coming down from heaven and binding Satan and casting him into a pit for a thousand years, "that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years *should* be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season."

Thus God tied the passages together. It is as if the writer of the Book of Revelation had said: "This millennium, which will be introduced by the return of Christ, is the same as the kingdom predicted in Isaiah 11 and in the related Old Testament passages." The very unusual figure of destroying the wicked with the breath of His mouth shows that the three passages refer to the same future event.

The only way that one could reasonably object to this conclusion is by asserting that Revelation 20 begins an entirely new section instead of depicting what will come after Revelation 19. Close examination, however, shows that God anticipated this objection and caused the writer of the book to answer it in advance. The next-to-the-last verse of Revelation 19 says that at the second coming of Christ the beast and the false prophet will be "cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone." When Revelation 20 describes the failure of Satan's final effort to overthrow the kingdom of Christ, it says in verse 10: "And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are." Thus the writer clearly indicates that what occurs in Revelation 20 will follow the events described in Revelation 19.

Sometimes an objection is raised against premillennialism on the ground that premillennialists look forward to a thousand-year kingdom, whereas Luke 1:33 declares about Jesus that "of his kingdom there shall be no end," and Daniel 2:44 says that the God of heaven will "set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed . . . and it shall stand for ever." But this objection has no validity, for Revelation 20 does not say that the kingdom of Christ will be destroyed at the end of the thousand years. On the contrary it says that Satan's attempt to destroy it will fail.