

Revelation 20:1-15

Reigning with Jesus, Satan is Bound

Satan is Defeated

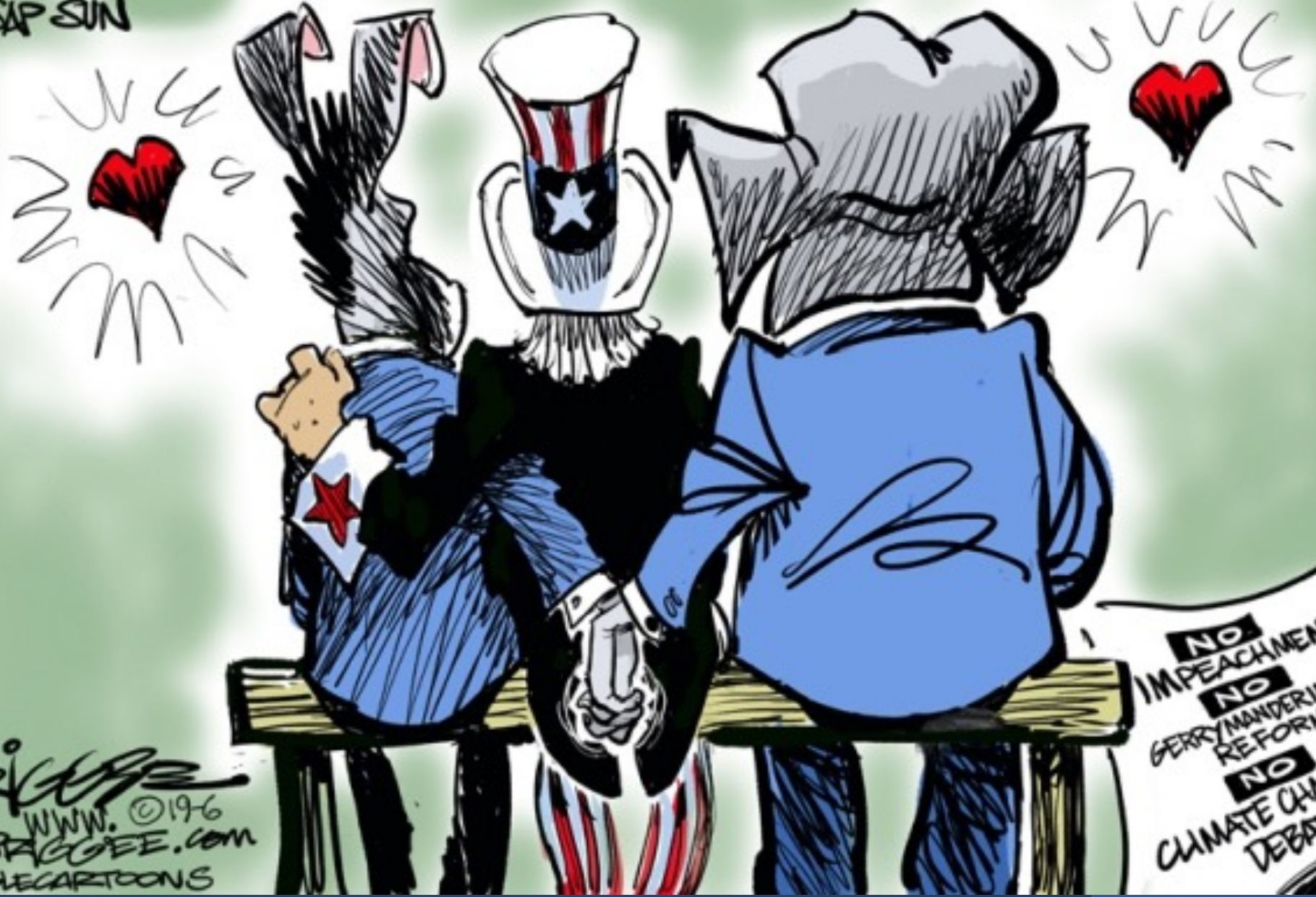
Judgement Before the Great White Throne

Nature of John's Writing in Revelations

- In “**signs**”, not to confuse people but to communicate a lot of information clearly in a few words, Revelations 1:1-6 (like a political cartoon viewed by foreigners or in a different time)



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Political
Cartoons
Following the
American
Revolution



Political Cartoons Following the American Revolution

The lower margin reads:

"The BRITISH LION engaging FOUR POWERS.
Behold the Dutch and Spanish Currs,
Perfidious Gallus in his Spurs,
And Rattlesnake with head upright,
The British Lion join to fight;
He scorns the Bark, the Hiss, the Crow,
That he's a Lion soon they'll know.

