

The Great White Throne of Judgement (Judgement Of Non Believers)

There are several judgements mentioned in the Bible, but by far the most terrifying is the Great White Throne. The Great White Throne is the most devastating of all the judgements, and will affect this earth and the universe. As soon as we see 'white' in the scriptures, we think of purity and absolute righteousness. This throne is great because it has a Great Judge sitting on it; sitting in power and glory - which is the righteousness of God. We need to understand the reality of the Great White Throne that is certainly - and most definitely - coming in the future. Even if people don't believe in it, they will all stand before the Lord Jesus who sits there. It will be the most terrible and dreadful day in the history of the future of mankind. The fear and awesomeness that will be attached to that day, is something that we can wish on no one. It's something that the Lord Jesus Himself would wish on no one. As surely as the Bible is the Word of God; the Great White Throne is coming.

Every single person is going to see the Great White Throne; believer and non believer alike. After the judgement of the Great White Throne will come the results of it, which is the eternal burning lake of fire. It will be so terrible, so horrible, and so horrific, it is beyond human comprehension. Judgement should have come thousands of years ago because mankind deserved it, but God in His grace wanted to supply the remedy first. He has wanted as many people as possible to accept the salvation of Jesus which would in turn stop the fear of the Great White Throne. Jesus' sacrifice on the cross was so awful, because the doom that faces every person is so awful. God knew He had to provide a way out and had already planned it back in Genesis 3:15. Immediately after God realised Eve had been deceived and Adam had disobeyed the commandment, God spoke to the serpent that had deceived Eve, "And I will put enmity between you and the woman and between your offspring and her Offspring. He will bruise your head underfoot and you will lie in wait and bruise His heel."

Many people believe death provides a rest for them, but this is a lie and deception. Death is not the final end. The day is coming when every non believer will stand in the majesty and presence of God, and every non believer will feel as if they want to shrink and ask for annihilation, but they will not get it. Jesus suffered in such agony because of the awfulness of what was coming. Never underestimate what Jesus went through. He wouldn't have gone through all that if salvation wasn't serious. It is serious, real and true. The Great Judgement Day is coming on the earth soon, when every person who has not received salvation through Jesus, will be judged. There is going to be a day of judgement; the Great White Throne, and the only way to escape it is to believe on the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Bible is clear. Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ our Messiah and you will be saved from the judgement that's coming upon the earth. The Lord loves us and doesn't want us before the Judgement Seat. He does not want anyone in the lake of fire, which is why He provided such a wonderful salvation. We must be vigilant and witness, to help others escape the Great White Throne. In this age, people do not like talking about Jesus, hell, judgement or the lake of fire. The enemy deceives people into believing there is nothing to fear, so many are going into the mouth of the abyss. We must give them the message loud and clear. Scoffers doubt the truth of the Great White Throne and say 'People have been saying that for years but it hasn't happened yet, so where is it? Acts 16:31 says, 'believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved'. However, just believing is not enough. One needs to form a close, loving relationship with Jesus or He will still say He never knew you.

Every person who has ever lived and died is going to be resurrected; some to eternal life and some to eternal death. Resurrection means to come back to life forever. The resurrected believers will go to heaven and non believers into the lake of fire. Resurrection makes eternal life so wonderful and doom so terrible. Both the Old and New Testaments mention resurrection. In Daniel 12:1 to 3 it says; "Everyone whose name is written in the Lamb's book of life (which is God's plan for His own) and many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake; some to everlasting life and some to everlasting contempt. Those who turn many to righteousness shall shine like the stars forever."

John 5:21 to 25 says, "Just as the Father raises up the dead and gives them life, even so the Son also gives life to whomever He wills. Even the Father judges no one, for He has given all judgement entirely into the hands of the Son, so that all men may give honour to the Son - just as they give honour to the Father. Whoever does not honour the Son, does not honour the Father, Who has sent Him. Most solemnly I tell you. The person whose ears are open to My words and believes on Him Who sent Me, has eternal life. He does not come into judgement, but he has already passed over out of death into life. Believe Me (says Jesus) the time is coming when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear it shall live."

