



χίλιοι
Does chilioi mean just one thousand?

χιλιάς *chilias*, one thousand - χίλιοι, *chilioi*, a plural form of *chilias*.

The so-called “Thousand” Years

Revelation 20 is one "A" of the second chiasm. Both "A's" appear to have their fulfillment during the Christian Era.

A	ch.12	Woman with 12 Stars:	Israel
B	ch.13 ch.14	Leopard-Bear-Lion Beast: 144,000 & The Gospel:	Satanic Religion Jesus' Followers
C	ch.15	Song of Moses and Lamb:	Redeemed Glorified
C	ch.16	Bowls of Wrath:	Wrath on the Wicked
B	ch.17 ch.18 ch.19	Seven-Headed Beast: Babylon: King of Kings:	Satanic Kingdoms Satan's Followers Wicked judged
A	ch.20	The Thousand Years:	All Israel (Jew & Gentile)

Once we recognize Rev 20's position in the 2nd chiasm as parallel in time and subject to Rev 12, we can then realize that Revelation 20 must be a figurative picture of the Christian Era. Rev 20 will be quoted in its entirety. Supporting verses and comments are inserted in italic.

The Context of Revelation 20 is Figurative

THE FINISHED WORK OF CHRIST

Revelation 20:1-2 “And I saw an angel come down from heaven . . .

This angel is Jesus. "Who hath ascended into heaven and descended?" and Rev 10:1 "And I saw another mighty angel come down from heaven, clothed with a cloud: and a rainbow was upon his head, and his face was as it were the sun, and his feet as pillars of fire . . ."

having the key of the bottomless pit . . .

Jesus has been given the keys of Hades, Rev 1:18

“and a great chain in his hand . . .

This chain is God’s Word in the Church combined with the prayers of the saints. Mat 16:19 “And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.”

“And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil.

"Now the ruler of this world shall be cast out," Joh12:31, spoken before the Cross.

“and Satan, and bound him . . .

“How can anyone enter a strong man's house and carry off his property unless he first bind the strong man?" Mat 12:29. When we were lost in our trespasses and sins we were Satan's property, and in his kingdom. Jesus is now plundering Satan's house through the church.

THE CHRISTIAN ERA

“a thousand years . . .

The Greek word translated thousand, here and through the rest of Revelation 20, is χίλιοι, chilioi, an indefinite plural of χιλιάς chalias, one thousand. Chilioi can mean one thousand, but it also can mean thousands. Premillennial theologians make a definite doctrine out of a definitely indefinite plural.

Revelation 20:3 “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 . . .

This binding is scripturally limited to deceiving the nations. Through the whole Christian Era, the western nations have been nominally Christian. Kings have been crowned and deposed in Jesus’ name and wars have been fought in Jesus’ name. Thus the nations were not deceived that Jesus is Lord.

“till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season.”

See Rev 12:12 for another mention of this "little season." From context we can pin the beginning of this "little season" to 1948-1967. Since 1948-1967 the western nations have turned away from the Lord. Satan has now been loosed and the church did it. As a result, we are in an apostasy unequalled during the Christian Era.

Revelation 20:4 “And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them . . .

1Peter 2:5,9 and Revelation 1:6 & 5:10 all declare that we reign with Christ right now, today in His spiritual kingdom, Ephesians 1:19-23.



Rev 20:2-6
 The Kingdom of Jesus
 THOUSAND YEARS



Satan Loosed
 1948-1967

Rev 20:7-9
 Nations again Deceived
 GATHERED TO BATTLE



Great White Throne
 Rev 20:10-15

That the Jesus' kingdom began in the 1st Century is provable by Rev 1:6 and 5:10 "He hath made (*past tense*) us kings," and Rev 1:9, "I John, who also am your brother, and companion in . . . the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ . . ."

The definite article, τή appears in the Greek text in Rev 1:9 and 5:10.

Revelation 20:4, continued . . .

“and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus . . . ,

Thousands of saints have been beheaded early in the Christian Era and many believers are suffering that same fate today, see Fox's Book of Martyrs.

“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 . .

Satan is the beast, and he has struck his mark on the foreheads of his servants throughout time.]

“and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.

Do we not reign with Christ right now, 1Pe 2:5-9, Rev 1:6, 5:10?

