

The Bottomless Pit

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*"¹ And I saw an angel coming down out of heaven having the key of the bottomless place and a great chain upon his hand. And he seized the Dragon in one fell swoop, the snake, the ancient snake who is the Devil and the Satan, and **bound him** for one thousand years. And he threw him into the bottomless place and locked and sealed it over him in order that he should not deceive the nations any longer until the thousand years have been brought to an end. After these things it is a necessity in the nature of the case for him to be set free for a brief period." Revelation 20:1 (Wuest New Testament: An Expanded Translation)*

WHO WILL BE BOUND?

We find in the 14th chapter of the book of Isaiah that one of Satan's or Lucifer's names is (הַיְלֵל). The Hebrew word (הַיְלֵל) is pronounced " hay-lale' " in English and means the morning-star (in the sense of brightness). " ¹² *How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations!" Isaiah 14:12 (King James Version)* Lucifer was one of three archangels the Lord created before the Lord created the world system. The three archangels were to superintend the rest of the angels that the Lord created. Why did the Lord create three groups of angels and give each group unique abilities? Because אֱלֹהִים (pronounced el-o-heem' in English), the Three Mighty Ones, has three unique personalities and three unique ways to manifest Himself. You will find the Hebrew word אֱלֹהִים explained in Strongs Concordance under Strong's Number 430. The first place we find the word אֱלֹהִים used in the Hebrew text is Genesis 1:1 and it is translated God into the English language. " ¹ *In the beginning **God** created the heaven and the earth."* Genesis 1:1 (King James Version)

THREE WAYS GOD MANIFESTS HIMSELF TO US

THERE IS ONLY ONE GOD BUT HE MANIFESTS HIMSELF TO MANKIND IN THREE UNIQUE WAYS! God the Father represents the **intellect** of God. God the Son represents the **material** part of God. God the Holy Spirit represents the **spiritual** part of God. We realize that it is difficult to understand how God could be one and yet be three but there are some things that have to be accepted by faith because the Lord said that is the way it is. We believe that when we get our heavenly, glorified bodies, we will completely understand.

It is very important that we remember the order of the creation. First, the Lord created the angels. Second, the Lord created the earth. Third, Eloheem created our first heaven (the atmosphere-the area where the birds fly). Then He created our second heaven (the sun, the moon and the other stars and planets). Then He created our second heaven As a side note, the third heaven is the Throne Room of the Three Mighty Ones, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

*"³ Pull yourself together, Job! Up on your feet! Stand tall! I have some questions for you, and I want some straight answers. ⁴ Where were you when I created the earth? Tell me, since you know so much! ⁵ Who decided on its size? Certainly you'll know that! Who came up with the blueprints and measurements? ⁶ **How was its foundation poured, and who set the cornerstone,** ⁷ **While the morning stars sang in chorus and all the angels shouted praise?** ⁸ And who took charge of the ocean when it gushed forth like a baby from the womb? ⁹ That was me! I wrapped it in soft clouds, and tucked it in safely at night. ¹⁰ Then I made a playpen for it, a strong playpen so it couldn't run loose, ¹¹ And said, 'Stay here, this is your place. Your wild tantrums are confined to this place.' ¹² "And have you ever ordered Morning, 'Get up!' told Dawn, 'Get to work!' ¹³ So you could seize Earth like a blanket and shake out the wicked like cockroaches? ¹⁴ As the sun brings everything to light, brings out all the colors and shapes, ¹⁵ The cover of darkness is snatched from the wicked— they're caught in the very act! ¹⁶ "Have you ever gotten to the true bottom of things, explored the labyrinthine caves of deep ocean? ¹⁷ Do you know the first thing about death? Do you have one clue regarding death's dark mysteries? ¹⁸ And do you have any idea how large this earth is? Speak up if you have even the beginning of an answer. ¹⁹ "Do you know where Light comes from and where Darkness lives ²⁰ So you can take them by the hand and lead them home when they get lost? ²¹ Why, of course you know that. You've known*

