

The Great White Throne Judgment and a Theological Review on the Doctrine of Hell

DR. JOE K. TAYLOR, SENIOR PASTOR, SOUTH RENO BAPTIST CHURCH, RENO, NEVADA
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All Scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted.
Multiple When Pastor Joe's commentary is added, God's Word will be printed in
regular faced text with commentary in the smaller faced text.
Biblical words, underlined with dots, are explained in the brackets.
Pastor Joe's email is Joe@southreno.com.

I. Satan's Release at the end of the Millennial Reign

Revelation 20:7–9, NASB - 7 When the thousand years are completed, 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 seashore. 9 And they came up on the broad plain of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city, and fire came down from heaven and devoured them.

- 1. In the Millennium, all believers—from all of time (Rev. 19:17-21); some who lived through the Tribulation (Is. 65:20, Heb. 8:11ff; Hab. 2:14f); and those born during the Millennium (from 'mortals') who may or may not receive the Lord (Rev. 20:7) will be alive.
- 2. All those who are born during the Millennium will enjoy the benefits and blessings of Christ's reign on a perfect earth, but they will still be born needing to repent and receive Jesus Christ as Lord—some will and some won't.
- 3. Don't miss the parallels between Rev. 20 and Gen. 2 (The Garden of Eden).
- 4. God's direction in both passages comes with a stern warning. Choose carefully whether to obey or disobey Him and His Holy Word.

<u>Lessons about People</u>: We still don't like being told what to do; we are terribly sinful. Lessons about God: His power displayed; His attributes of holiness and grace. Lessons about Satan: He will always be the enemy to humanity; his hatred; the deceiver;

all he promises is death and destruction; and Satan's ultimate defeat and judgment. <u>Satan is the "god of this world" (2 Cor</u>. 4:4); ...Adversary (1 Peter. 5:8); ruler of this world (Jn. 12:31), & Deceiver (Eph. 2:2).

Other Scriptures to consider about Satan's release: Rev. 20:7-8; Ezek. 38:2; Job 1:7; Matt. 4:1-11; Luke 4:1-13; 1 Cor. 10:13; 2 Cor. 4:1-7; James 4:6-8; 1 John 2:15-29; 1 John 4:1-3; and Rev. 16:12 (to name a few).

II. The Great White Throne Judgment (Final judgment of all unbelievers)

Revelation 20:11–15, NASB - 11 Then Lsaw 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. 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 the things which were written in the books, according to their deeds. 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. 14 Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. 15 And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

- 1. The Courtroom 11a "I saw a Great white throne"
 - GREAT speaks of power
 - WHITE speaks of purity
 - THRONE speaks of the Potentate.
- 2. The Judge 11b "...and Him who sat upon it..."

Who is this Judge? (It's not God!)

John 5:22, NIV - 22 ... The Father judges no one, <u>but has entrusted all judgment to the</u> <u>Son</u>!"

- The Lamb has become the Lion of the Tribe of Judah!
- The Redeemer is now the Ruler!
- The Savior is now the Sovereign!
- **3. The Accused –** 12a And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne...."
 - The <u>Sinners</u> (who rejected the Savior)
 - The <u>Self-righteous</u> (who thought they didn't need a Savior)
 - The <u>Slow deciders</u> (who put off receiving the Savior)
 - The Sunday church goers (Who assumed they had the Savior)
- **4.** The Evidence 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.
 - <u>The Bible</u>—God's standard for all matters
 - <u>The Book of Deeds</u>—God's record of every good and bad deed The saved will be rewarded for their good deeds; the Lost, judged for the bad deeds.
 - The Book of Life—God's record of every saved person's name

Other Scriptures to Consider: Ps.139:1-2; Ezek. 11:5; 2 Peter. 2:14; Ps. 139:4; 2 Chron. 16:9; Heb. 413; Matt. 12:36; Luke.12:2-3; Jer. 17:10; Matt. 15:19; Eccl. 12:14; Rom. 2:16. Jn. 12:48; Rev. 21:27; Rev. 20:15.