Revelation 20:5 “But the rest of the dead [*the unsaved*] lived not again until the thousand years [*the Christian Era*] were finished. This is the first resurrection.

How many resurrections are there? Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the Life." Jesus is the firstborn of the dead, and there is not another resurrection in Scripture.

Revelation 20:6 “Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power . . .

Blessed indeed are those who have part in the resurrection of Jesus our Lord! They are the born again, and over them the second death has absolutely no power.

“but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.

Rev 1:6 and 5:10 both state that we have been made priests and reign with Jesus, right now!

Revelation 20:7 “And when the thousand years . . .

As an indefinite plural, this "thousand" can refer to the Christian Era regardless of how many millennia it may take.

“are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison . . .

THE END TIMES

Revelation 20:8 “And shall go out to deceive the nations . . .

Since 1948 and 1967 there is a general falling away of the church unprecedented in the Christian Era. We have the second rise of the Islamic States. Parallel the following verse with other descriptions of Armageddon in Rev 6,9, 12, 14 & 19.

“which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog to gather them together to battle . . .

How many Armageddons and fulfillments of Eze 38-39 are we going to have? Note the details of this battle here parallel other descriptions of Armageddon in the Bible. When we understand the repetitive chiasmic structure of Rev, these repeats are no problem.

“the number of whom is as the sand of the sea.”

Rev 9:16 states 200,000,000 – probably the Moslems who have been fighting the Gospel for over 1300 years.

Revelation 20:9 “And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city . . .

Is this not parallel to Joel 2-3, that all consider to be a description of Armageddon?

“and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them.”

THE ETERNAL KINGDOM OF GOD

Revelation 20:10 “And the devil that deceiveth 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.

Revelation 20:11-12 “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 . . .

There are two sets of books in Revelation 20:11-12. The book of deeds, and the book of life. When the Lord blotted out our transgressions, that wasn't just rhetorical, what do you suppose He blotted them out of? The book of the deeds, of course! Since all of our righteousness is as filthy rags, if even one of our deeds (no matter how "good" or "sanctified" we may consider it to be) remains in that book we are going to the lake of fire. To eat of the tree of life, our names must first be written in the Book of Life ... "Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way nailing it to His Cross." Colossians 2:14.

"and the (*spiritually*) dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works."

Revelation 20:13-15 "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. 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."

Colossians 1:13-17 "Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of His dear Son: In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins: Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: For by Him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, powers: all things were created by Him, and for Him: And He is before all things, and by Him all things consist."

ADDITIONAL NOTES ON THE "MILLENNIUM"

Besides the last trumpet, there are many verses that call the premillennial view into question. According to that view, when Jesus returns for His 1000-year reign, He will rule from Jerusalem in all His power and glory. During the 1000 years, we (*all believers*) are presumed to be ruling with Him in our new glorified and sinless bodies. At the end of the 1000 years, Satan is somehow supposed to deceive these rulers (*now sinless us*) for a short season. If that happens, then we would again be in sin, which would result in our again being separated from the Lord . . . a supposition that is contrary to 1Thessalonians 4:17 which states . . .

1Thessalonians 4:17 "Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up...to meet the Lord in the air, and thus we shall ever be with the Lord."

Saints will never again be separated from the Lord! Second: "How can anyone enter the strong man's house and carry off his property, unless He first binds the strong man," Mat 12:29? When Jesus asked that question, He was in the act of casting out demons. The Lord was plundering Satan's house then, and He is still doing so today through the Church.

Colossians 1:13, "For He delivered us from the domain [*kingdom, KJV*] of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son."

Jesus permitted Himself to be bound once, at the Cross, but it will never happen again. When Jesus returns to Jerusalem, He will be ruling in all His power and glory. It will be Jesus' kingdom. He will be the "strong man"! Released or not, Satan could only plunder Jesus' kingdom if he could again bind Jesus. What a blasphemous concept! Jesus is now seated at the right hand of God the Father. He is King of kings and Lord of lords and will remain so forever!

Ephsians 1:20-21 "...when He raised Him from the dead, and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all authority and power and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age, but also in the one to come."

That age to come would have to include any future time that Jesus is on Earth, and beyond. When the Lord returns at the end of this age, He will rule absolutely. .. and He will rule forever!