Continue in John 5:28 & 29. "Do not be surprised and wonder at this, for the time is coming when all those who are in the tombs shall hear My voice. And they shall come out – those who have practiced doing good, will come out to the resurrection of new life, and those who have done evil will be raised for judgement and their sentence."

John 3:16 to 20 reads "God so dearly loved and prized the world that He gave up His only begotten Son, so that whoever believes on Him shall not perish but have eternal life. God did not send the Son to judge the world, but that the world might find salvation through Him. He who believes in Him is not judged and incurs no damnation, but he who does not believe, is judged already because he has not believed in Jesus. The judgement (the test by which men are judged and the grounds for sentence) is this: the Light has come into the world and people have loved darkness more than the Light, and their works are evil. Every wrong doer hates the Light and shrinks from it, but he who practices truth comes out into the Light."

Both are resurrections and both last forever; one to eternal life and the other for eternity in the lake of fire. The two resurrections occur at different times. Believers are resurrected 1,000 years before non believers. The believers are all resurrected in the beginning of the millennium. The non believers are not resurrected until the end of the millennium.

Many people have already been resurrected, but there will be another two resurrections. The first one took place when Jesus died. See Matthew 27:52 & 53. "The tombs were opened and many bodies of the saints who had died were raised. And coming out of the tombs after Jesus' resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many people." Note the hidden scripture John 5:25 when Jesus said, "The time is coming and is here now when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God."

In 1 Corinthians 15:20 to 26 we read, "The fact is, Christ the Messiah has been raised from the dead, and He became the firstfruits of those who have died. For since it was through a man (Adam) that death came to the world, it is also through a Man (Jesus) that resurrection has come. For just as in Adam all people die, so also all who are in Christ will be made alive. But each in His own rank and in his turn. Christ is the firstfruits; and then those who belong to Christ will be resurrected. After that, comes the end when Jesus delivers over the Kingdom of God to the Father, after abolishing every other rule, authority and power. For Jesus must be King and reign until He has put all His enemies under His feet. The last enemy to be abolished is death." Jesus was in the claws of death as was everybody since Adam, and all people shall be made alive again - but that does not mean all will be saved.

Note: Every man will be resurrected in his own turn so we will not be resurrected all at the same time.

Our resurrected bodies will look the same but will be different. See Luke 24:31 where Jesus appeared to people, spoke to them, then vanished. In Luke 24:42 & 43 Jesus ate fish after He was resurrected. 1 Corinthians 15:42 to 44 talks about the differences in our bodies, but the teaching you are reading now is about Judgement Day, not what form our new bodies will take.

The first 'turn' to be resurrected was Jesus. He was the firstfruits. The second 'turn' will be the believers and the third 'turn' will be 1,000 years later when the non believers are resurrected for judgement. Let's see the scriptures for this. We have already seen that Jesus was resurrected first. In 1 Thessalonians 4:16 & 17 we see that "Those who have departed this life in Christ will rise first then we, the living ones who remain on the earth, shall simultaneously be caught up along with the resurrected dead in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air - and so always we shall be with the Lord." Revelation 20:4b says, "And they lived again and ruled with Christ the Messiah for a thousand years."

Revelation 20:6 says, "Blessed and holy is that person who takes part in the first resurrection! Over them the second death exerts no power, but they shall be ministers of God and of Christ and they shall rule with Christ the Messiah for a thousand years." Note: This is the first resurrection.

Then comes the end. The last enemy to be destroyed is death, but death will not be destroyed until after the last resurrection, after the millennium or one thousand years of Jesus' rule on earth. When Jesus rose He conquered death. After the last person has been resurrected, death will have been conquered forever. Non believers will be resurrected never to die again but will not be saved. They will end up in the lake of fire that burns and blazes with brimstone, which is written in Revelation 19:20b.

Revelation 20:1 to 3 says the devil will be chained up in a pit for one thousand years, then Revelation 20:7, 8 & 9 says he will be released for a short, but unspecified time to deceive the nations. Then Revelation 20:5 reads, 'The remainder of the dead (or the non believers) were not restored to life again until the thousand years were completed, which is the second resurrection'. But in the meantime there is war again. Fire descends from heaven and consumes those who attack Jerusalem.

