

# **“The Fountain of Youth”**

**(Rev. 20:7-10)**

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## **I. Introduction**

### **A. Michelangelo**

1. The Sistine Chapel
  - a. Painted the ceiling
  - b. On his back on scaffolding
2. The Pieta
  - a. He was 24 years old
3. St. Peters Basilica Dome (Vatican)
  - a. Hired as the architect
  - b. Have drawings he did when he was 89 years old!

### **B. John Wesley**

1. John Wesley traveled for 40 years; preached 40,000 sermons; produced 400 books; knew 10 languages.
2. At 83 he was annoyed that he could not write more than 15 hours a day without hurting his eyes,
3. At 86 he was ashamed he could not preach more than twice a day.
4. He complained in his diary that there was an increasing tendency to lie in bed until 5:30 in the morning.

### **C. Seemed to have discovered the Fountain of Youth**

1. The secret to long life?

Asked for his formula for long life, Dr. Arthur Judson Brown, Presbyterian minister celebrating his 103<sup>rd</sup> birthday, quipped, “Don’t die.”

#### **D. The search for the Fountain of Youth**

1. Ponce de Leon thought it was a magic spring in Florida
2. Now we believe science can discover the secret
3. More and more people reach senior years
  - a. 12,000 Americans 100 or more
4. But—can’t break the barrier of 120

#### **E. Today....the “Fountain of Youth”**

### **III. Text**

#### **C. The Reign of the Saints (Rev. 20:4-6)**

1. The Final Kingdom

*(4) I saw thrones on which were seated those who had been given authority to judge. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony for Jesus and because of the word of God. They had not worshiped the beast or his image and had not received his mark on their foreheads or their hands. They came to life and reigned with Christ a thousand years.*

2. What will life be like during those 1,000 years?
  - a. One of the best descriptions is in Isaiah 65

#### **Life in the Final Kingdom (Isaiah 65)**

1. *God will completely “remodel” earth (v.17)*

*(17) Behold, I will create new heavens and a new earth. The former things will not be remembered, nor will they come to mind.*

- a. Not the first time
  1. The fall

2. The flood

b. The curse will be lifted

1. Back to the way God originally made it

**2. God will erase all painful memories (v.17)**

***(17) Behold, I will create new heavens and a new earth. The former things will not be remembered, nor will they come to mind. Lord.***

a. The joy of childbirth

1. Quickly forget the pain and labor

2. It was worth it

b. Tears not dried up until after the Millennium (Rev. 21:4)

c. Sorrow in Heaven prior to then

1. The weeping of the martyred saints from the Tribulation

b. Remembering those we loved

a. But who rejected Jesus

b. Will remove any memory of family in Hell

**3. Jerusalem will be the capital of the earth (v.18)**

***(18) But be glad and rejoice forever in what I will create, for I will create Jerusalem to be a delight and its people a joy. (19) I will rejoice over Jerusalem and take delight in my people; the sound of weeping and of crying will be heard in it no more.***

a. He will build a spectacular new Temple

b. Jerusalem will be the center of all government

c. Jesus will be the perfect ruler

1. Looking for the best president

2. Justice—Love—Wisdom

d. No more weeping and crying!!!

**4. *There will be two types of people in the Kingdom (v.19)***

**a. Those of us who return with Jesus**

1. Glorified bodies
2. Special role in the Kingdom

**b. Those believers who survive the Tribulation**

1. Some will not die
2. Human bodies
  - a. But without the curse
3. Able to bear children
  - a. And they will
  - b. It is their offspring that will join Satan in the final rebellion

**5. *People will enjoy long, long life (v.20)***

***(20) Never again will there be in it an infant who lives but a few days, or an old man who does not live out his years; he who dies at a hundred will be thought a mere youth; he who fails to reach a hundred will be considered accursed.***

- a. But, no premature death
  1. Infants reach maturity
  2. Old men fulfill their day
  3. People will still age, however
- b. A slower process
  1. Still considered a child at 100
- c. Similar to the days prior to the Flood

## d. Genesis 5

(3) When Adam had lived 130 years, he had a son in his own likeness, in his own image; and he name him Seth. (4) After Seth was born, Adam lived 800 years and had other sons and daughters. (5) ***Altogether, Adam lived 930 years, and then he died.***