them all your life, grown up in the same neighborhood with them! ²² *"Have you ever traveled to where snow is made, seen the vault where hail is stockpiled,* ²³ *The arsenals of hail and snow that I keep in readiness for times of trouble and battle and war?* ²⁴ *Can you find your way to where lightning is launched, or to the place from which the wind blows?* ²⁵ *Who do you suppose carves canyons for the downpours of rain, and charts the route of thunderstorms* ²⁶ *That bring water to unvisited fields, deserts no one ever lays eyes on,* ²⁷ *Drenching the useless wastelands so they're carpeted with wildflowers and grass?* ²⁸ *And who do you think is the father of rain and dew,* ²⁹ *the mother of ice and frost?* ³⁰ *You don't for a minute imagine these marvels of weather just happen, do you?* ³¹ *"Can you catch the eye of the beautiful Pleiades sisters, or distract Orion from his hunt?* ³² *Can you get Venus to look your way, or get the Great Bear and her cubs to come out and play?* ³³ *Do you know the first thing about the sky's constellations and how they affect things on Earth?* ³⁴ *"Can you get the attention of the clouds, and commission a shower of rain?* ³⁵ *Can you take charge of the lightning bolts and have them report to you for orders?* ³⁶ *"Who do you think gave weather-wisdom to the ibis, and storm-savvy to the rooster?* ³⁷ *Does anyone know enough to number all the clouds or tip over the rain barrels of heaven* ³⁸ *When the earth is cracked and dry, the ground baked hard as a brick?* ³⁹ *"Can you teach the lioness to stalk her prey and satisfy the appetite of her cubs* ⁴⁰ *As they crouch in their den, waiting hungrily in their cave?* ⁴¹ *And who sets out food for the ravens when their young cry to God, fluttering about because they have no food?"* Job 38:3-41 (The Message)

Everything that was created, was created at that time except mankind. Why didn't the Lord create Adam and Eve at that time? Because the Lord has all knowledge of the past, the present and the future. He knew that sometime after the creation, Lucifer and one-third of the angels would not be satisfied with the position or the responsibilities the Lord had given them. The Lord knew that sometime after the creation, Lucifer would want to be equal in the Third Heaven with God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. Lucifer led a rebellion against the Three Mighty Ones and convinced one third of the angels to follow him. They were cast out of the Third Heaven and some of them were confined to ταρταρόω (pronounced tar-tar-o'-o in English) where they are reserved for the White Throne Judgment. The rest of the fallen angels are on this earth following the directions of Lucifer (or Satan) as demons. All of the fallen angels and Satan (Lucifer) will eventually be cast into Gehenna (the Lake of Fire) after the White Throne Judgment. " ³ *Then another wonder appeared in heaven: There was a giant red*

dragon with seven heads and seven crowns on each head. He also had ten horns. ⁴ His tail swept a third of the stars out of the sky and threw them down to the earth. He stood in front of the woman who was ready to give birth so he could eat her baby as soon as it was born." Revelation 12:3-4 (New Century Version)

"⁴ For if God did not spare **the angels when they sinned**, but condemned them to the chains of Tartarus and handed them over to be **kept for judgment**; ⁵ and if he did not spare the ancient world, even though he preserved Noah, a herald of righteousness, together with seven others, when he brought a flood upon the godless world; ⁶ and if he condemned the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah (to destruction), reducing them to ashes, making them an example for the godless (people) of what is coming; ⁷ and if he rescued Lot, a righteous man oppressed by the licentious conduct of unprincipled people ⁸ (for day after day that righteous man living among them was tormented in his righteous soul at the lawless deeds that he saw and heard), ⁹ then the Lord knows how to rescue the devout from trial and **to keep the unrighteous under punishment for the day of judgment**, ¹⁰ and especially those who follow the flesh with its depraved desire and show contempt for lordship. Bold and arrogant, they are not afraid to revile glorious beings, ¹¹ whereas angels, despite their superior strength and power, do not bring a reviling judgment against them from the Lord." 2 Peter 2:4-11 (New American Bible-United States Conference of Catholic Bishops)

"²⁸ After Jesus had crossed the lake, he came to shore near the town of Gadara and started down the road. Two men with demons in them came to him from the tombs. They were so fierce that no one could travel that way. ²⁹ Suddenly they shouted, "Jesus, Son of God, what do you want with us? Have you come to punish us **before our time**?" ³⁰ Not far from there a large herd of pigs was feeding. ³¹ So the demons begged Jesus, "If you force us out, please send us into those pigs!" ³² Jesus told them to go, and they went out of the men and into the pigs. All at once the pigs rushed down the steep bank into the lake and drowned." Matthew 8:28-32 (Contemporary English Version)

"⁵ I desire to remind you—although the whole matter is already familiar to you—that the Lord saved a people out of the land of Egypt, but afterwards destroyed those who had no faith. ⁶ And angels—those who did not keep the position originally assigned to them, but deserted their

own proper abode—He reserves in everlasting bonds, in darkness, in preparation for **the judgment of the great day.**" Jude 1:5-6 (Weymouth New Testament)