Published by J. Barrow June 14th, 1782.
Sold by Richardson Print Seller, N. 68 High Holborn."
Colonial Williamsburg museum

At the conclusion of the Revolution, the nations of Europe struggled to extend their influence and authority in the world. It was therefore crucial for each of the participating countries to achieve the most satisfactory agreement possible during peace negotiations. To depict this continued aggressive spirit among nations, satirists resorted to symbolic use of animals.

The scene has been changed from a conference table to an open field. With paw raised and tail held high the British lion tells the four allies, "You shall all have an old English drubbing to make quiet." From the lower right corner a fox (Charles Fox) supports the lion, "I counsel your Majesty to give Monsieur the first gripe." A pug dog, Holland, responds, "I will be Jack of all sides as I have always been"; the snake, America, says, "I will have America and be Independent"; France, a cock, boasts, "I will have my Title from you and be call'd King of France"; and Spain, a dog, replies, "I will have Gibraltar, that I may be King of all Spain."



Nature of John's Writing

- In “**signs**”, not to confuse but to communicate a lot of information clearly in a few words, Revelation 1:1-6 (like a political cartoon viewed by foreigners or in a different time)
- A warning to Christians then-living to continue to overcome with Jesus – ***don't give up***
- To assure those that did not compromise their faith and trusted in God that ***He keeps His promises***
- The Jews or Roman power exercised through her Emperors would not prevail – nor will Satan.
All God's enemies will be destroyed

The Thousand Years

And I saw an angel coming down out of heaven, having the key of the abyss and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, the old serpent, which is the **Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years**, and cast him into the abyss, and shut *it*, and sealed *it* over him, that **he should deceive the nations no more, until the thousand years should be finished: after this he must be loosed for a little time**. And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and *I saw* the souls of them that had been beheaded for the testimony of Jesus, and for the word of God, and such as worshipped not the beast, neither his image, and received not the mark upon their forehead and upon their hand; and they lived, and reigned with Christ a thousand years.

The rest of the dead lived not until the thousand years should be finished. This is the first resurrection. Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: over these the second death hath no power; but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.

Revelations 20:1-6 (ASV)

Reigning with Jesus, Satan Bound, vss.1-6

- Satan is **bound** so that he can no longer **deceive** when Jesus makes His sacrifice for sin
 - Matthew 12:22-29, cf. Mark 3:27
 - Jesus cast out demons
 - That Jesus is able to cast out demons is proof that He has bound the strong man
 - Romans 3:23-26
 - David is forgiven for murder without an adequate sacrifice, Hebrews 10:4
 - Satan **can** deceive, telling David he **can't** have forgiveness, because David can't *see Jesus' sacrifice like God does*
 - When Jesus dies, **deception is no longer possible**
 - ***Until people loose Satan to again deceive because they forget what Jesus did!***

The Thousand Years

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The rest of the dead lived not until the thousand years should be finished. This is the **first resurrection**. Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: over these the second death hath no power; but they shall be **priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.**

Revelations 20:1-6 (ASV)

Reigning with Jesus, Satan Bound, vss.1-6

- The “**first resurrection**” allowing them to:
 - Reign with Jesus, Revelation 1:6; 5:10
 - Serve as priests, I Peter 2:5, 9
 - **Baptism** raises us to life and so enables us, Romans 6:4; 8:11
- They reign with Jesus and serve for “**1,000 years**”
 - **This life is time-delimited**, unlike eternal life in heaven
 - Symbolically presented as a long time, Psalms 50:10; 90:4

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- The “**second death**” (IMO death is entirely spiritual in this context, no thought is given to physical death)
 - Does not impact the reigning priests
 - Their first death was a death to sin in baptism, Colossians 1:19-23; Romans 6:4; Colossians 2:12
 - **Not all experience** the first resurrection or the first death
 - **All will experience the second resurrection** (when Jesus returns and all are raised)
 - For the believer it is a resurrection to eternal life (heaven)
 - **For the unbeliever it is a resurrection to eternal death (hell)**