A Literal Interpretation Goes Awry

Isaiah 11:1-5 “And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots: *(figurative and all conservative theologians understood this to be a prophecy about the earthly ministry of Jesus, the coming Messiah)* 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; *(the seven spirits of God of Rev 1:4, 3:1, 4:5 and 5:6)* 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: *(Hebrew poetic parallelism)* 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 *(figurative for the Word of God)*, and with the breath of his lips *(figurative)* shall he slay the wicked. And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins *(figurative again)*, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins” *(again a Hebrew poetic parallelism)*.

*So Isaiah 11:1-5 predicts the coming of Jesus the Messiah.
The passage is figurative and everyone knows it!*

*Then Isaiah 11:11 tell us about the establishment
of the new nation of Israel in 1948AD.*

Isaiah 11:11 “And it shall come to pass in that day, *that* the Lord shall set his hand again the second time to recover the remnant of his people (*the first restoration came at the end of the Babylonian captivity in 536BC as recorded in the book of Ezra*), which shall be left, from Assyria, and from Egypt, and from Pathros, and from Cush, and from Elam, and from Shinar, and from Hamath, and from the islands of the sea.”

Verses 1-5 are a figurative prophecy of Jesus in 30 A D.

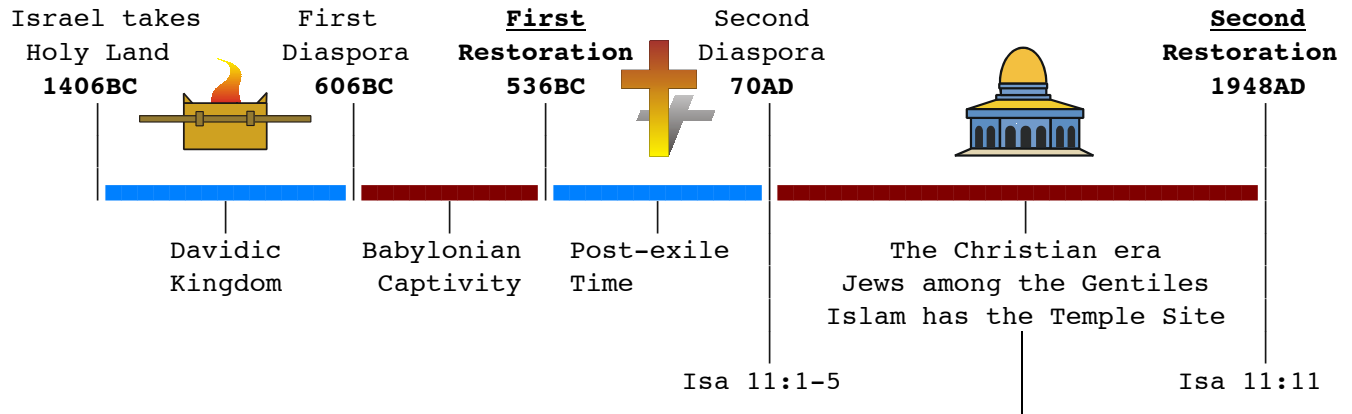
Verses 6-10 come next

Followed by verse 11, which is about 1948 A.D.

So when should verses 6-10 be about?

Context Determines Interpretation

Isaiah 11:11 “And it shall come to pass in that day, *that* the Lord shall set his hand again the second time to recover the remnant of his people, which shall be left.”



So when should Isa 11:6-10 be about?

Verses 6-10 can only be about the time
in between the 30 A.D. and 1948 A.D.
So it must be a figurative picture of the Christian era!

Isaiah 11:6-10 “The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb (*the robber will live in the same town as the saint*), and the leopard shall lie down with the kid (*the warrior lives with the shopkeeper*); and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child (*Jesus*) 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 (*Hebrew poetic parallelism*). And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp (*the innocent believer will witness to the murderer*), and the weaned child (*Jesus*) shall put his hand on the cockatrice' den (*shall despoil Satan's kingdom, Mat 12:29*). 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. And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse (*Jesus*), which shall stand for an ensign of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek (*the Gentile Church*): and his rest shall be glorious.”

*Interpretive Principle:
Is the Context Literal or Figurative?*