"¹⁹ `And--a certain man was rich, and was clothed in purple and fine linen, making merry sumptuously every day, ²⁰ and there was a certain poor man, by name Lazarus, who was laid at his porch, full of sores, ²¹ and desiring to be filled from the crumbs that are falling from the table of the rich man; yea, also the dogs, coming, were licking his sores. ²² `And it came to pass, that the poor man died, and that he was carried away by the messengers to the bosom of Abraham--and the rich man also died, and was buried; ²³ and in the hades (ᾠδης-the place of both the departed lost and the departed saved) having lifted up his eyes, **being in torments**, he **doth see** Abraham afar off, and **Lazarus** in his bosom, ²⁴ and having cried, he said, Father Abraham, deal kindly with me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and may cool my tongue, because I am distressed in this flame. ²⁵ `And Abraham said, Child, remember that thou did receive--thou--thy good things in thy life, and Lazarus in like manner the evil things, and now he is comforted, and thou art distressed; ²⁶ and besides all these things, between us and you a great chasm is fixed, so that they who are willing to go over from hence unto you are not able, nor do they from thence to us pass through. ²⁷ `And he said, I pray thee, then, father, that thou mayest send him to the house of my father, ²⁸ for I have five brothers, so that he may thoroughly testify to them, that they also may not come to this place of torment. ²⁹ `Abraham saith to him, They have Moses and the prophets, let them hear them; ³⁰ and he said, No, father Abraham, but if anyone from the dead may go unto them, they will reform. ³¹ And he said to him, If Moses and the prophets they do not hear, neither if one may rise out of the dead will they be persuaded.'" Luke 16:19-31 (Youngs Literal Translation)

CHAOS

When the Lord created the earth, He created it to be inhabited and He did not create it in chaos. And yet we find in Genesis 1:2 that the earth became uninhabitable."¹⁸ *For the LORD is God, and he created the heavens and earth and put everything in place. He made the world to be lived in, not to be a place of empty chaos. "I am the LORD," he says, "and there is no other. "* Isaiah 45:18 (New Living Translation)

" ² *And the earth was waste and empty, and darkness was on the face of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.*" *Genesis 1:2 (Darby's Translation)*

What happened? The earth became chaos and it became uninhabitable as a consequence of the revolt of Lucifer and one third of the angels.

May we remind you that there is only one God but He manifests Himself to mankind in three unique ways! God the Father represents the **intellect** of God. God the Son represents the **material** part of God. God the Holy Spirit represents the **spiritual** part of God. When the Lord created the world, He created it as three different parts of His kingdom. One part of His kingdom is intellectual, one part of His kingdom is material and the third part of His kingdom is spiritual. We believe that is why there were three groups of angels created. They were given three unique abilities so they might minister to the three parts of the Lord's kingdom they were given authority over.

Over the third of the angels who had authority over the **intellectual** part of His kingdom, the Lord placed the archangel Gabriel. When we read, for instance, that Daniel requested information, we see that the Lord sent Gabriel with the answer. When Mary was told that she had been chosen to give birth to the material body of the Son Of God, it was Gabriel who delivered the message. Over the third of the angels who had authority over the **spiritual** part of His kingdom, the Lord placed the archangel Michael and over the third part of the angels who had authority over the **material** part of His kingdom, the Lord placed the archangel Lucifer. But when Lucifer and one third of the angels were cast out of Heaven because of their rebellion, they took out their wrath upon the material part of God's kingdom like a spoiled, angry child kicking over the furniture. Lucifer became a temporary usurper of the material part of God's creation. That is why Jesus Christ referred to Satan (Lucifer) as the "prince of this world". ²⁷ *Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, do I give unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, nor let it be afraid.* ²⁸ *You have heard that I said to you: I go away, and I come unto you. If you loved me, you would indeed be glad, because I go to the Father: for the Father is greater than I.* ²⁹ *And now I have told you before it comes to pass: that when it shall come to pass, you may believe.* ³⁰ *I will not now speak many things with you. For **the prince of this world** cometh, and in me he hath not anything."* *John 14:27-30 (Douay-Rheims Version, New Catholic Edition).* Jesus meant that the prince of this world had not been able to persuade Him to sin.

The rebellion took place sometime between the events of Genesis 1:1 and Genesis 1:2. There could have been a thousand years, a million years or even a billion years or more between Genesis 1:1 and Genesis 1:2. We do not know. What we do know, however, is that there was a rebellion. We know that mankind was not created prior to the rebellion because of the Lords foreknowledge. The Lord knows everything that has happened in the past, everything that is happening now and everything that will happen in the future.

We know that both plant life and animal life existed prior to the rebellion and some of that plant life and animal life **were not** created again after Genesis 1:2. Because of the rebellion, all life was destroyed and the present earth was covered with water. There was no sunlight. Water, with no source of heat, eventually turned to ice. We are told that because of atmospheric pressure, one foot of water exerts roughly about two pounds of pressure so we can only imagine how much pressure was exerted upon the surface of the earth with its dead vegetation and animal life over the intervening years between Genesis 1:1 and Genesis 1:2. We believe that is what formed the oil, the coal, the diamonds, etc. It does not surprise us when fossils of plants and animals are found that no longer exist.

