

Chapter 12

FINAL VICTORY OF THE LAMB

I am reverting to the Apostolic kind of preaching that is basically the same as reading the Bible. It is the old kind of preaching that served us so well for many centuries. Sometimes it was singing the Scriptures as they are.

What I will do is read Scripture and talk about them. I will also correlate some Scripture. It will not be a typical sermon where you have four points and a poem.

Revelation

19:11 And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him [was] called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war.

19:12 His eyes [were] as a flame of fire, and on his head [were] many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself.

19:13 And he [was] clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God.

19:14 And the armies [which were] in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean.

19:15 And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.

19:16 And he hath on [his] vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.

This passage is dealing with the second coming of Christ. The second coming is separate from the rapture that occurred at the last trumpet. This time we have the coming of Christ and the armies with Him. These armies are composed of the glorified saints, and they are clothed in white linen, and that is explained in verse 8 of the same chapter—“And to her was granted that she

should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.” This verse is a description of the saints, and I believe that you and I will be among this group riding these horses coming back to earth. This is the second coming, the Lord is coming to set his throne up on earth, and there is going to be a reign upon the earth by the Lord and the saints.

His army is coming here to earth with Him. Note that wherever the Lord goes, there is going to be war. There is going to be an eruption of some kind of turmoil, conflict, and war.

Therefore, guess what is going to happen next. The battle of Armageddon is just waiting to happen. It is going to happen as soon as the Lord and His saints come back to earth.

ARMAGEDDON

Revelation

19:17 And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God;

19:18 That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all [men, both] free and bond, both small and great.

19:19 And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army.

When the Lord does come back to set up reign here with us, there is going to be mounted against Him the world’s armies.

There will be many kings and many soldiers. This is going to be a power battle. They are going to have guns and all kinds of carnal weapons, and they are going to come as if they are going to take the world from the Lord. They are going to try to do it with force. That has been Satan's strategy since the git-go, to use carnal force by those he has deceived. Now our power is a spiritual power. It is a sword that comes out of the Lord's mouth that wields God's power, but it is going to be a spiritual power that is going to be undefeatable by all this carnal power being mounted against Him by the Antichrist. That description of carnal power is in verse 19: "And I saw the beast." That is the Antichrist.

We have seen this beast described in another chapter. Here he is with all of his political power that is coming against the Lord and against us. If power could be in the form of bullets and guns and things like this, then this Antichrist would be an unstoppable kind of force. He will have all of the armies of the world and kings and soldiers and tanks and all that kind of thing. But this kind of power cannot defeat spiritual things. A bullet can kill your body, but it cannot kill your spirit. Then in verse 20 we see the results of the war.

The Beast and False Prophet

Revelation

19:20 And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.

Pick up on the word "deceived" here. This has been where the saints who have spiritual power are being defeated. This is where you are being defeated. It is in the realm of deception. Deception by its very

nature, you see, cannot be understood by the deceived person. If you know where you are deceived, you could get that out of your life and believe the truth.

Every one of you reading this book and on this planet is deceived. There has been only one perfect theologian. We are not He. Every one of us has some elements of deception in our lives. It is our job to root that out. That is why we have seminary classes, that is why you have Sunday school classes, that is why you have open dialogue with your peers. As you open yourself to the truth, these deceptions will begin to surface, and you can discard them.

If it is a pet theological doctrine that is in error, you will need to discard that error and rebuild your systematic theology. Do not demand that your system fit together with an erroneous doctrinal plank in there. Do not do that. At least have the integrity to tear your system down, discard the faulty plank, and rebuild. If you will do that, you will root out the errors in your system. You can rest assured of one thing; you will never get it all out. Just keep on keeping on. Keep on keeping on.

We have here the beast and the false prophet who are defeated in this final battle, Armageddon, and they are cast into the lake of fire. At this point they are out of the way. The beast and the false prophet, two of the evil trinity have been cast into the lake of fire. There will not be any more problems with them.

What about all those kings and armies? It says in verse 21,

Revelation

19:21 And the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, which [sword] proceeded out of his

mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh.

All these kings and armies that were with the beast and the false prophet are going to be killed by the sword that comes out of His mouth. They are given life, and existence by the sword that comes out of His mouth, and they are given an execution by the sword that comes out of His mouth.