In Revelation 20:10 we see that the devil, the beast and the false prophet will be hurled into the lake of fire and will be there forever. Then in Revelation 20:11 to 15 we see the Great White Throne and the One Who sits on it. The sea gives up the dead; death and hell give up the dead; then death and hell will also be thrown into the lake of fire, and most shockingly, tragically and terrifyingly, so will all those people whose names are not written in the Lambs Book of Life. If you are not a believer and have rejected Jesus and God while on earth, then They will reject you on judgement day. The second death is eternity in the lake of fire and has no effect on the believer.

The Great White Throne is real. When Jesus comes after the millennium, the earth and heaven will melt away, such is His power. See Revelation 20:11, 'Everyone who does not accept the Lord Jesus, small and great will stand before the Lord on Judgement Day'. Small doesn't mean safe in their little world. The small, or people who have lived quiet lives, will also be lost unless they repent. Every bone or skull that has been unearthed belongs to someone who will one day be resurrected. The Lord knows each one of the billions who have ever lived and died on the earth, and all will be raised. It doesn't matter when, where or how one died, the resurrection will catch up. Everyone needs His grace and salvation to escape the terrifying Great White Throne.

There will be religious people who believed their religion could save them, but who will be lost forever. See in Matthew 7:21 to 23. "Not everyone who says to Me, Lord, Lord will enter the Kingdom of heaven but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. Many will say to Me on that day, Lord, Lord have we not prophesied in Your Name and driven out demons in Your Name and done many mighty works in Your Name? And then I will declare openly, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who act wickedly'." Imagine what will go through their minds at this point. It will be hopeless. Attending church can not, save your soul. Only accepting Jesus can save you.

We often hear the phrase, "That person will burn in hell forever." Actually that is wrong, because as we have already read, hell will also be thrown into the lake of fire. Hell is a temporary waiting place for the non believer and rebellious angels as they await judgement. See 2 Peter 2:4; 'For God did not

even spare angels that sinned but cast them into hell, delivering them to be kept there in pits of gloom till the judgement and their doom'. And in Jude 6; 'And the angels who did not keep their own first place of power, but abandoned their proper dwelling place – these He has reserved in custody in eternal chains under the thick gloom of utter darkness until the judgement and doom of the great day'.

Some people say the Great White Throne - also known as Judgement Day - is a medieval nonsense or an invention of Paul, but the fact of the judgement and the lake of fire was not spoken about by Paul or John, but by Jesus Himself. Jesus reiterated this subject time and again. We must understand it is not just judgement; it is eternal judgement. In Matthew 8:12 Jesus said, "While the sons and heirs of the kingdom will be driven outside, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

Matthew 13:41 & 42 then 49 & 50; 'The Son of Man will send forth His angels and they will gather out of His kingdom all causes of offence, and all who do wickedly, and will cast them into the furnace of fire; there will be weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth. So it will be at the close of the age. The angels will go forth and separate the wicked from the righteous, and cast the wicked into the furnace of fire where there will be weeping, wailing and gnashing of teeth'.

Matthew 25:30; 'Throw the evil servant into the outer darkness where there will be weeping, wailing and gnashing of teeth'. Jesus speaks again in Luke 13:25 to 28 but here, Jesus is speaking to Jews. "When the Master of the house gets up and closes the door, and you begin to stand outside and to repeatedly knock at the door saying, 'Lord open to us!' He will answer you 'I do not know where you come from'. Then you will begin to say, 'We ate and drank in Your presence and You taught in our streets'. But He will say, 'I tell you, I do not know where you come from. Depart from Me all you wrongdoers. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth when you see Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and all the Prophets in the Kingdom of God but you yourselves being cast forth and banished'."