WHERE WILL SATAN BE BOUND?

⁹ *Hell* (שְׁאוֹל- pronounced sheh-ole' in English and referring to a compartments that contains the world of the departed dead, both saved and lost) *from beneath is moved for thee to meet thee at thy coming: it stirreth up the dead for thee, even all the chief ones of the earth; it hath raised up from their thrones all the kings of the nations.* ¹⁰ *All they shall speak and say unto thee, Art thou also become weak as we? art thou become like unto us?* ¹¹ *Thy pomp is brought down to the grave, and the noise of thy viols: the worm is spread under thee, and the worms cover thee.* ¹² *How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground which didst weaken the nations!* ¹³ *For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north:* ¹⁴ *I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High* ¹⁵ *Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell* (שְׁאוֹל- pronounced sheh-ole' in English and meaning the world of the departed dead, both saved and lost), *to the sides of the*

pit. *Isaiah 14:9-15 (King James Version).* Please note that the smaller compartment of **פּוֹל** that Lucifer will be cast into was referred to as "**the pit**".

The sixty-six books that compose the library of books we call the Bible were recorded over a period of approximately 1,500 years by about 40 different writers. The Living God told them what to write but He allowed them to use their own words and their own way of expressing themselves as they recorded the words. Except for a few passages in the book of Daniel, the books of the Old Testament were written in the Hebrew language and the books of the New Testament were written in the Greek language. God communicated with the writers of the **original** manuscripts and revealed to them tenets He wanted written. Even though the Lord allowed each recorder to use their own way of expressing themselves, He made sure they did not record error or contradictions. Therefore, the **original** sixty-six books were perfect, complete and without error. The original manuscripts did not just contain the words of God. They **were** the inspired words of God.

"²¹ For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost." 2 Peter 1:21 (King James Version)

"¹⁶ All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for refutation, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷ so that one who belongs to God may be competent, equipped for every good work." 2 Timothy 3:16-17 (New American Bible-United States Conference of Catholic Bishops)

"⁴ For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope." Romans 15:4 (New King James Version)

The sixty-six **original** manuscripts were recorded without any divisions so if your "Bible" has divisions such as chapters or verses, it is the first indication that your "Bible" is not an original manuscript, hand written by the original, inspired writers. Please do not be like the person who stated assertively, "If the Bible I use was good enough for the apostle Paul, it's good enough for me". The apostle Paul never had the complete Bible. For instance, the book of Revelation was not recorded until after the apostle Paul was killed.

The **copies** of the sixty-six **original** manuscripts were divided into chapters and verses at a later date. While dividing the Bible into chapters and verses sometimes furnishes a convenience in study, some of us have a tendency to think that the information always concludes at the end of a chapter. As a result, we do not consider that the verses in the new chapter, in many cases, are contiguous and congruent to the preceding chapter and/or the following chapter.

Often we base our understanding of God's word upon a key scripture that was clouded or corrupted when it was translated into our native language. Sometimes we erroneously base our understanding on comments that a writer has added next to a scripture in our Bible even though the writer **may not** have examined all the scriptures that deal with that particular subject. **The autographed manuscripts by the original writers were the perfect words of God.** God inspired the men who penned them. God did not inspire either the translators or those who write commentaries. The translators and the commentators may have worked under a strong desire to achieve something high or great for the Lord, but they did not do their work under the inspiration that the writers of the original manuscripts worked under. That is why it is so important that we read **all** the scriptures dealing with a particular subject before we come to a conclusion about what God is sharing with us. When we do, we will find that most of the scriptures dealing with a particular subject override any error that may have crept in.

The **original, autographed manuscripts** that made up the Bible were a divine blueprint. They explained how God will one day live and fellowship with perfect people who will inherit a new, perfect earth. " ¹ *Then I saw a new Heaven and a new earth. The former Heaven and the former earth had passed away, and the sea was no more.*" *Revelation 21:1 (New American Bible-United States Conference of Catholic Bishops)*

In order for us to correctly understand the Lord's plan for man, we must recognize that there has never been a errorless translation of the original sixty-six manuscripts that the Lord inspired. For instance, there are very few English translations that correctly translated the Hebrew word "שְׁאוֹל" (pronounced "sheh-ole" in English) in many of the places in the scriptures. Also, there are very few English translations that correctly translated the Greek word "ἁΐδης" (pronounced hah'-dace in English) in many of the places in the scriptures.

