

The King Is Coming – 9

Satan's Final Judgment and The Great White Throne Judgment

Introduction—In these last lessons, we will examine the final series of events prophetically laid out in the Bible, which take us into eternity. When we began this series, we discussed the importance of this subject: the Second Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. The Word of God is **always profitable**. In every generation, understanding what God has recorded for us concerning His return is profitable.

Romans 13:11–12 says it aptly, *“And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light.”*

We discover an essential truth: Christians **are not just enduring** in this world; **we are victorious and laboring on behalf of the Lord**. God's people must understand that the Lord will bring to pass all that He has recorded. **Titus 2:13** expresses the earnest desire for the Christian. We are *“Looking for that blessed hope and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;”*

The next event that will take place prophetically is the catching away of the church. (**I Corinthians 15:51-58; I Thessalonians 4:13-18, 5:1-11**) The church will be with the Lord forevermore. (**I Thessalonians 4:17**)

After the church's rapture, the world will enter a seven-year period known as the tribulation. (Some scholars refer to the last half of the tribulation as The Great Tribulation based on the sequence of events referred to in Daniel in correlation with **Matthew 24** as well as what is spoken about **Revelation 7:14**) This world will experience unparalleled **wickedness and judgment** because the church will be removed, and the Holy Spirit will let. (**II Thessalonians 2:7**)

During this period, a man empowered by Satan will rise to power. He is described as the Beast and is called the Antichrist. (**I John 2:18, Revelation 13**) The Beast will make a covenant with the nation of Israel, a covenant of peace. (**Daniel 8:24-25, 9:27; Revelation 6:2**) The second Beast, the false prophet, will support the first. (**Revelation 13:11-ff**) The Bible also describes the rise of an ecumenical apostate church. (**Revelation 17**) The apostate church will be worldwide and 'ride on the authority' of the one world ruler and government. (**Revelation 17**)



After the destruction of the apostate church (**Revelation 17:16-ff**), the man of sin will demand to be worshipped as God. (**II Thessalonians 2:3-4**) The covenant will be broken (**Daniel 9:27**), and the world will experience *“great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.”* (**Matthew 24:21**)

God will exercise mercy in the midst of his great judgment, even as the psalmist sang in **Psalm 89:14**, *“Justice and judgment are the habitation of thy throne: Mercy and truth shall go before thy face.”* In that, God will have witnesses, and some will be saved. (**Revelation 7,11, 14:6**) Most who receive Christ during the tribulation will experience martyrdom. (**Revelation 6:9-11, 12:11, 20:4**)

In the end, the kings of the earth, under the direction of the Antichrist and the False Prophet, will war against the nation of Israel and against the Lord Jesus Christ in what the Bible calls the battle of Armageddon. (**Revelation 16:13-16, 19:14-ff**) When they gather for this final battle, the Lord will return with the armies of heaven and His bride. (**Revelation 19:14**) The Lord will defeat these enemies by the sword of his mouth. **Revelation 19:15**

After the destruction of the Lord’s enemies, He will rule and reign on the throne of David for 1000 years. (**Matthew 25:31, Revelation 20:1-9**) We will rule and reign with Him. (**Matthew 25:14-30; 1 Corinthians 6:1-4, Revelation 20:4**) The last vestiges of sin and the Devil will be removed before the Lord makes a new heaven and new earth.

_____ Final Judgment

Satan’s _____ From Earth

We saw last week Satan’s removal from the earth. Dr. Lee Robertson, in his sermon, explained, “When this day comes, and he is removed, the kingdom of Christ will begin in its fullness upon the earth. The nature of wild beasts will be changed. Wars and rumors of wars will be at an end. The knowledge of the Lord will cover the earth. The curse will be removed from this earth. The saints will rule and reign with Christ. Christ Himself will rule from the throne of David.” Notice what the Bible tells us at the end of **verse 23 in Revelation 20**. The Word of God says in that last clause of **verse 23**, *“...till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season.”*

Satan’s _____ For A Little Season

In **verse 7** of this chapter, the Bible describes Satan’s release from prison. **Revelation 20:7** *“And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison,”* Immediately, the enemy of our souls goes to work.

Revelation 20:8 *“And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters*

of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea.”

During the millennial reign of Christ, men will be born into this world just as they are now. There are many who reject the Lord even after a 1000-year reign of peace. This final rebellion shows at least three things:

First, human nature will be unchanged apart from God’s grace. The fact that there will be one final rebellion proves this point.

Secondly, Satan’s nature will be unchanged by **1000 years of being shut up and bound**. The great deceiver will still be the great deceiver. He will still attempt to subvert God.

Thirdly, God is glorified and just to judge sin, as demonstrated by this event. God will immediately deal with this final uprising.

“And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them.”

Satan’s _____ In the Lake of Fire

Verse 10 describes this end. **Revelation 20:10** *“And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.”*

The Devil will not be ruling and reigning in the lake of fire and brimstone. The Bible shows us that he will not be a ruler. Instead, he will be tormented day and night, forever and ever. You can see plainly from the verb used in **verse 10** that Satan does not walk into the lake of fire with his head down, but he is cast into the lake of fire. No one will volunteer to go into the lake burning with fire and brimstone.

_____ Final Judgment

Man’s final rebellion is seen in the last uprising recorded for us in **Revelation 20**. What takes place following this event is what is referred to as the Great White Throne Judgment. This scene defies being verbalized, yet the Lord has given us what we need to know in human language. It begins in **verse 11** of **chapter 20**.

Revelation 20:11 states, *“And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them.”*

There seems to be a connection between this event and what is described in **Revelation 21:1** and **II Peter 3:10**, which states, *“And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.”*

This judgment is not a trial as you and I would think. In a trial, there is a determination as to guilt or innocence. There are opposing sides presenting arguments and the facts, and there is the possibility of innocence. Those who stand before the Great White Throne are guilty. The Great White Throne is called such because of our God's holiness and purity. The One who sits upon the throne will be Christ, for the Bible tells us in **John 5:22–23**, *“For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son: That all men should honour the Son, even as they honour the Father. He that honoureth not the Son honoureth not the Father which hath sent him.”*

This Is A Judgment Of The Lost Dead

The Bible describes only two resurrections: a resurrection unto life and a resurrection unto damnation. Those who take part in the first resurrection are those who are saved by the blood of Christ. Because of this, the second death has no power over them. But the lost dead will be resurrected as well.

Revelation 20:12–13 says, *“And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works.”*

The Lord Jesus Christ summarized this when He states in **John 5:28–29**, *“Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation.”*

Daniel 12:2 says, *“And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.”*

“The great men of all times who refused the Savior will be brought to judgment. And the small, forgotten individuals will stand there, too. Those who have been buried for many centuries, on land or sea, will come forth... to face the judge.” (Robertson)

They Will Be Judged Out Of The Books

Revelation 20:12 *“And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.”*

“The record books will be there. Every man’s sins will be plainly written down. God will judge each man out of the record.” (Robertson)

John 3:18–21 will be on display. The Bible says, *“He that believeth on him is not*

*condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, **because their deeds were evil. For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved. But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God.***”

The Lord’s record is exact. He makes no mistakes. All will be accounted for. The Bible tells us that not only are the books of the records of men's deeds opened, but another book—the Book of Life.

“Even in the last judgment, there will doubtless be men who will insist that they are good and deserve heaven.” (Robertson)

The Outcome Of This Judgment Is Clear

Revelation 20:14–15 states, *“And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.”*

Some have asked, will any be saved who stand before the Great White Throne in judgment? “If this record is true, then none will be saved, for it says death and hell will be cast into the lake of fire.” (Robertson)