A t the judgment of the unbelievers, there is <u>The Book of the law</u> (Bible—that speaks of the *requirements*), there is <u>The Book of The Lost</u> (that speaks of the *response* or lack-there-of) and <u>The Book of the Lamb</u> (that guarantees the believers *redemption*.) - Dr. R. G. Lee

5. The Defense



6. The Verdict - 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.

Hebrews 9:27, ESV - 27 ... it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment.

7. The Sentence - 14 Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire.

Guilty! The Lost will hear these words...

Matthew 25:41–46, NIV -41 "Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels...46 "Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life."

"Born once—die twice; born twice, die once." -Source Unknown [Insight: If you are only physically born without being spiritually reborn, you will die physically and spiritually. If you are born physically and reborn (born again) spiritually, you will only die physically.]

8. What's absent at the Great White Throne Judgement of the unbelievers

There will be no blowing of the trumpet fanfare

There will be no archangel proclaiming the rescue of God

There will be no white <u>robes</u> of the saints saved by God's grace

There will be no comforting of each other-none

III. Hell

The surest road to hell is the gradual one—the gentle slope, soft underfoot, without sudden turnings, without milestones, without signposts...the long, dull, monotonous years of middle-aged prosperity and adventure are excellent campaigning weather—FOR THE DEVIL!

A Theological Review on the Doctrine of "Hell"

1. What does the Bible teach about Hell?

There are 188 passages in the Bible that speak about Hell (more than twice as many passages that speak about Heaven.)

Hell is an <u>actual place</u>.

Revelation 20:15, NIV - 15 Anyone whose name was not found written in the book of life was thrown into the lake of fire. [Also see Rev. 21:8, Matt. 25:46, Ps. 9:17, Acts 2:27, Prov. 15:24, Matt. 13:42, Rev. 19:20]

Hell is a place of <u>horrendous suffering</u>.

Matthew 22:13, NIV - 13 "... into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." [Also see Matt. 13:50, Mark 9:43, Jude 1:7, Prov. 15:11, 2 Peter 2:4, Matt. 10:28]

• Hell is <u>forever</u>.

Revelation 20:10, NIV - 10 And the devil, who deceived them, was thrown into the lake of burning sulfur, where the beast and the false prophet had been thrown. They will be tormented day and night for ever and ever. [Also see 2 Thess. 1:9, Matt. 25:41, Rev. 14:11, Luke 16:19-31]

2. Response to, "God is too loving to send people to hell...right?"

• Don't assume that God is just as tolerant of sin as our society is—He isn't!

Psalm 50:21, NIV - 21 When you did these things and I kept silent, <u>you thought I was</u> exactly like you. But I now arraign you and set my accusations before you.

• Don't assume that God's only attribute is "love"—it isn't!

Habakkuk 1:13, NIV - 13 Your [God's] eyes are too pure to look on evil; you [God] cannot tolerate wrongdoing.

• Don't assume that "we" are not really that bad—we are!

Romans 3:23, NIV - 23 for <u>all have sinned</u> and fall short of the glory of God.

• Thought: If there really was no hell, then what was the cross all about?

John 3:16, NIV - 16 For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him <u>shall not perish</u> but have eternal life.

3. "Is there any consolation for us regarding those already in hell?"

• Their hell will never veto our heaven!

• There may be "levels of punishment" in hell.

Matthew 10:15, NIV - 15 Truly I tell you, <u>it will be more bearable</u> for Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgment than for that town.

Matthew 25:41, NASB -41 "...the eternal fire which has been prepared for the devil and his angels....

Matthew 8:12, NCV - 12 But those people who should be in the kingdom will be thrown in the <u>outside into the darkness</u>, where people will cry and grind their teeth with pain." [Also see Rev. 20:12-13, 2 Thess. 1:8-10]

• Our God is just and can be trusted to do what is right.

Romans 9:14, NAS – 14 ... There is no injustice with God.

"I <u>NEVER</u> want <u>ANYONE</u> to experience the Great White Throne Judgment or Hell!" - Pastor Joe