Both the Hebrew word "לֹאֵשׁ" (pronounced "sheh-ole") and the Greek word "ἄδης" (pronounced hah'-dace in English) refer to the same compartment that contains two compartments within it. Both the Hebrew word "לֹאֵשׁ" (pronounced "sheh-ole") and the Greek word "ἄδης" (pronounced hah'-dace in English) refer to the compartment that (1) hosts those who are destined for eternal blessings or (2) confines those who are reserved for eternal punishment. The Greek word ταρταρόω (pronounced tar-tar-o'-o) is the name of one of those two compartments in "לֹאֵשׁ" or "ἄδης". The Greek word παράδεισος (pronounced par-ad'-i-sos) is the name of the other compartment in "לֹאֵשׁ" or "ἄδης". But when the Hebrew and the Greek books were translated, some mistakes were made. The King James translation, for example, states in 2nd Peter 2:4-9 (printed below) that the fallen angels and those who died without Christ as their Savior are already in Hell, the place of eternal punishment. But we know that they will not be cast into γέεννα (pronounced gheh'-en-nah in English), the Lake of Fire, until after the White Throne Judgment. The King James translation states however, 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;* ⁵ *And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly;* ⁶ *And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrha into ashes condemned them with an overthrow, making them an ensample unto those that after should live ungodly;* ⁷ *And delivered just Lot, vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked:* ⁸ *(For that righteous man dwelling among them, in seeing and hearing, vexed his righteous soul from day to day with their unlawful deeds;)* ⁹ *The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to **reserve the unjust** unto the day of judgment to be punished:* ¹⁰ *But chiefly them that walk after the flesh in the lust of uncleanness, and despise government. Presumptuous are they, selfwilled, they are not afraid to speak evil of dignities." 2 Peter 2:4-10 (King James Version)*

The texts that correctly translated the original languages tell us that the Greek word "ταρταρόω" (pronounced tar-tar-o'-o in English) in 2nd Peter 2:4-9 referred to the world of the departed dead, both saved and lost, not to the place we commonly call "Hell", the place of eternal punishment. How do we know? The Lord is not going to cast the fallen angels and the lost into Hell, the place of eternal torments until books are opened and their actions will be judged. That will happen at the White Throne Judgment, after the Millennial reign of Christ on the reconstructed earth.

¹¹ *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.* ¹² *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.* ¹³ *And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death, (**ho thánatos**- the material body after it dies), and hell (ἄδης-the compartment that (1) hosts the spiritual bodies of those who are destined for eternal blessings or (2) confines the spiritual bodies of those who are destined for eternal punishment), delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works.* ¹⁴ *And death (**ho thánatos**) and hell (ἄδης) were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.* ¹⁵ *And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire." Revelation 20:11-15 (King James Version)* Let us be quick to recognize that by this time, the only compartment in "לִּיאֵץ" (Hebrew) or "ἄδης" (Greek) that still has inhabitants in it is ταρταρόω (pronounced tar-tar-o'-o in English). The other compartment, παράδεισος (pronounced par-ad'-i-sos) will be emptied at the Catching Up at least 1,007 years before the White Throne judgment). ¹⁴³ *Then Jesus said to him, "I promise you, today you will be with me in paradise (par-ad'-i-sos)." Luke 23:43 (Easy-To-Read Version)*

Again, the other compartment in לִּיאֵץ (pronounced "sheh-ole" in English) or ἄδης (pronounced hah'-dace in English) that is not emptied at the Catching Up of the saved is "ταρταρόω" (pronounced tar-tar-o'-o in English). ταρταρόω is the compartment that confines those who are reserved for eternal punishment.

Where will Satan be bound? Satan will be bound in the pit that enlarges itself to make more room so that it can contain the fallen angels and so that it can also contain those who die without asking the Messiah to pay their sin debt. ¹³ *Therefore my people have gone into captivity, because they have no knowledge; Their honorable men are famished, And their multitude dried up with thirst.* ¹⁴ *Therefore Sheol has enlarged itself And opened its mouth beyond measure; Their glory and their multitude and their pomp, And he who is jubilant, shall descend into it." Isaiah 5:13-14 (New King James Version)*

WHEN WILL SATAN BE BOUND?