The false prophet and the Antichrist are in the lake of fire. The kings and all of their army are dead now. It sounds like it is time for the millennium, but there is one person left that is going to be a problem. If we are going to have the millennium, that thousand-year reign of peace, what are we going to do about Satan himself, the third person of the evil trinity? That comes up in chapter 20.

REVELATION 20

The Devil

Revelation

20:1 And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand.

20:2 And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years,

20:3 And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season.

Prior to this we had then the beast and the false prophet who deceived us, who has deceived the world into taking the mark. You remember I talked to you about taking the spiritual mark and then the physical mark. All of that is through deception, and we are being deceived now. Those two deceivers are at this point in the lake of fire.

Now here is Satan, the mastermind of deception. He is now in the bottomless pit that is sealed up for the thousand years. There is not going to be any more of this deception going on all over the place. Everything will be straight up and down. When you say something, you mean what you say, and you say what you mean. There is going to be some clarification of hearing. I look forward to that kind of time. Now let's look at the description of the millennial reign.

The Millennium

And Scripture says,

Revelation

20:4 And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and [I saw] the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received [his] mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.

There may be some bad news here for you and me. The souls of those who reign with the Lord here could very well be just those who were beheaded because you see it says that "I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the Word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received [his] mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years." Who is the "they"? "They lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years." If it is these that He is describing, "and I saw the souls of them," and the "them" are the ones that are beheaded, "and they lived and reigned," if the "they" is referring to the "them," then we are looking at a reign comprised of only the martyrs. That is the bad news.

The good news is only my opinion. I opine that the “they” is referring to all those on the white horses that came with Him, and stood against the attack of Antichrist and the armies. So the “they,” in my mind, refers to the masses of saints who wear the white linen. Now I have another little bit of bad news for you. The bad news is, you have to decide.

Be aware that this could very well be a millennial reign by the martyrs, those who have demonstrated a loyalty that is honorable and deserving of reigning with the Lord. Not just an ontological new birth reigning, but it could very well be a reigning only by those who have given much. We have talked about the *kenosis* in here. The *kenosis* is the doorway to reigning. You remember how the model goes? The reign would be after the cross like this Chart 12.1 shows. The reign would be after the cross, after the exaltation.

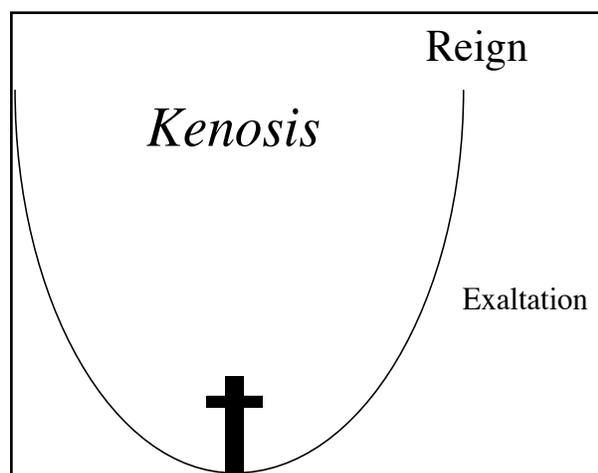


Chart 12.1

You remember the other model, the opposite of the *kenosis*? There is no reigning after the fall from the throne. There is therefore a possibility here that reigning comes with martyrdom. It depends upon what the “they” is pointing back to.

Revelation

20:5 But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This [is] the first resurrection.

20:6 Blessed and holy [is] he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.

I am going to leave it to you to discern whether there are two kinds of saints. Those who have practiced self-sacrifice, self-denial, pick up your cross and follow Him (Matthew 16:24) are disciples who reign. These have fine, white linen clothes. The martyrs are a subset of this group in my opinion.

What do the saints on the upside-down *kenosis* have? They have disgrace, they have loss, they have no clothes, they have nothing. Do they reign? Not hardly. Do the ones on the *kenosis* reign? You bet, in my opinion

Could there be two groups of saints? Saints who reign and saints who do not reign? The first resurrection would be for these who will be reigning in the millennium. The other group of saints may not be raised until the last resurrection. It could be. I do not know, but we must make a decision here. Every one of us has to come up with an answer. My answer is that the martyrs will sit on the thrones. Reporting to them will be the kenotic Christians. The remaining saints will be mere spectators.

