

It Is Done!

March 15, 2020



Open: What would be difficult about making judgment on someone and deciding their punishment?

Read & Discuss: Revelation 20:11-15

1. In Revelation 20:11, how is the throne described? What do you think John intended to communicate about the throne by this imagery?
2. According to verses 12-15, on what basis are the dead judged? What does it say about God's character that He would keep a record of each person's deeds?
3. How do we reconcile this image of judgment based on deeds with the doctrine of salvation by grace through faith in Christ? How should this coming judgment affect how we approach life?

Read & Discuss: Revelation 21:1-4

4. What appeals to you about the description of life in 21:1-4? How does this picture of what's coming compare with life in the Garden of Eden prior to Adam and Eve's sin? How is it better?

Read & Discuss: Revelation 21:5-8

5. In Revelation 21:5, the one on the throne stresses that "these words are trustworthy and true." Why do we often have difficulty believing God's promises? Why especially in Revelation?
6. How is the imagery used in verse 6 an appropriate way to illustrate the Gospel? How does this promise of verse 6 help us better understand the judgment we saw in 20:12-15?
7. Verse 7 says the promises of enjoying an eternal relationship with God are for the "one who conquers." Remembering that John is writing to believers beginning to experience persecution, what might it mean to be "one who conquers"? (*See as well, Revelation 12:11*).
8. Verse 8 gives a list of those whose "portion will be in the lake that burns with fire and sulfur." In what ways is being someone who embraces these behaviors the opposite of being "one who conquers," which John says is necessary for being counted as a son of God (v. 7)?

Apply: How would you summarize John's main point in this passage? What would it mean for your life if you walked in greater alignment with the promises and proclamations made here?

Pray: Pray that we walk each day as those whose names are written the book of life. Pray that we would have hearts that are eager to share Jesus' invitation with those around us.

Revelation 20:11-21:8

^{20:11} Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. From his presence earth and sky fled away, and no place was found for them. ¹² And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Then another book was opened, which is the book of life. And the dead were judged by what was written in the books, according to what they had done. ¹³ And the sea gave up the dead who were in it, Death and Hades gave up the dead who were in them, and they were judged, each one of them, according to what they had done. 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.

^{21:1} Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ² And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. ⁴ He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."

⁵ And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." ⁶ And he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment. ⁷ The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son. ⁸ But as for the cowardly, the faithless, the detestable, as for murderers, the sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars, their portion will be in the lake that burns with fire and sulfur, which is the second death." (ESV)