## d. Adam followed by:

1. Seth	912
2. Enosh	905
3. Cainan	910
4. Mahaleel	895
5. Jared	962
6. Methuselah	969

## e. Life expectancy dropped after the flood

1. To the current levels

## f. Will be restored in the Kingdom

g. ***For as the days of a tree, so will be the days of my people;(22)***

***6. There will be an incredible housing boom (v.21-22)***

***(21) They will build houses and dwell in them; they will plant vineyards and eat their fruit.***

***(22) No longer will they build houses and others live in them, or plant and others eat. For as the days of a tree, so will be the days of my people;***

a. Will have families

b. Will have jobs

c. Will build houses

d. Life similar to what we enjoy

\*But no presidential debates

\*or sub-prime mortgage meltdowns

***7. People will actually enjoy going to work (v.22)***

***(22) No longer will they build houses and others live in them, or plant and others eat. For as the days of a tree, so will be the days of my people; my chosen ones will long enjoy the works of their hands.***

- a. Plant vineyards
- b. But—everyone will *enjoy* their job

1. ***“my chosen ones will long enjoy the works of their hands”***

**8. *There will be no poverty, crime or warfare (v.22)***

***(22) No longer will they build houses and others live in them, or plant and others eat.***

- a. Nobody will take your home or vineyard
- b. No foreclosures either
- c. No poverty
- d. Think how well we could live today
  - 1. With wise and honest leaders
  - 2. Without expenditures for defense
  - 3. Without social programs
    - a. Welfare
    - b. Social security
    - c. Medicare
    - d. Medicaid
  - 4. Full productivity
    - a. No unemployment

**9. *Children will obey their parents (v.23)***

***(23) They will not toil in vain or bear children doomed to misfortune; for they will be a people blessed by the Lord, they and their descendants with them.***

- a. The land will produce
  - 1. No crop failures
  - 2. No drought
- b. Children will not—
  - 1. Die at birth
  - 2. Be born with birth defects
- c. Children will obey their parents!

***10. God will answer requests before they are uttered (v.24)***

***(24) Before they call I will answer; while they are still speaking I will hear.***

- a. Before they call

***11. There'll be no more tiger attacks (v.25)***

***(25) The wolf and the lamb will feed together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox, but dust will be the serpent's food. They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain, says the Lord.***

- a. Tiger attack at the San Francisco Zoo
- b. Vegetarian lions and tigers
  - 1. “will eat straw”
- c. Like the Earth before the fall
  - 1. No thorns nor thistles
  - 2. No allergies
  - 3. No foul weather
- e. But—note the serpent
  - 1. Still accursed

***12. And we get to be a part of it!***

- a. Authority then will be based on faithfulness now
- b. How you use the gifts (talents) God has given you now
  - 1. Not based on the prominence of the gift or power of your personality or public recognition
  - 2. Rather, how you did what God equipped you to do

#### **D. The Release of Satan (Rev. 20:7)**

*(7) When the thousand years are over, Satan will be released from his prison*

- 1. At the conclusion of the 1,000 years
- 2. Chains and gates unlocked
- 3. But why?

#### **E. The Rebellion of Sinners (Rev. 20:8-10)**

*(8) and will go out to deceive the nations in the four corners of the earth—Gog and Magog—to gather them for battle. In number they are like the sand on the seashore. (9) They marched across the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of God’s people, the city he loves. But fire came down from heaven and devoured them. (10) And the devil, who deceived them, was thrown into the lake of burning sulfur, where the beast and the false prophet had been thrown. They will be tormented day and night for ever and ever.*

- 1. A vast number of children born
  - a. World’s ability to support
- 2. Will have to choose to accept or reject Jesus
  - a. The vast majority will accept Jesus
  - b. However, many will reject Jesus
    - 1. Even though He is on earth
    - b. Don’t be surprised....they did it before!
- 3. No open rebellion until Satan appears

- a. That's why he was released
- b. To separate believers from rejectors
- 4. They will attempt to attack Jesus and the Saints
  - a. In Jerusalem
  - b. From the north
    - 1. Gog and Magog
- 5. Different from the battle of Gog and Magog prior to Tribulation
- 6. God the Father now steps in
  - a. Fire from God
- 9. The devil is finally finished
  - a. Cast into the Lake of Fire (Hell)
  - b. Joins his old cronies the Antichrist and the False Prophet
  - c. They are still alive and suffering
    - 1. 1,000 years later
  - d. Forever and ever

## **IV. Summary**

### **A. Life as God intended it to be**