Lucifer (Satan) will be confined in the pit that enlarges itself very soon after Christ returns to earth to set up His Millennial kingdom. ¹¹ *I saw heaven standing open. There was a white horse, and its rider is named Faithful and True. With integrity he judges and wages war.* ¹² *His eyes are flames of fire. On his head are many crowns. He has a name written on him, but only he knows what it is.* ¹³ *He wears clothes dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God.* ¹⁴ *The armies of heaven, wearing pure, white linen, follow him on white horses.* ¹⁵ *A sharp sword comes out of his mouth to defeat the nations. He will rule them with an iron scepter and tread the winepress of the fierce anger of God Almighty.* ¹⁶ *On his clothes and his thigh he has a name written: King of kings and Lord of lords.* ¹⁷ *I saw an angel standing in the sun. He cried out in a loud voice to all the birds flying overhead, "Come! Gather for the great banquet of God.* ¹⁸ *Eat the flesh of kings, generals, warriors, horses and their riders, and all free people and slaves, both important or insignificant people."* ¹⁹ *I saw the beast, the kings of the earth, and their armies gathered to wage war against the rider on the horse and his army.* ²⁰ *The beast and the false prophet who had done miracles for the beast were captured. By these miracles the false prophet had deceived those who had the brand of the beast and worshiped its statue. Both of them were thrown alive into the fiery lake of burning sulfur.* ²¹ *The rider on the horse killed the rest with the sword that came out of his mouth. All the birds gorged themselves on the flesh of those who had been killed.* ¹ *I saw an angel coming down from heaven, holding the key to **the bottomless pit** and a large chain in his hand.* ² *He overpowered the serpent, that ancient snake, named Devil and Satan. The angel chained up the serpent for 1,000 years.* ³ *He threw it into **the bottomless pit**. The angel shut and sealed the pit over the serpent to keep it from deceiving the nations anymore until the 1,000 years were over. After that it must be set free for a little while."*
Revelation 19:11 through Revelation 20: 3 (God's Word)

Satan will not be present on the reconstructed earth until near the end of the 1,000 year reign of Christ. When Satan is released, he will lead in a rebellion against Jesus Christ who will be ruling from Jerusalem. That rebellion will cause the second battle in the valley of Megiddo or the second battle of Armageddon. After the second battle of Armageddon, (1) the reconstructed earth, (2) the first heaven (the atmosphere-the area where the birds fly), (3) the second heaven (the sun, the moon and the other stars and planets) and (4) the Third Heaven (the Throne Room of the Three Mighty Ones, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit) will burn up with fervent heat, all things will be dissolved and we will find ourselves at the White Throne Judgment.

Although Lucifer (Satan) stands condemned since his rebellion near the beginning of the world system, the momentum of his rebellion will only be stopped, temporally, after the end of the first battle of Armageddon. Lucifer (Satan) will be confined in the Bottomless Pit (ταρταρόω-pronounced tar-tar-o'-o in English) at the end of the seven years of the Great Tribulation. But the spirit of the rebellion will continue in the hearts of millions of those children who will be born to earthly parents who will be saved during the Great Tribulation. We who are saved, of course, will have received our heavenly, glorified bodies at the Catching Up. Those parents who will be saved during the Great Tribulation and who manage to remain alive until Christ comes to this earth, will be allowed to continue to live on the renovated earth in their material bodies. Jesus Christ explained that those who are saved during the Great Tribulation will not be saved by their good works but, rather, they will exhibit their salvation by their good works. He explained that only those who will be born again would be willing to do the good works for others that they will be willing to do. During the time of the Great Tribulation, it will be very, very dangerous to exhibit your salvation. " ³¹ *Now, when the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He shall sit upon His throne of glory. And there shall be gathered before Him all the Gentile nations. And He shall separate them from one another even as the shepherd separates the sheep from the young goats. And He shall stand the sheep on His right hand and the young goats on His left. Then shall the King say to those on His right hand, Come, my Father's blessed ones. Inherit the kingdom which has been prepared for you from the foundation of the universe; for I was hungry and you gave me to eat, I was thirsty, and you gave me to drink, I was a stranger and you received me hospitably, naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, in prison I was and you came to me.* ³⁷ *Then the righteous ones shall answer Him, saying, Lord, when did we see you hungering and feed you, or thirsting and give you drink? And when did we see you a stranger and hospitably received you, or naked, and clothed you? And when did we see you sick or in prison and we came to you? And answering, the King shall say to them, Assuredly, I am saying to you, in so far as you did this to one of these my brethren, to the least, to me you did it. Then shall He say to those on His left hand, Be proceeding from me, you who have been doomed, into the fire, the everlasting fire which has been prepared and is in readiness for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you did not give me food, I was thirsty and you did not give me drink, a stranger I was, and you did not receive me hospitably, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not look*

after me. Then they themselves shall also answer Him, saying, Lord, when did we see you hungering or thirsting, or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison and did not relieve your necessities? Then He shall answer them, saying, Assuredly, I am saying to you, in so far as you did not do it to one of these least ones, neither did you do it to me. And these shall go off into everlasting punishment, but the righteous ones into life eternal." *Matthew 25:31-46 (Wuest New Testament: An Expanded Translation)*. Again, those saved during the Great Tribulation who manage to remain alive until Jesus Christ returns will be allowed to continue to live on the renovated earth in their material bodies. They will marry and have children but every child will have to repent of their sins and ask that Jesus Christ to pay their sin debt by His sacrifice on Calvary's cross. **Many will not.**

WHY WILL SATAN BE BOUND?