Satan Loosed

We come now to the end of the millennium, and what is going to happen. Satan is going to be loosed. There will be all manner of people who are going to be born and raised up in the millennial reign. They are going to have conversations with us. Each one of you will be involved in this millennial reign if I am correct. If I am correct, you are going to be

put in charge of a group of people as part of your reigning with Christ. Now I understand that you might get to be so high that you will be in charge of a state, a whole state. Somebody here could be in charge of Texas. I am putting in for the state of Georgia. That is where I came from. There are other states open. I hear Arkansas is open, and has not had a bidder put in for it (laughter). Louisiana is open, too (more laughter).

Wanda: I have a question. This is Christ's return. So are there still people in heaven? We know that He comes with saints dressed in white to reign on earth. But is there still a heaven, and are there still saints there?

V: Okay, that is what you are going to have to answer. That is basically the question that I have introduced here.

The Final War

I want to move to problems which accompany the loosing of Satan because you remember he has been in the bottomless pit for a thousand years now. When he is loosed there is going to be all manner of disruption and deception loosed upon the earth again. If I am in charge of a group of people, I am going to be teaching them for a thousand years that Satan is in the bottomless pit, but he will be coming out. You are not going to be able to see him. He is going to be the great mastermind deceiver. He has deceived the billions throughout history. He is going to deceive people once again, and you are going to be deceived.

I am going to be telling my people, "You are going to be deceived!" I am going to teach with the same kind of urgency that I teach now. I am going to be hammering it in, hammering, hammering, hammering,

continually telling them that Satan is going to be loosed, and he is going to go around the nations and deceive everybody on this planet except the resurrected saints.

I want you to know how this thing is going to shake down. There is going to be another battle when he is loosed. The battle is going to erupt when Satan deceives the people into thinking that Christ and His saints are not running this planet right, and that they need to take over and straighten it out. Basically, I will want my people to promise me that they are not going to leave this state without my knowing about it. "You have to talk to me before you make a drastic decision as to leaving this state and going with these armies to make an attack against the Lord." I am going to teach hard. I am going to teach the history of the church, the history of Israel and Judah, I am going to teach them doctrine, I am going to teach them the *kenosis*, I am going to teach them about the upside-down *kenosis*, I am going to teach them everything that I know. I will have a thousand years to get it done. But I am going to tell them, "No matter how much you know, you are going to be deceived just like I was deceived, just like all of our saints, the brotherhood, has been deceived. Now I want you to have this in mind." As we come to this point here in verse 7, this deception is what is going to happen as soon as Satan is loosed.

Revelation

20:7 And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison,

20:8 And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom [is] as the sand of the sea.

By this time the population of the earth over a thousand-year period will have grown

like the sands of the sea. And sure enough he is going to go out, and he is going to deceive them, and the deception is, “Let us go against the Lord and the saints. Let us just go and take over this whole planet.” And for some reason, they are going to follow his lead just like you guys are now doing it. When Satan deceives you and tells you, “Let us go and do this stupid thing,” you go and do that stupid thing. Why? Because you are convinced in your mind that it is a good thing. That is what these people will do as well. It is a deception. It is deception. Here they come in verse 9,

Revelation

20:9 And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them.

I imagine the scene will be something like this (I am going to go literal on you for a minute): all of us have been called by the Lord to a meeting. He says, “All saints on the planet come here to Jerusalem, we are going to have a meeting.” So we all go to the meeting, and at that time when we are all there, Satan is going to say, “Now is our chance. Let us go and get them. Let us surround them (it says “compassed.”) They are going to surround us. They will have us cornered and ready to be killed. We are going to be standing there, and the Lord’s fire is going to come from heaven and devour them.

Now I have gone literal at this time, and how that shakes down into the signs when we bring this back on as signs, I do not know. The easiest way is to go literal. But we need to see these descriptions as signs. To do so, we need to address these questions: What does it mean fire from heaven? What does it mean to “compass” the saints and the Holy City round about? I think that it will be a

repeat of what is going on now—secularization and upside down *kenosis*.

God’s fire from heaven is the end of that attack, and then we have in verse 10,

Revelation

20:10 And the devil that deceived them .

..

You see how that word, “deceived,” just keeps popping up over and over and over again.

