

=TOPICS OF REVELATION=

Lesson 7

The Great White Throne Judgment

AIM: to teach my pupils the events of the judgment of the unsaved dead.

POINT OF CONTACT: Ask the pupils how many of them have ever seen a courtroom scene, either personally or on television. Ask them to describe what takes place. This will get their minds on a judgment.

INTRODUCTION: There are two main judgments: (1) The judgment of the saved immediately after the Rapture at the Judgment Seat of Christ. This is for the passing out of degrees of rewards. (2) The second is the judgment of the unsaved at the end of the Millennium which is for the purpose of passing out degrees of punishment to the unsaved. Let us look at this judgment.

- I. IT WILL BE ON A GREAT WHITE THRONE. (Revelation 20:11) You could picture this on a chalkboard.
- II. JESUS SITS ON THAT THRONE. God has given all of the ministry of judging to the Lord Jesus Christ. In other words, every unsaved man must stand face to face with Jesus Christ.
- III. THE SAVED DEAD WILL HAVE ALREADY BEEN RAISED TO BE WITH THE LORD. The only ones left then are the unsaved dead who live not again until the 1,000 years are finished. (Revelation 20:5,6)
- IV. THEN WE HAVE THE SECOND RESURRECTION. (Revelation 20:13) Just as there are two main judgments, there are two main resurrections: the resurrection of the saved at the Rapture and the resurrection of the unsaved at the end of the Millennium. When an unsaved person dies, his soul goes to Hades or a place of torment. This is the place mentioned in Luke 16. This is where the rich man went. The unsaved man's body goes to the grave to await this resurrection. At the resurrection, this body rises and the soul reinhabits the body. Then both body and soul shall be cast into the lake of fire forever. The unsaved are in torment now, but only in soul torment. They are not in the final Hell mentioned in the Bible. In this final Hell, both body and soul will be burned forever and ever.
- V. THERE ARE DEGREES OF PUNISHMENT. See Revelation 20:13b. You will notice that every man is judged according to his works. All the unsaved will go to Hell, but not all will suffer the same degree of punishment. They will be punished according to their works. Those who have done more evil will be punished more. Those who have turned down the Gospel more times will be punished more. This is a plain teaching of the Word of God.
- VI. THERE WILL BE SOME BOOKS AT THE GREAT WHITE THRONE JUDGMENT FROM WHICH THE UNSAVED SHALL BE JUDGED.
  1. The Book of Life. This book contains the names of all the saved people. In other words, the Book of Life will be held against the unsaved. They will be shown the Book of Life and that their names are not listed there.
  2. The Bible. God will show very simply how the unsaved have rejected the Bible plan.
  3. The book of deeds. Every evil deed that an unsaved man does is charged against him, adding to his punishment at the Great White Throne Judgment. Perhaps there will also be a song book reminding the unsaved of the times he has turned down the Gospel and the invitation songs he has rejected.
  4. A book of remembrance or a book of memories. No doubt this is a book of the experiences where a person could have been saved but rejected the Gospel, and this will be brought against him.

- VII. A BOTTLE OF TEARS WILL BE Poured OUT. No doubt the bottled up tears of Christian friends will face the unsaved at the Great White Throne Judgment. What an awful time this will be!
- VIII. BOTH SMALL AND GREAT WILL FACE THE LORD. The rich and poor must face Him. The educated and uneducated, the high and the low, the big and the little, the great and the small—there will be no difference; all must face Him.
- IX. THOSE NOT FOUND WRITTEN IN THE BOOK OF LIFE WILL BE CAST INTO THE LAKE OF FIRE. In Revelation 20:15, notice the word “cast.” Here is a word which means, “to throw out,” like you would hurl a rock or throw a ball. The unsaved will be hurled out or thrown into Hell.

CONCLUSION: Not one single Christian will be at this judgment! We will all have been judged before at the Judgment Seat of Christ. May God help us to help our pupils prepare to escape the Great White Throne Judgment.