

Revelation 20:7-15

As shocking as the idea of a revolt against the reign of Christ is, it is thoroughly in line with sinful humanity's past responses.

1. Dispensation of Innocence – Adam and Eve's sin and fall.
2. Dispensation of Conscience – Corruption and violence and the Flood judgment.
3. Dispensation of the Law – Rejection of Christ and destruction of Jerusalem.
4. Dispensation of the Church – Apostasy and confusion. (I Tim. 4:1-3, II Tim. 3:1-9)
5. Dispensation of the Kingdom – Rebellion and war.

Why is Satan loosed? To show what was hidden – the sinful human heart. Here is a time of peace, justice, and plenty – and it isn't enough.

Revelation 20:7-10

Satan is loosed from his prison and gathers millions of people (where did all these unsaved come from? - Matthew 25:31-46) to attack Jerusalem. This rebellion is ended by fire from heaven and Satan is cast into that which is his final destination, the lake of fire. Notice –

1. Satan first fell from his exalted position at God's throne (Isaiah 14:12-15; Ezekiel 28:11-18). He roams the earth and has access to heaven where he makes accusations against the saints. (Job 1:6-12; Matthew 4:1-11; I Peter 5:8-9)
2. During the future Seventieth Week of Daniel (The Tribulation), Satan loses all access to heaven and only has access to earth. (Rev. 12:7-12)
3. At the beginning of the Kingdom, Satan loses access to the earth and is chained for 1000 years in a bottomless pit. (Rev. 20:1-6)
4. After being loosed from his prison, Satan leads a rebellion against Christ, is defeated, and is cast into hell. (Rev. 20:7-10) (Matthew 24:41)

Revelation 20:11-15

Thus ends our earth, our atmosphere, our solar system, our universe. A Great White Throne is set up somewhere, and the souls and bodies of the unsaved are reunited. Using a record of their works and the Book of Life, judgment is given and eternal punishment is determined. It seems the Book of Life determines their destiny, and the other books determine the degree of their punishment.