is the will of Him that sent Me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on Him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day."
- V: 6 Oh how happy and Holy is he that has part in the first resurrection:
 - From Abel to the last tribulation martyr, who completes the 1st resurrection.
 - 5th of 7 Revelation beatitudes: Rev. 1:3, 14:13, 16:5, 19:9, <u>20:6</u>, 22:7, 22:14.
 - Holy: (G40) hagios, hag'-ee-os; sacred, physically pure, morally blameless or religious, cer. Consecrated, --(most) holy (one, thing), saint.
 - "Born once, die twice; born twice, die once."

John 3:3 "Jesus answered (Nicodemus) and said, Verily, verily, I say unto you, except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."

Speaking to Martha:

- John 11:25-26 "Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?"
- Priests: part of God's promise.
 - Exodus 19:4-6 "⁴Ye have seen what I did unto the Egyptians, and how I bare you on eagles' wings, and brought you unto myself. ⁵Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth is mine: ⁶And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation. These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel."
 - **Jude 14-15** "¹⁴And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints, ¹⁵to execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him."
 - **Revelation 1:6** "And hath made us kings and priests unto God and His Father; to Him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen."
 - **Revelation 5:10** "And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth."
 - 2 Timothy 2:12 "If we suffer, we shall also reign with him: if we deny him, he also will deny us:"
- V: 7 After the 1,000 years Satan / Adversary will be turned loose:
 - This is the last use of the word "Satan" in the Bible.
 - **2 Thessalonians 2:7** "For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way."
 - **1 Peter 5:8** "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:"
- V: 8 Satan "shall go out and deceive." Again gathering men to battle against God.
 - **Psalm 34:8** "O taste and see that the LORD is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him."

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• Living in perfect conditions, the perfect environment, sinful men still have wicked hearts and are reduced to the worst behavior, ripe for the dark things of Satan.

- God & Magog; names associated with rebellion against God. Not the same people though from prior to the millennium.
- **Jeremiah 17:9** "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?"
- V: 9 As they rebelled against God and His love for them – fire descends from Heaven and consumes them.
 - Having lived in a virtual paradise, the perfect environment, living in enforced righteousness, men still rebel against God at their first opportunity.
 - Jeremiah 17:9 "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?"
 - **Isaiah 53:6** "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way;..."
 - This all speaks to the real depravity of man, our sin nature apart from God working in our lives, apart from the cleansing of the blood of the Lamb.
 - How can rational men even imagine to make war against God? They have been blinded, deceived by Satan.
 - There are none so blind as those who will not see.

Jesus said

Mark 8:1 "Having eyes, see ye not? And having ears, hear ye not?"

2 Kings 1:10 "And Elijah answered and said to the captain of fifty, If I be a man of God, then let fire come down from heaven, and consume thee and thy fifty. And there came down fire from heaven, and consumed him and his fifty."

Hebrews 12:29 "For our God is a consuming fire."

 These men have never had a chance to rebel against God, Satan offers that opportunity, option.

- V: 10 The Devil / Accuser is cast into the lake of fire.
 - This is the last reference to the Devil, this name is not mentioned again.
 - **Isaiah 14:16** "They that see thee shall narrowly look upon thee, and consider thee, saying, Is this the man that made the earth to tremble, that did shake kingdoms;"
 - **2 Thessalonians 2:7** "For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way."
- "The Devil that deceived them..." they were held accountable for what they should have known.
 - The previous group that was slain with fire, they were deceived. Apparently ignorance is no excuse.
 - Matthew 24:4-5 "⁴And Jesus answered and said unto them, take heed that no man deceive you. ⁵For many shall come in My name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many."
 - **Galatians 6:7** "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."
 - **1 Corinthians 6:10** "⁹Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? <u>Be not deceived</u>: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, ¹⁰Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God."
 - **1 Corinthians 15:33** "Be not deceived evil communications corrupt good manners.

Jesus told us:

- **John 8:31-32** "... If ye continue in My word, then are ye My disciples indeed; ³² and ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."
- **2 Timothy 2:15** "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."
- **Psalm 119:105** "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."
- **Psalm 119:165** "Great peace have they which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them."
- 2 Peter 1:2-3 "²Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord, ³according as His Divine Power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him that hath called us to glory and virtue."

- 1 Timothy 4:1 "Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils."
- **Ephesians 4:27** "Neither give place (room) to the devil."
- Where the Anti-Christ & False Prophet are, <u>present tense</u>, their torment continues. Hell is temporary; the lake of fire is eternal.
 - Mark 9:43-44 "⁴³And if thy hand offend the, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter into life maimed, than having two hands to go into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched: ⁴⁴Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched."
 - 2 Thessalonians 1:8-9 "8In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: 9Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of His power."

V: 11-15 The Great White Throne judgment.

- There is no rainbow around this throne.
- **Revelation 4:3** "And he that sat was to look upon like a jasper and a sardine stone: and there was a rainbow round about the throne, in sight like unto an emerald."
- **Genesis 9:13** "I do set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be for a token of a covenant between me and the earth."
- 2nd resurrection. As opposed to 1st resurrection in verse 6.
 - **Revelation 20:6** "Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power..."
- John 5:24-29 "²⁴Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth My word, and believeth on him that sent Me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life. ²⁵Verily, verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live. ²⁶For as the Father hath life in Himself; so hath He given to the Son to have life in Himself; ²⁷And hath given Him authority to execute judgment also, because He is the Son of man. ²⁸Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear His voice. ²⁹And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation."

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2 Peter 3:7-13 "⁷But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men. But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. ⁹The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. ¹⁰But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. ¹¹Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness, ¹²looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat? ¹³Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness."

