

=TOPICS OF REVELATION=

Lesson 7

The Great White Throne Judgment

Objects to have:

Some pictures to illustrate terrible fires, especially pictures showing big flames

Chalk and chalkboard or marking pen and poster board.

A big book, like an encyclopedia, covered. Title the book, THE BOOK OF LIFE

A big bottle with salted water in it; another container to catch the water

Your Bible.

Introducing the lesson:

(While holding your Bible in your hands, review with the children.) We have been telling some very important stories in Sunday school. Every story which comes from the Bible is absolutely true. Whatever the Bible says did happen, really did happen. Now, the Bible tells many, many things about what will happen. The reason that the Bible can be absolutely correct about what will happen is because the Bible is God's Word. God knows everything: He knows all about what did happen, about what is happening, and what will happen.

(Hold up your Bible.) This one book, the Bible, has many books in it—66 books are in the Bible. One book in the Bible that tells much about what will happen is the book of Revelation. Who can tell me where in the Bible is the book of Revelation? (Allow the children to do this.) Right—the last book of the Bible is called the book of Revelation. A man named John wrote down the words which God the Holy Spirit told him to write, and those words are called The Revelation.

Here is something about which John wrote. (Start showing your pictures of fires, discussing them; you could also crumple red tissue paper, making it crackle like the sound of flames.) John wrote about fire! He wrote about a certain fire, the most horrible fire which anyone can imagine. (Lay down the illustrations of fire.) I'll tell you about that fire in a few minutes.

Telling the story:

First, watch as I draw on the chalkboard. (Divide the board into two parts with a horizontal line. Then draw a vertical line, dividing the upper part of the board into two equal parts. Label the left side of the upper board: THE FIRST RESURRECTION. Label the right side of the upper board: THE SECOND RESURRECTION.) See this side of the board. This says, THE FIRST RESURRECTION. See this side of the board. This says, THE SECOND RESURRECTION.

Where is Jesus now? Yes, He is in Heaven. He is busy in Heaven—He is getting places ready for all those people who have trusted Him as their Saviour. Jesus is also watching over all those who love Him. Jesus is also listening to them when they pray. Jesus is also seeing all that they do and all that they say.

While Jesus is in Heaven, we people are here on earth. Babies are being born and growing. Children who were once babies are now growing up. Teenagers who were once children are becoming adults. Adults are getting older and older. Some people are being born; some people are dying.

As each person grows and gets older, some time during that person's life he or she has a chance to ask Jesus to be his or her Saviour. Whenever a person asks Jesus to be his or her Saviour, there is the happiest time in Heaven! There is rejoicing and singing at the time each person says, "Yes, Jesus, I know that I am a sinner, and I want to trust You as my Saviour."

At the very moment that someone trusts Jesus, an angel picks up the heavenly pen and opens the Book of Life. The very moment that a person asks Jesus to be Saviour, that person's name is written down in the Book of Life. Is your name written in the Book of Life? If you have asked Jesus to be your Saviour, your name is in the Book of Life.

Well, Jesus is in Heaven, and we are here. People are being born here on earth; some people are dying. When a person dies, part of the person that is his body-house becomes very still and will not move. The "real" part of the person leaves his body, and nobody can see it go. The living part of the person who loves Jesus will go to be with Jesus in Heaven while his body is put into the grave, but the person who would not ask Jesus to be his Saviour will go to another place, a place called Hades. His body also is put into the grave.

Jesus is going to come back from Heaven! As soon as He comes from Heaven, He will stop in the clouds. He will come with a shout and with the trumpet of God. (While saying the rest of this paragraph, indicate action with your hands. Let one hand be the dead saved and the other hand be the living saved.) Then all those saved people who had died will come back into their bodies. Their bodies will come out of the graves, and they will be made over again into new bodies! As their bodies are made new, they will start to rise from the earth, going up, up, up. Just as soon as they have come from the graves, the living saved people will go up, up, up also.

Where will all the saved people stop? Yes, they will stop at the clouds and be there with Jesus. This event has a name. This event is called THE FIRST RESURRECTION. We already looked at the words that say this: THE FIRST RESURRECTION. (Point again to these words on the board.)

Let's remember what is going to happen then. We who love Jesus will be there in the clouds with Him for seven years. On earth during that time, one-half the time will be okay; during the last half, there will be the terrible Tribulation Period.

Then we'll all come back with Jesus. We will get back to the earth by riding white horses! Jesus will become the King of Kings of all the earth. We will rule the whole earth with Him. This period of time will be called The Millennium. That stands for one thousand years. For one thousand years, we who have loved Jesus will have jobs to do for Jesus. During that time, some more people will be saved on this earth. Those thousand years will be such a wonderful time! Then the thousand years will end.

Then we will come to this time that is called THE SECOND RESURRECTION. Suddenly some more graves will open. The people who had never asked Jesus to be their Saviour will rise from the dead. Their resurrection, however, will not be a happy one. They will have to face Jesus, and Jesus will know all their sins.

(Draw a big throne at the bottom half of your board or paper.) Jesus will be sitting on His throne. This throne will be called The Great White Throne. All people who had not trusted Him as their Saviour will have to face Jesus. They will have to face Him one at a time. Jesus will call for a book. (Pick up "The Book of Life.") Jesus will have an angel check a book for the name of the person who will be standing before The Great White Throne. Jesus will say, "Is the name of this person written in the Book of Life?"

The angel will have to say, "No, Jesus, that person's name is not here."

Then Jesus will say, "What did this person do while he lived on earth?"

All the things that person did will be told, including all the bad things.

Jesus will ask, "How many times did this person have an opportunity to accept Me as his Saviour?" The angel will tell how many times that person said, "No, I will not ask Jesus to be my Saviour."

Then Jesus will say, "Angel, pick up this pitcher. Pour out that liquid." (Lay down the book, and pick up your container of salted water.) Hum, I wonder what will be in that pitcher? (As you pour, put your finger into the water, and taste it.) It tastes like salted water. When a person cries, we say, "He is crying salty tears." The vial

or pitcher which Jesus asks the angel to get will have tears in it. The tears will be the tears which saved people have cried as they have asked the unsaved person to ask Jesus to be his Saviour. Jesus will say to the unsaved person, "Someone loved you. Someone wanted you to be saved. Someone cried because you would not be saved."

According to all the bad things which the unsaved person has done and according to how many times he turned down Jesus, Jesus will decide how bad that person's punishment will have to be. Jesus will say, "Throw this unsaved person into Hell. Throw him into this certain part of Hell." That unsaved person will be thrown into Hell by the angels, and he will go into the part of Hell that either may be worse than other parts, or into a part that will be better than other parts of Hell.

Remember that I told you we would talk about fire again this morning? That's what is in Hell. Fire. Fire that burns and burns and burns and never can be put out. In Hell will be fire that burns forever and forever. All unsaved people will be thrown into that fire in Hell. There will be someone else in Hell—someone will be thrown there before the unsaved people are thrown there. The Devil will be thrown into Hell. Hell was made for the Devil. Unsaved people will be in Hell with the Devil, burning and burning forever and forever and forever.

So, the Second Resurrection will be the time when unsaved people will rise from the dead and then will stand before Jesus at the Great White Throne Judgment. I am so glad that I am saved, and that I will not have to go through the Second Resurrection. I will rise to be with Jesus at the First Resurrection. What about you? What about your friends? What about your family? Do your friends and your family know how to be saved? You should tell them how to be saved.

LEARN OUR BIBLE VERSE: Romans 10:13, "*For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.*"