

THE LAKE OF FIRE DESCRIBED:

The lake of Fire is Described As, Or Results In: The Lake of Burning Sulfur (fire and brimstone; Revelation 19:20); The Second Death or Separation From God (Revelation 20:14); Outer Darkness (Matthew 22:13); The Wicked Dead Will Be Outside the Whole Creation of The New Heavens and The New Earth (Separated From The Inheritance of The Saints (Revelation 22:15); Suffering the Vengeance of Eternal Fire (Jude 7); The Wicked Dead Will be Tormented Day and Night For Ever and Ever (Revelation 20:10); Of Those Cast Into Outer Darkness: Lamentation; Weeping (Wailing) and Gnashing of Teeth, Will Be Heard (Matthew 8:12; 13:49-50); Unquenchable Fire (Luke 3:17).

1. From Jeremiah 17:10, What does it say God does toward Man? _____

2. (a) What was the outcome for Satan's armies that were as the sand of the sea in number? (Revelation 20:9) _____

(b) What was the outcome of the devil (Satan) that deceived these armies? (Revelation 20:10) _____

3. What is the Second Death? (This book, p. 39) _____

FIFTEENTH STUDY

THE FINAL JUDGMENT

There will be a final judgment in which the wicked dead will be raised and judged according to their works. Whosoever is not found in the Book of Life, together with the devil and his angels, the beast and the false prophet, will be consigned to everlasting punishment in the lake that burneth with fire and brimstone, which is the second death (Matt. 25:46; Mark 9:43-48; Rev. 19:20; 20:11-15).

DESTINY OF THE WICKED DEAD

The human race, which includes some believers, is so determined to offer its children and grand's all the material things, love and protection in this life they can provide; yet they forget death and the hereafter. They forget to prepare their family with what really matters in life: their salvation and eternity.

This final judgment is the second death (Revelation 20:14), not the separation of spirit and body, but spiritual death, which is the wages of sin (Romans 6:23). The body and the spirit are joined together at this time and judgment is made before the Great White Throne.

The question many are pondering, is, "What happens to me after death?" This is frightening thinking, but a part of Biblical truth, and we all have to face it at one point in life.

The lake of everlasting fire is real, and was prepared in the beginning for Satan and his angels, but is enlarging itself, constantly, for the unrepentant who will suffer the same punishment as they (Matthew 25:41; II Peter 2:4; Jude 6; ref. Matthew 13:38-42).

In the New Testament the Greek word for *Hades* is sub-

1. Bible Doctrines a Pentecostal Perspective, by William W. Menzies and Stanley M. Horton, p. 242.

stituted for the Hebrew word *she'ol*, and Hades in the New Testament is always a place of punishment. It is also a place of conscious existence “in torment” (Luke 16:23). Some make the Greek *Gehenna* (Matt. 5:22; 23:33, for example) the equivalent of *Hades*, but it is rather a term describing the lake of fire, which is the second (i.e., eternal) death. ¹

See Jesus’ reference to hell in Luke 16:24-28.

SATAN’S FINAL REBELLION (Revelation 20:1-3,7)

John reveals the defeat of Satan as the angel of the Lord chains the Devil for a thousand years in “the bottomless pit” (20:3). This pit is not hell, the lake of fire, but is a real place where Satan will be imprisoned for the millennium. However, John warns that after the thousand years are complete, “he must be loosed for a little season” (20:3). ²

Many have questioned why God would release Satan for a time after imprisoning him for a thousand years. Since the Bible does not tell us, we cannot be certain. It is interesting to note, however, that even after a Millennium of peace, prosperity, and justice under the rule of the Messiah, many humans will still rebel against God because their hearts are wicked apart from the grace of God (see 20:8-9; Jer.17:9). ²

When the thousand years as expired, then Satan will be loosed out of his prison, and shall go out to deceive the nations which are those born during the Millennium, but never accept Christ as their Lord, from the four quarters of the earth; join Satan in his final rebellion to try to conquer and overthrow God (Revelation 20:7,8).

We must understand there will be babies born during the time of the Millennial Reign of Christ here on earth.

Some say the Gog and Magog of Ezekiel 38:2 and 39:1,

of which this writer believes to be Russia and the Russian leader, is not the same as that of this passage in Revelation 20:8.

THE GREAT WHITE THRONE JUDGMENT (John 5:22; Revelation 20:11-15; John 5:29)

Even though the Great White Throne belongs to God the Father, He gives this judgment over to His Son (John 5:22). His presence will be so glorious as His Majesty appears and takes His place of Authority on this throne, that the heavens and earth will flee away; and none could hide (they were no longer needed in God’s plan). (Revelation 20:11).

Those who stand before the throne of God to be judged, are the wicked dead, small and great (Revelation 20:12). Presidents, dictators, Sunday School teachers, the man on “skid row”, all the wicked dead will stand before this judgment seat: including those who will die at the end of the Millennium who will be killed as God sends fire down from out of heaven because they chose to become allied with Satan (Revelation 20:9).

The Book of (Eternal) Life will be opened to show that their names are not there. One by one, they will appear before the One who died for them. They will be terrified as they find there is no more mercy for them any longer. This is it, they are judged, every man according to their works (Revelation 20:13). Even those who claimed to be Christians have to shed their sheep's garments to show they were only “wolves in sheep's clothing” all along, and step into “eternity”, along with all those they already despise. They will be cast into the lake of fire (Revelation 20:15).

The greatest enemies of humanity, death and hell, were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. There is no more hope for them. The first death was the physical death. Now, the second death is the spiritual death—separation from God.

1. Bible Doctrines a Pentecostal Perspective, by William W. Menzies and Stanley M. Horton, p. 245.

2. Prophecy Study Bible, Grant R. Jeffrey., p. 1478 Notes.