

The Nature of the Millennium **Revelation 20:1-6**

I. The Use of numbers in Revelation

- a. 7 churches, 7 spirits 1:4
7 candlesticks, 7 stars 1:12-16, 20
The Lamb with 7 horns & 7 eyes 5:6
24 elders 4:4, 10 (*cf.* 21:12, 14)
144,000 saints 7:4
12,000 *stadia*, 144 *paxon* (cubits) 21:16-17
- b. All these numbers are figurative!
They *stand* for something.

Likewise, there is every reason to see the “one thousand years” of Rev 20 to be also figurative.

II. The binding of Satan 20:1-6

- a. The angel, the key, the chain and Satan vv. 1-3
The angel is Jesus v. 1; *cf.* Rev 1:8
The dragon, the serpent = Satan (*cf.* Gen 3:1-4)
(for dragon: Ezek 29:3; Jer 51:34; Rev 12:1-11)
Chains bind Mt 12:28, 29
Jesus bound Satan at his first coming
Jn 12:31-32; Heb 2:14; I Jn 3:8
Jesus gave binding authority to his church
Lk 10:17-20; Mt 16:19; Rom 16:19-20
Satan can no longer deceive the nations v. 3
The Word overcomes him
Rom 1:16; Rev 12:11; Mt 28:19-20
- b. The intermediate state vv. 4-6
The safety of the church is in heaven
Eph 2:5-7 currently seated in heaven
Cf. Rev 6:9-11
The martyrs are there, but so is the living church.