

The Great White Throne Judgment

Revelation 20:11-15

BEHOLD, I AM COMING QUICKLY!
THE BOOK OF REVELATION



“And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are open and laid bare to the eyes of Him with whom we have to do.” Hebrews 4:13

John 3:16: “God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.”

* If God is love, then why would people perish?

Rom. 3:23: “For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.”

Rom. 6:23: “For the wages of sin is death...”

Isaiah 59:2 “But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, And your sins have hidden His face from you so that He does not hear.”

Rev. 20:11-15 “And I saw a great white throne and Him who sat upon it, from whose presence earth and heaven fled away, and no place was found for them. And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and books were opened; and another book was opened, which is the book of life; and the dead were judged from the things which were written in the books, according to their deeds. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead which were in them; and they were judged, every one of them according to their deeds. And death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.”

Rev. 20:11 “And I saw a great white throne and Him who sat upon it, from whose presence earth and heaven fled away, and no place was found for them.”

Lehman Strauss: “It is called a great throne. The sinners who stand before it have rejected “so great a salvation” (Heb 2:3) and now they must stand before a great Judge to listen to their final sentence.

It is called a white throne. Everything connected with this throne will be right. The treatment the unsaved receive will be just and fair, unlike the treatment our Lord received in Pilate’s court. The greatness and the whiteness are suggestive of power and purity”

* Who is seated on this great white throne?

John 5:22: “For not even the Father judges anyone, but He has given all judgment to the Son”

Acts 17:31: “Because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead.”

Rev 20:11b “...from whose presence earth and heaven fled away, and no place was found for them.”

The absolute power and authority of the Lord Jesus Christ seated on that throne is so great & overwhelming that even heaven and earth flee from His awesome presence.

Jesus said in **Matt. 24:35** “Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words shall not pass away.”

2Pet. 3:10-12: “But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, in which the heavens will pass away with a roar and the elements will be destroyed with intense heat, and the earth and its works will be burned up. Since all these things are to be destroyed in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, on account of which the heavens will be destroyed by burning, and the elements will melt with intense heat!”

* Why will the heavens pass away and the earth and its works be burned up?

Because of Adam's sin and the resulting curse from God in Gen 3:17: "Then to Adam He said, 'Because you have listened to the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree about which I commanded you, saying, 'You shall not eat from it'; Cursed is the ground because of you; In toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life.'"

Dwight Pentecost: "It becomes necessary to remove the last vestige of this curse from the earth before the manifestation of the eternal kingdom"

* Why will the heavens pass away?

Eph. 2:2 “in which you formerly walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience.”

Eph. 6:12 “For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.”

Rev. 20:12 “And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne...”



Rev. 20:12b “...and books were opened; and another book was opened, which is the book of life; and the dead were judged from the things which were written in the books, according to their deeds.”



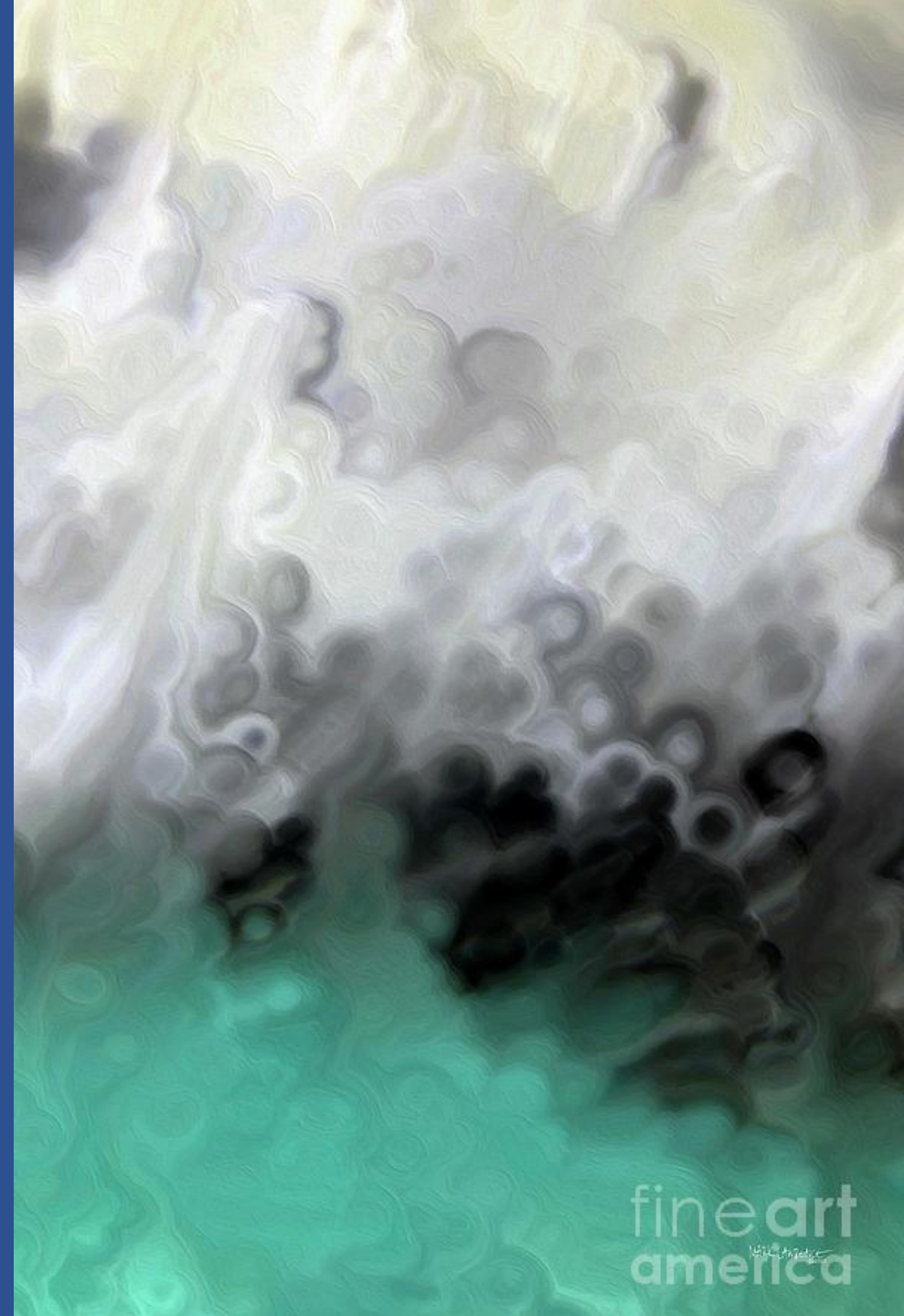
Isaiah 64:6 “For all of us have become like one who is unclean,
And all our righteous deeds are like a filthy garment...”

