

The Eternal Defeat of Evil

Rev. 20:7-15

3/3/21

V7-10. Gog and Magog symbolize all the forces of evil who band together to battle God. Noah's son Japheth had a son named Magog (Gen. 10:2). Ezekiel presents Gog as a leader of forces against Israel (Ezek. 38-39). This is not a typical battle where the outcome is in doubt during the heat of the conflict. Here there is no contest. Two mighty forces of evil—those of the beast (19:19) and of Satan (20:8)—unite to do battle against God. The Bible uses two verses to describe each battle—the evil beast and his forces are captured and thrown in the lake of fire (19:20-21), and fire from God consumes Satan and his attacking armies. (20:9-10). For God it is as easy as that.

Note: Satan will be tormented forever. His work was not eternal. There is a day coming when evil will no longer be a problem to the creation of God. What a wonderful day that will be!!!!

V10-15. Here we have the final judgment of all who have died and refused Jesus as their savior. Only the lost will be here. Every soul from the beginning of this earth to the end, having died lost, will be resurrected to stand before Jesus.

This is God's all or nothing principle. Everyone who has walked upon His footstool will, in the end, receive either maximum life or maximum death. There is no middle ground.

"Devil cast": This is ultimate and permanent justice.

Deut. 30:19 "I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you, life and death, blessing and cursing, therefore choose life, that both you and thy seed may live."

V11. "Him that sat on it": There is no doubt about who this is. It is Jesus. Jn. 5:22 "For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son." The Lamb of God and the High Priest will now become the Judge of all who have rejected Him. He will be before them in the same body He left earth with. He will have the wounds in his hands. Jn. 20:27, Rev. 5:6 "had been slain", Zech. 13:6 "What are these wounds in thine hands...those which I was wounded in the house of my friends."

V12. "The dead small and great": All of humanity regardless of social standing while on earth will be face judgment before Christ.

The Great White Throne Judgement is God's justice done. It will be terrifying, sure, and final. The 1st doctrine of God denied was judgment. Gen. 3:4 "you shall not surely die." Dan.7:9-10; 12:1; Acts 17:31; 32:19; Mat. 16:27; Rom. 2:6; Phil. 4:3; Rev. 2:23; 3:5.

"Books were opened": By rightly dividing the Word of God we understand this to be the combination of the record of God's omniscience (all knowledge) and the Bible (The Law and the Gospel). Dan.8:3; Mat. 5:18,12:37,24:35; Jn. 12:48; Rom. 2:16; Psa. 119:89,160,164; Luke 4:4; Rom. 10:18; Rev. 17:17.

"Book of life": This is the record of those who died having been born again by the blood of Christ. Rev. 3:5; 13:8; 17:8; Heb. 12:23; Exod. 32:32; Psa. 56:8; 69:28; Dan. 12:1; Luke 10:20; Phil. 4:3, Col. 2:13-14.

“According to their works”: We saw in the Judgment Seat of Christ (II Cor. 5:10) the fire tried the works done in the Body of Christ and if anything passed the fire test (done in the Spirit for the glory of Jesus) they received a reward. Now in the Great White Throne we again find mankind being judged individually upon what they had done. Here in this judgment all are lost and in the Judgment Seat of Christ all are saved. Judgment in degrees is a difficult subject to investigate. Heaven is Heaven and the Lake of Fire is the Lake of Fire is where we like to leave this. The Scriptures gives us some hints into the truth of eternity being according to individual walk. Mat. 11:21-24; Jer. 17:10; Gal. 6:7; Ezek. 33:1-20.

V13-14. “Death and Hell”: This is teaching the body of a sinner (death) will come forth and the soul that went immediately upon death to hell will unite and be placed forever in the lake of fire. The sea giving up means those bodies who were not buried will be brought back together before the throne.

“The second death”: Rev. 2:11; 20:6; 21:8. This means following the first death that is appointed unto all mankind because of the sin of the 1st Adam. We are born once and die once. Some will be born twice and die once while others will be born once and die twice. Spiritual death not changed leads to this 2nd death. Eternal death, (second death) is the ultimate form of separation from God and mankind. When any individual dies in a state of spiritual death they enter eternity separated from God. This is the 2nd death. Once an individual has experienced the 2nd death there is no hope for them. It is irreversible. Spiritual death is spiritual separation of each of us from God. Physical death separates the body from the spirit. (Jn. 11:25-belief in Jesus shall never die).

V15. "Not found": God knows them that are His. He has a book of remembrance. Mal. 3:16-18. Jn. 3:18-19; 14:6; Acts 4:12; Heb. 2:3; 12:25; I Jn. 5:11-12.

"Cast": Rev. 19:20; Mat. 25:41; Mark 9:43-46 "where their worm (body) dieth not, and the fire is not quenched." This is a body that shall suffer forever.

The lake of fire is the ultimate destination of everything wicked—Satan, the beast, the false prophet, the demons, death, hell, and all those whose names are not recorded in the book of life because they did not place their faith in Jesus Christ. There is no gray area here in God's judgment. If, by faith, we have not identified with Christ, confessing Him as Lord, there is no hope, no second chance, and no other appeal.

We are in the final section of this last book of the Bible. We are viewing the final and ultimate end of the saved and unsaved. We have seen where God will merge death and hell into the Lake of Fire and next time, the Lord willing, we will see where God is going to merge His heaven with our earth when we get the new heaven and new earth with the Eternal State of all saved being found in the New Jerusalem (city of God) coming down.