Matthew 24:35 "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away."

When Jesus spoke this, it wasn't just a metaphor – it was and is a fact!

V: 12 The dead, small and great:

Acts 10:34 "Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons:"

- Judged: This white throne judgment is of the non-believers as opposed to the judging of the works of the believers.
- The question is: have our sins been judged on Calvary, or do we retain responsibility for them?

Hebrews 9:27 "And it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judament:"

- Our sins will be judged, either at the cross of Jesus, or at the Great White Throne of Almighty God.
- It's either going to be the Bema Seat or the Great White Throne judgment.
- We're seeing what the White Throne is; what is the "Bema Seat"?
 - 2 Corinthians 5:10 "For we must all appear before the judgment seat (Bema Seat) of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.

Beema Seat:

1 Corinthians 3:11-15 "¹¹For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. ¹²Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; ¹³Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. ¹⁴If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. ¹⁵If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire."

- "1Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is Psalm 32 covered. ²Blessed is the man unto whom the LORD imputeth not iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no guile. ³When I kept silence, my bones waxed old through my roaring all the day long. ⁴For day and night thy hand was heavy upon me: my moisture is turned into the drought of summer. ⁵I acknowledged my sin unto thee, and mine iniquity have I not hid. I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the LORD; and thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin. Selah. ⁶For this shall every one that is godly pray unto thee in a time when thou mayest be found: surely in the floods of great waters they shall not come nigh unto him. ⁷Thou art my hiding place; thou shalt preserve me from trouble; thou shalt compass me about with songs of deliverance. 8 will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye. ⁹Be ye not as the horse, or as the mule, which have no understanding: whose mouth must be held in with bit and bridle, lest they come near unto thee. ¹⁰Many sorrows shall be to the wicked: but he that trusteth in the LORD, mercy shall compass him about. 11Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, ye righteous: and shout for joy, all ye that are upright in heart."
- Books different books: Generations, Law, Covenant, Chronicles, Remembrance, prophets, purchase, vision, kings, Psalms, Moses, and Lamb 's book of life.

Remembrance:

Malachi 3:16 "Then they that feared the LORD spake often one to another: and the LORD hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the LORD, and that thought upon his name."

Book of Life:

- About ½ of the various references to the book of life refer to being blotted out.
- Jesus himself raised the issue, and wouldn't have warned of this danger had it not been real.

Revelation 22:19 "And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book."

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Revelation 3:5 "He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels."

Exodus 32:32-33 "Yet now, if thou wilt forgive their sin--; and if not, blot me, I pray thee, out of thy book which thou hast written. And the LORD said unto Moses, Whosoever hath sinned against me, him will I blot out of my book."

David speaking about non-believers prayed:

Psalm 69:27-28 "Add iniquity unto their iniquity: and let them not come into thy righteousness. Let them be blotted out of the book of the living, and not be written with the righteous."

"Written"

Luke 8:17 "For nothing is secret, that shall not be made manifest; neither any thing hid, that shall not be known and come abroad."

According to their works:

Ephesians 2:8-9 "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: 9Not of works, lest any man should boast."

John 6:29 "Jesus answered and said unto them, This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent."

V: 13 "And the sea gave up the dead"

- Some commentators think that this refers to those who died in the great flood of Noah who had yet to be judged.
- Death and Hell (Hades) gave up their dead.
- Every man judged <u>according to their works</u>.
- Again, according to their works: What did you do with My Son Jesus?
- John 3:36 "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him."
- Philippians 2:9-11 "9Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: ¹⁰That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, <u>and things under the earth;</u> ¹¹and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

V: 14 Death & Hell cast into the fire:

- 2 Thessalonians 1:8-9 "8In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: 9Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;"
- **1 Corinthians 15:26** "The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death."
- **Revelation 21:4** "And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away."
- V: 15 "And whosoever was not found written in the book of life..."
 - Cast into the lake of fire: This is Gehenna vs Hades.
 - **Romans 6:23** "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."
 - **Isaiah 59: 1-2** "Behold, the LORD'S hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: ²But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear."
 - John 3:18-19 "¹⁸He that believeth on Him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. ¹⁹And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil."
 - **Romans 8:1** "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit."
 - Thist means that our #1 priority is to make sure that we are recorded in the Lambs book of Life.
 - **1 Peter 1:10** "Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall:"
 - How does that happen? By my confessing Jesus Christ as my Lord and my savior and living my life for him, surrendered to his Lordship.
 - It isn't just saying, "Jesus is Lord" with our lips, giving God lip service, but meaning it in our hearts.

Jesus said:

Matthew 7:21-23 "²¹Not everyone that saith unto Me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of My father which is in Heaven. ²²Many will say to Me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? And in thy name have cast out devils? And in thy name done many wonderful works? ²³And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from Me, ye that work iniquity."

Jesus said

Luke 6:46 "And why call ye Me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?

- Lord is not His name, it's His title.
- He is my Lord, which means I am his servant. I live my life to do his will.
- There is that importance of knowing Jesus as Lord, surrendering your life to him as Lord, confessing him as Lord;
 - Romans 10:9 "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved."
- If it's a true confession, then your name will be written in the book of life.

Question:

- 1. Does your life, your walk, your commitment to the Lord affirm your salvation, is it certain?
- 2. Or does your lifestyle and commitment bring into question you salvation?
- None of us should live our lives under a question mark.
- If you are, if you aren't certain, then do those things that are necessary.
- Pray, seek God's face, receive His counsel, be obedient to the Sprit who is saying – come!