

Questions About Sequence of Events After the 1,000 Years

By Pastor Ed Anderson

Is Satan and the wicked destroyed at the time they attack the Holy City coming down from heaven then in an instant the earth is turned to ashes then Jesus feet touch the earth? Also will us Righteous people follow Jesus on this deserted earth?

Answer:

Your question taps into the powerful climax of the **Great Controversy** — what happens **at the end of the 1,000 years (Millennium)** when the Holy City descends. Let's walk through the **sequence of events** clearly and biblically:

1. The Holy City Descends from Heaven

Revelation 21:2

“Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.”

At the **end of the 1,000 years**, the redeemed (God's people) descend with Christ in the **New Jerusalem** from heaven to the earth made desolate (Jeremiah 4:23-27; Revelation 20:1-3).

2. The Wicked Are Raised to Life (Second Resurrection)

Revelation 20:5, 7–8

“But the rest of the dead did not live again until the thousand years were finished... Satan will be released from his prison and will go out to deceive the nations...”

This is the **second resurrection**, the resurrection of the **wicked**, who are raised so they can face judgment (John 5:28–29).

3. Satan Leads the Wicked to Attack the Holy City

Revelation 20:9

“They went up on the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city...”

Satan rallies the wicked (including all past rebels — from Cain to the last lost soul) to surround and **attack** the New Jerusalem in a **final attempt to overthrow God**.

4. The Final Judgment Before the Great White Throne

Revelation 20:11–13

“Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it... and the dead were judged according to their works...”

Before the fire falls, God allows **every person** to see the **justice of their sentence** — every knee will bow (Philippians 2:10–11), even the lost, acknowledging that God is just.

5. Fire from God Destroys the Wicked and Satan

Revelation 20:9–10

“...And fire came down from God out of heaven and devoured them. The devil... was cast into the lake of fire...”

This is the **final destruction**, sometimes called **hellfire** or **the second death** (Revelation 20:14). It is not eternal torment, but total and complete destruction (Malachi 4:1–3).

This is when the earth is turned to ashes. As it says in:

Malachi 4:1

“Behold, the day is coming, burning like an oven... and all the proud, yes, all who do wickedly will be stubble...”

2 Peter 3:10

“...the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up.”

6. Jesus Sets His Feet on the Earth

While **not directly stated in Revelation**, Zechariah 14:4 prophesies:

“And in that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, which faces Jerusalem...”

This may symbolically represent **Christ reclaiming the earth as King** — after the wicked are destroyed, and before the earth is made new.

7. Will the Righteous Walk the Earth with Jesus?

Yes — but not the old, burnt earth.

We don't wander a destroyed wasteland. Instead, **God recreates** the earth into a perfect home:

Revelation 21:1, 3–5

“Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth... Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men... Behold, I make all things new.”

We will walk with Jesus on a **restored, perfect earth** — **Eden restored** — no sin, no death, no pain. (Isaiah 65:17–25; Revelation 22:1–5)

Final Sequence Summary:

Event	Description
1.	New Jerusalem descends (Rev. 21:2)
2.	Wicked are raised (Rev. 20:5)
3.	Satan deceives them to attack the city (Rev. 20:8–9)
4.	Great White Throne judgment (Rev. 20:11–13)
5.	Fire falls, destroys wicked & Satan (Rev. 20:9–10)

6.	Earth purified and recreated (2 Pet. 3:10; Rev. 21:1)
7.	The righteous dwell forever with God in the new earth (Rev. 21–22)