

The Final Judgment!

Eternal Torment OR Eternal Life

Text: Revelation 20:7-15 NAS-95

22nd Sunday after Pentecost / 21st Sunday after Trinity – 2011

Sunday, November 13 → 8:00 & 10:45

Introduction: Dear friends in Christ, *after having spent most of 2011 working through the book of Revelation, we now come to the final Biblical account of Satan's defeat and the final judgment – both will take place when Jesus returns!*

1. **Satan's Final Attack; then His Eternal Punishment:**

- a. **7** ~~When~~ [literally, And **whenever**] the thousand years are completed [the time is **uncertain** because the thousand years are symbolical], Satan will be released from his prison, **8** and will come out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together for the war; the number of them is like the sand of the sea ~~shore~~. //
 - i. “Satan will be released” – See Dr. Becker, 315-316
 - ii. “the four corners of the earth” – (NEWS) To shove something into a corner of a room is to ignore it. But here let us understand that *whenever Satan is released* his deception will go to *every corner*, thus *everywhere on the entire planet!*
 - iii. “Gog and Magog” – Some see a reference to two cities in Russia, but Dr. Becker called that conclusion “**pure fantasy and guesswork**” (316). However, he did add that “**the forces of atheistic**

communism are a part of this Satanic army that the devil marshals to bring about the destruction of the church.” (316) On the topic of communism, WATCH the You Tube called: “Grinding America Down.”¹ Though communism may seem dead its agenda, which was put in place over 50 years ago, is rapidly moving forward! It includes →the destruction of families – through the promotion of cohabitation and the feminist movement, →the destruction of businesses – through the promotion of the environmental movement, and →the destruction of Christianity – through the promotion of the homosexual movement! As the Bible says: “...our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against...the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places” (Eph. 6:11 NAS).

- b. **9** And they came up on the broad plain of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints [*literally*, the holy ones] and the beloved city [*literally*, the city having been loved – *loved by God, an ongoing action*], and fire came down from heaven and devoured them. // Countless enemies are working together, *even today*, to destroy ♦the saving truth and ♦those who trust in Jesus as Savior! However, God – *almighty in power and great in love* – will protect His holy children and finally destroy all who oppose them!
- c. **10** And the devil who deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are also [19:20]; and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever. // Even though we cannot comprehend eternity, *God wants*

¹ <http://www.therightscoop.com/open-thread-grinding-america-down/>

us to know that His Word is true – because an endless punishment is coming for all the evil angels AND all humans who reject Jesus Christ as Savior!

2. **The Great White Throne Judgment:** ¹¹ ~~Then~~ [And] I saw a great white throne and Him who sat upon it, from whose presence [the] earth and [the] heaven [or sky] fled away, and no place was found for them. // Jesus said: **Matthew 25:31** “...when the Son of Man comes in His glory... then He will sit on His glorious throne.” Now we discover what will happen on *that day*:
- a. ¹² 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 [or out of] the things which were **written in the books**, according to their deeds.
 - i. “the great and the small” – ALL will be there; *no one will escape or be left out!*
 - ii. “books” – There are books which record *all deeds* and another book which records *the names of those whom God has chosen to be His holy children through Jesus* (Eph. 1:3-8a).
 - iii. “the dead were judged...according to their deeds” – ALL will be judged, *thus evaluated!* Those who know Jesus will have the evidence – *the fruit/the deeds/the works* – which comes from repentance (*sorrow for sin and trust in Jesus for forgiveness*)! So, to be judged is NOT to be condemned, *but to determine whether you will be condemned!*
 - b. 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. // ALL will be present – those who ♦died, ♦went to Hades, ♦were buried at sea, and ♦were cremated; *all will be rightly and properly evaluated!*

- i. False hope – The unrepentant falsely imagine: “...God has forgotten [my sins]; He has hidden His face; He will never see it” (Psalm 10:11 NAU).
 - ii. True peace – The repentant – all who by grace are sorry for their sins and trust in Jesus – also trust God’s promise: “I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more” (Jer. 31:34 NAU).
- c. ¹⁴ ~~Then~~ [And] death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. // Notice that death and Hades will no longer be needed when Jesus returns:
- i. “death” – The soul is separated from the body.
 - ii. “Hades” – Place of torment for unbelieving souls.
 - iii. “lake of fire” – Place of *eternal* torment for ♦the devil, ♦all evil angels, and ♦the *bodies and souls* of all who rejected Jesus Christ as Savior!
- d. ¹⁵ And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire. // Is your name in the book of life? **To have Christ is to have God’s gift of life** (see [Romans 8:16](#); [1 John 5:11-13](#))!

Conclusion: And all God’s people said: *Amen!*