James 2:10: “For whoever keeps the whole law and yet
stumbles in one point, he has become guilty of all.”

Titus 3:5 “He saved us not on the basis of deeds we have done
in righteousness but according to His mercy...”

The **book of life** contains the names of those who are saved and will be with God forever. It is also called the Lamb's book of life containing the names of those who have been redeemed by the blood of the Lamb of God, Jesus Christ.

Rev. 20:13 “And the sea gave up the dead which were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead which were in them; and they were judged, every one of them according to their deeds.”



20:14 “And death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire.
This is the second death, the lake of fire.”



Matt. 25:41&46: "Then He will also say to those on His left, Depart from Me, accursed ones, into the eternal fire which has been prepared for the devil and his angels...And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

The same Greek word for eternal, meaning without end, never to cease, everlasting, is used whether referring to eternal life or eternal punishment in the lake of fire.

20:15 “And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.”

As we saw earlier, the book of life is the record of those who are saved from eternal punishment.

If you have trusted and received Christ, you will not be a part of the Great White Throne Judgment.

There is a different kind of judgment for believers in Christ. Christians will appear before the Judgment Seat of Christ for review and rewards for deeds done in Christ.

1Cor. 3: 10-15, 2Cor. 5:10, 2Tim. 4:8, James 1:12, Rev. 19:8

* How does one have their name written in the book of life?

The first step is to confess and repent of sin.

2Pet 3:9 says: “God is not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.”

* What is meant by repentance? It’s not to be confused with penance, which is self-sacrifice, suffering or punishment.

True repentance isn't just feeling sorry about sin, or self-inflicted suffering. Repentance is a change of mind that leads to changed behavior by the grace of God.

Acts 3:19 "Therefore repent and return so that your sins might be wiped away, in order that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord."

* How can we as sinful, imperfect people ever hope to be justified in the sight of a holy, righteous and perfect God?

God in His great love and mercy has made a way to deal with the problem of our sin justly and completely. He did that by giving the most precious Person in the Universe, His only Son, Jesus Christ to pay the penalty for our sin.

1Pet. 2:24: “And He himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness, for by His wounds you were healed.”

1Peter 3:18 “For Christ also died for sins once for all, the just for the unjust, in order that He might bring us to God, having been put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit.”



*How could one man dying on a Roman cross 2,000 years ago pay for the sins of all mankind?

Because the One who died on the cross was no ordinary man.

Jesus is the Son of God as proven by His life, ministry, miracles and the testimony of Scripture:

John 1:1,14 “In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God. And the Word became flesh and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.”

Because of what Jesus did in dying in our place, and paying our sin debt, He offers salvation as a free gift.

Eph 2:8,9 “For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God, not as a result of works, that no one should boast.”

Romans 6:23 “The wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus.”

1Cor 15:1,3,4 “Now I make known to you, brethren, the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received, in which also you stand... For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures.”

1John 5:11,12 “And the testimony is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life.”



“Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him, and will dine with him, and he with Me.” Rev. 3:20

“But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name,” John 1:12

Rom. 10:9,10 “that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you shall be saved; for with the heart man believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation.”

Self-Directed Life



Self is on the throne.
† - Christ is outside the life.
o - Interests are directed by self, often resulting in discord and frustration.

Christ-Directed Life



† - Christ is in the life and on the throne.
Self is yielding to Christ.
o - Interests are directed by Christ, resulting in harmony with God's plan.



2 Corinthians 6:2 for He says, "At the acceptable time I listened to you, And on the day of salvation I helped you"; behold, now is "the acceptable time," behold, now is "the day of salvation."