Jesus spoke of judgement, and we can trust Him to speak the truth, for He is the One who knows the full horror of it. Jesus said more about judgement than anyone, and that shows how much of an issue it really is. The lake of fire was not made for people; it was made for the evil one and his cohorts. Matthew 25:41 reads, 'Then He will say to those at His left hand (note: Jesus was speaking to non believers) "Begone from Me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels!"' As we have read in 2 Peter 2:4, rebellious angels will be there too.

If a person chooses to reject Jesus, then eternal death is on one's own head - because the remedy is easy. We belong to one of two kingdoms or two families on this earth; the kingdom of darkness and the Kingdom of Light. It is reality. The Great White Throne is reality. The alternative is eternal life with Jesus. Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved. Jesus is the one and only deliverer of all men. Read 1 Timothy 4:10; "With a view to this we toil and strive and suffer reproach, because we have fixed our hope on the Living God, Who is the Saviour of all men, especially of those who believe." However, people must do more than just believe, we must trust Him, rely on Him, adhere to Him and most of all obey Him.

John 3:36 sums it up. 'He who believes in, has faith in, clings to, relies on the Son has eternal life. But whoever disobeys, disbelieves, refuses to trust in, disregards and is not subject to the Son, will never see eternal life, but the wrath of God abides on him'.

From this scripture, we can see it is a matter of a person's will and choice. We can literally choose heaven or the lake of fire. We can submit to or refuse God's rule and plan for mankind. A true and committed Christian will say, "Not my will but Yours, Oh Lord." We as Christians, must share the Gospel with everyone and by doing so, we are being obedient to Him.

You may ask, "What must I do to be saved from eternal judgement?" The answer is to ask the Lord into your life and commit yourself to Him to the fullest extent. Just simply believing is not enough for anyone to escape judgement. In James 2:19 & 20 we read "You believe that God is one; you do well? So do the demons believe and shudder in terror and horror, such as to make a man's hair stand on end. Are you willing to be shown proof, you foolish spiritually deficient fellow?"

We can see that believing is not enough because the demons that believe can never be saved from the lake of fire. Going to church can't save you. Being a catholic can't save you. Being a nun or a priest can't save you. Being a Jehovah's Witness, Moslem, a Hindu or a Buddhist can't save you. Not even being born Jewish can save you. Some people who go to church only at Easter and Christmas think they are doing enough to be saved. They are very wrong. Imagine if you were married and spoke to your spouse only on Good Friday and Christmas Day. What kind of a marriage would you have? It would be very empty and the consequence probably would result in divorce. You might ask, "If none of these religions can save us, then what can?"

To be saved, you must first of all believe Jesus is God's Son who came to earth in the flesh, born of an innocent young woman. Then as a Man, He was crucified, rose again and continues to live in heaven with God the Father. Jesus' birth, death and resurrection from the dead are facts one must accept and believe in. The second step is to ask the Lord Jesus into your life and learn to live in a loving, obedient relationship with Him. The Bible says if we love Him we will obey Him. In obedience to His will, we must be baptised, then embark on doing good works. The relationship with the Lord must be for life, because if you drift away from Him, you will be as lost as if you had never been saved, and in fact you will be worse off. The teaching; 'once saved, always saved' is wrong.

Let's read Colossians 1:22 & 23. "Yet now has Christ the Messiah reconciled you to God in the body of His flesh - through death - in order to present you faultless in the Father's presence. And this He will do provided that you continue to stay in the faith (in Christ), well grounded and not moving away from the hope which you heard."

However, if you do drift away then realise your sin and come back to Jesus, there is hope for you. In Romans 11:21 to 23 we read, "For if God did not spare the Jews, neither will He spare you. Note the gracious kindness and the severity of God; severity towards those who have fallen away, but God's gracious kindness to you - provided you continue in His grace and abide in His kindness, otherwise you too will be cut off. Even those fallen ones, if they do not persist in clinging to their unbelief will be grafted in, for God has the power to graft them in again." In other words, God has the power to bring you back to Himself in a loving relationship again.

May all who read this be edified by its content and either accept the Lord as your personal saviour or if you already have, may you grow in grace and share the enormity, horror and truth of the lake of fire and strive to rescue others from it.

Amen and God bless you.

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