Those who are born during the 1,000 years that Christ is ruling from Jerusalem will not be able to blame Satan or the demons for the decisions they make. Satan and the demons will be confined in the Bottomless Pit (ταρταρόω-pronounced tar-tar-o'-o in English). This is one reason Satan will be bound. At the White Throne Judgment, no one will be able to say "the Devil made me do it".

Why will Satan be bound? A second reason would be if Satan would continue to remain on this earth, he would continue to be a stumbling block to every saved person who will be in their material bodies during the Millennial reign of Christ. Peter showed us how Satan can be a stumbling block to a saved person. ²¹ *From that time began Jesus to show unto his disciples, that he must go unto Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and the third day be raised up.* ²² *And Peter took him, and began to rebuke him, saying, Be it far from thee, Lord: this shall never be unto thee.* ²³ *But he turned, and said unto Peter, Get thee behind me, Satan: **thou art a stumbling-block unto me:** for thou mindest not the things of God, but the things of men." *Matthew 16:21-23 (New American Standard Bible)**

Please remember that our material bodies have an old sin nature. They never wanted to do the will of God in the past, they do not want to do the will of God now and they will never

want to do the will of God in the future as long as they are in this condition. The apostle Paul shared this about his struggle with his material body. " ¹⁴ *For we know that the Law is a spiritual thing; but I am unspiritual—the slave, bought and sold, of sin.* ¹⁵ *For what I do, I do not recognize as my own action. What I desire to do is not what I do, but what I am averse to is what I do.* ¹⁶ *But if I do that which I do not desire to do, I admit the excellence of the Law,* ¹⁷ *and now it is no longer I that do these things, but the sin which has its home within me does them.* ¹⁸ *For I know that in me, that is, in my lower self, nothing good has its home; for while the will to do right is present with me, the power to carry it out is not.* ¹⁹ *For what I do is not the good thing that I desire to do; but the evil thing that I desire not to do, is what I constantly do.* ²⁰ *But if I do that which I desire not to do, it can no longer be said that it is I who do it, but the sin which has its home within me does it.* ²¹ *I find therefore the law of my nature to be that when I desire to do what is right, evil is lying in ambush for me.* ²² *For in my inmost self all my sympathy is with the Law of God;* ²³ *but I discover within me a different Law at war with the Law of my understanding, and leading me captive to the Law which is everywhere at work in my body—the Law of sin.* ²⁴ *(Unhappy man that I am! who will rescue me from this death-burdened body?* ²⁵ *Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!) To sum up then, with my understanding, I—my true self—am in servitude to the Law of God, but with my lower nature I am in servitude to the Law of sin."* Romans 7:14-25 (Weymouth New Testament)

Why will Satan be bound? A third reason would be if Satan would continue be present on this earth, he would continue to offer the rewards of the world to every saved person who is still in their material body during the Millennial reign of Christ. " ¹ *Then Jesus was led out into the wilderness by the Holy Spirit, to be tempted there by Satan.* ² *For forty days and forty nights he ate nothing and became very hungry.* ³ *Then Satan tempted him to get food by changing stones into loaves of bread. "It will prove you are the Son of God," he said.* ⁴ *But Jesus told him, "No! For the Scriptures tell us that bread won't feed men's souls: obedience to every word of God is what we need."* ⁵ *Then Satan took him to Jerusalem to the roof of the Temple.* ⁶ *"Jump off," he said, "and prove you are the Son of God; for the Scriptures declare, 'God will send his angels to keep you from harm, '... they will prevent you from smashing on the rocks below."* ⁷ *Jesus retorted, "It also says not to put the Lord your God to a foolish test!"* ⁸ *Next Satan took him to the peak of a very high mountain and showed him the nations of the world and all their glory.* ⁹ ***"I'll give it all to you,"*** he said, "if you will only kneel and worship me." ¹⁰ "Get out of

here, Satan," Jesus told him. "The Scriptures say, 'Worship only the Lord God. Obey only him.' "
Matthew 4:1-10 (The Living Bible)

