

Questions About Genesis 1:2 and Revelation 20

A Comparative Study of Genesis 1:2 and Revelation 20

When Light Withdraws: From Creation to Final Judgment

Introduction

The Bible begins and ends with a similar scene — the earth in a state of chaos and darkness.

Genesis 1:2 introduces a world “without form and void,” while Revelation 20 describes a world once again desolate, dark, and abandoned. But the presence—or absence—of **light** becomes the defining thread between the two.

This guide compares these two pivotal moments to help you understand the **spiritual, prophetic, and symbolic significance** of light being withdrawn from the earth.

Side-by-Side Chart

Theme	Genesis 1:2 (Creation)	Revelation 20 (Final Judgment)
State of the Earth	Formless and void	Desolate and empty
Presence of Light	Darkness was upon the face of the deep	Light of life withdrawn — symbolic spiritual darkness
Holy Spirit	Spirit of God hovered over the waters	God’s presence is withdrawn; no living saints remain on earth
Satan’s Role	Not yet revealed	Satan is bound in the bottomless pit (Greek: “abussos”)
Human Life	Not yet created	All the wicked are dead; righteous are in heaven

God's Activity	Preparing to speak light and life into existence	Preparing for final judgment and new creation
Water Imagery	Deep / waters covering the earth	Abyss / bottomless pit — same imagery of depth and emptiness

Key Observations

- **Genesis 1:2** sets the stage for God to **speak light into the darkness**.
- **Revelation 20** portrays a world where **light has been removed**, and Satan is left in a **spiritual vacuum**.
- The term "*bottomless pit*" in Revelation 20 is the Greek word *abussos*, the same used in the Greek Old Testament for the **deep** in Genesis 1:2.
- **The Holy Spirit's presence** marks the beginning of creation. His **absence** marks the earth's desolation before final re-creation.

Conclusion

From Genesis to Revelation, the **withdrawal and return of divine light** symbolize the grand arc of salvation history. Just as light broke into the formless void at creation, **so it will again** after the 1,000 years, when God makes a **new heaven and a new earth** (Revelation 21:1–5).

This is the hope of all who trust in Christ:

"And there shall be no night there... for the Lord God gives them light." —

Revelation 22:5