Why will Satan be bound? A fourth reason would be if Satan would remain on this earth, he would continue to snatch the divine word that was sown. Again, please remember that our material bodies have never wanted to do the will of God in the past, they do not want to do the will of God now and they will never want to do the will of God in the future as long as they are in this condition. There will be a lot of people born during the 1,000 years of the Millennial reign of Christ who will already doubt the Lord's plan of salvation. If Satan were there, he would encourage those doubts and discourage their faith. " ¹ *The next time Jesus taught beside Lake Galilee, a big crowd gathered. It was so large that he had to sit in a boat out on the lake, while the people stood on the shore.* ² *He used stories to teach them many things, and this is part of what he taught:* ³ *Now listen! A farmer went out to scatter seed in a field.* ⁴ *While the farmer was scattering the seed, some of it fell along the road and was eaten by birds.* ⁵ *Other seeds fell on thin, rocky ground and quickly started growing because the soil wasn't very deep.* ⁶ *But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched and dried up, because they did not have enough roots.* ⁷ *Some other seeds fell where thorn bushes grew up and choked out the plants. So they did not produce any grain.* ⁸ *But a few seeds did fall on good ground where the plants grew and produced thirty or sixty or even a hundred times as much as was scattered.* ⁹ *Then Jesus said, "If you have ears, pay attention."* ¹⁰ *When Jesus was alone with the twelve apostles and some others, they asked him about these stories.* ¹¹ *He answered: I have explained the secret about God's kingdom to you, but for others I can use only stories.* ¹² *The reason is, "These people will look and look, but never see. They will listen and listen, but never understand. If they did, they would turn to God, and he would forgive them (of their national sin of being a member of a nation that turned away from the Living God and no longer being His priests).* " ¹³ *Jesus told them: If you don't understand this story, you won't understand any others.* ¹⁴ *What the farmer is spreading is really the message about the kingdom.* ¹⁵ *The seeds that fell along the road are the people who hear the message. But Satan soon comes and snatches it away from them.* ¹⁶ *The seeds that fell on rocky ground are the people who gladly hear the message and accept it right away.* ¹⁷ *But they don't have any roots, and they don't last very long. As soon as life gets hard or the message gets them in trouble, they give up.* ¹⁸ *The seeds that fell among the thornbushes are also people who hear the message.* ¹⁹ *But they start worrying about the needs of this life. They*

are fooled by the desire to get rich and to have all kinds of other things. So the message gets choked out, and they never produce anything.²⁰ The seeds that fell on good ground are the people who hear and welcome the message. They produce thirty or sixty or even a hundred times as much as was planted." *Mark 4:1-20 (Contemporary English Version)*

Why will Satan be bound? A fifth reason would be if Satan would continue to remain on this earth, he might attempt to organize the revolt of the lost too early. It is the Lord's plan to turn Satan loose near the end of the 1,000 years of the Millennium and allow him to organize a very large army of lost people and march to Jerusalem to destroy Jesus Christ. God the Father will rain fire down from heaven and kill the entire invading army. ⁷ *And when the thousand years shall be finished, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison, and shall go forth, and seduce the nations, which are over the four quarters of the earth, Gog, and Magog, and shall gather them together to battle, the number of whom is as the sand of the sea.* ⁸ *And they came upon the breadth of the earth, and encompassed the camp of the saints, and the beloved city.* ⁹ *And there came down fire from God out of heaven, and devoured them; and the devil, who seduced them, was cast into the pool of fire and brimstone, where both the beast* ¹⁰ *And the false prophet shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.* ¹¹ *And I saw a great white throne, and one sitting upon it, from whose face the earth and heaven fled away, and there was no place found for them.* ¹² *And I saw the dead, great and small, standing in the presence of the throne, and the **books** were opened; and another book was opened, which is the book of life; and the dead were judged by those things which were written in **the books, according to their works.**" *Revelation 20:7-12 (Douay-Rheims Version, New Catholic Edition)**

Why will Satan be bound? A sixth reason would be if Satan would continue to remain on this earth, he would attempt to lead some of the saved to break fellowship with the Lord. ¹ *But a certain man, Ananias by name, with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession,* ² *and put aside for himself part of the price, [his] wife also being privy to it; and having brought a certain part, laid it at the feet of the apostles.* ³ *But Peter said, Ananias, **why has Satan filled thy heart that thou shouldst lie to the Holy Spirit,** and put aside for thyself a part of the price of the estate?* ⁴ *While it remained, did it not remain to thee? and sold, was [it not] in thine own power? Why is it that thou hast purposed this thing in thine heart? Thou hast not lied to men, but to God.* ⁵ *And Ananias, hearing these words, fell down and expired. And great fear came upon all who heard [it]." *Acts 5:1-5 (Darby's Translation)**

Why will Satan be bound? A seventh reason would be if Satan would continue to remain on this earth, he would be continually interfering with the plans of the saved as they seek to serve the Lord. " ¹⁷ *My friends, we were kept from coming to you for a while, but we never stopped thinking about you. We were eager to see you and tried our best to visit you in person.* ¹⁸ *We really wanted to come. I myself tried several times, **but Satan always stopped us.*** 1 *Thessalonians 2:17-18 (Contemporary English Version)*

These are just a few of the reasons why Satan will be bound in the Bottomless Pit prior to the Millennial reign of Christ.