Revelation

20:10 . . . was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet [are], and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

The lake of fire is in a specific location. Those two guys, the beast and the false prophet, in the battle that was a thousand years earlier, Armageddon, are already in the lake of fire. At the end of this final battle, at the end of the millennial reign, Satan himself is cast in there. So all three of the evil trinity are gone forever. They are going to burn and be in torment forever and ever.

THE GREAT WHITE THRONE JUDGMENT

Now I will to take you on a little trip. I want to do a word picture. Draw it in your mind. It is going to be accurate enough for you that when we come to this point in history, and everybody is going to come to this point, you are going to say, “This is it” because it is going to be burned into your mind so that you will recognize it right away. I want you to give me the freedom to give you a human interpretation of this future historical event because there is not going to be anybody that can get every detail right. I am going to get it as close as I possibly can, and if I get a detail wrong, please forgive me because

I cannot guarantee every detail. You will recognize, however, what I am going to tell you.

The Scene

I want you to look at Chart 12.2 and imagine a huge open expanse of territory, a level territory of ground. Overlooking that ground, lifted way up high and majestic, is a great white throne. Sitting upon that throne is the Lord Jesus Christ Himself in His majesty. All out in front of this great, open expanse will soon be the people of the earth who are going to be judged. Compassing the whole area will be angels to guarantee the sanctity of what is going to happen here and to secure the area against exit. There will be no interference because the angels will secure the entire area.

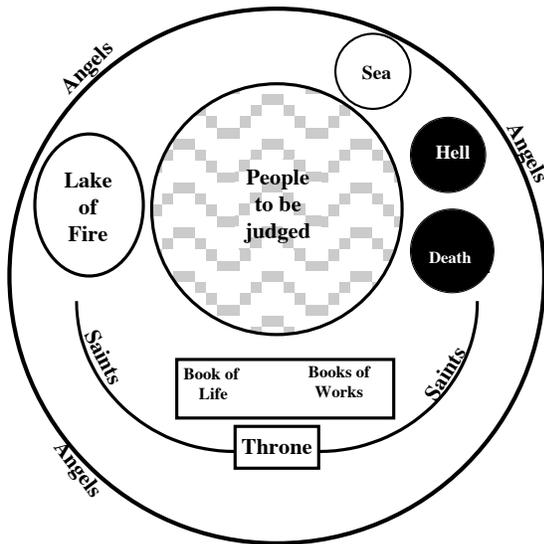


Chart 12.2

All out in front of the throne will soon be the people who are going to be judged. They will be wondering, “What is going on?” because it is going to be a soul-trembling kind of experience. All will sense that this is something that is extremely important, extremely nerve-wracking. Much anxiety will be erupting up into the souls of the people.

All out here to the right of the throne, and all out to the left will be the lines of saints. Everybody who is saved is going to be lined up on either side of the throne. There will be a saint at the right hand of Jesus. There will be one on the other side as well. Those saints will be adjacent to the arm of Jesus. His hand could even rest on your shoulder if you are in one of those places of honor.

The more you consistently implement the *kenosis* in your life, the closer you will be to the Lord. The more you live this life for yourself, the further you will be from Him. If you have not taken the pains and the sufferings and the cross of Christ with self-denial and self-sacrifice, then the further out you go in the line. That is where those who have not walked so close will stand. They may have had a religiousness where their tongue was close to Him, but their heart was far distant. All out to the right and to the left, way out as far as you can see will be these lines of saints.

There is going to be a sense of expectation on both the people and the saints because, you see, you who will be in this line are going to know what is going to happen. Your knees are going to begin to tremble, and there is going to be an anxiety for this is the moment of dread. There are going to be the tears and all of that because there are going to be people in that group of unsaved people out front that you know. They will look up at you, and they will be wondering why you are in the line up there and they are down in front. There may even be conversation between you and them.

This is the setting of the Great White Throne, and Jesus is sitting on it as Lord and Judge. The saints are lined up on each side based on where their hearts were and what

their performance has been on this planet in their lifetime.

Up in front there is going to be this big table with one big book called the Book of Life. This judgment, however, is the judgment of works. So, on the table will be many books of works. There are going to be all of these things in this scene, and the people are going to be coming up out of hell and being put here in this area in front of the throne to be judged. The angels are going to pull them up out of hell to put them here. The most evil people to have ever lived will be put there. Also, there will be all manner of good grandma's out there, all manner of good grandpa's and good Samaritans, all manner of religious people, people that have not robbed and stolen and murdered and done all those bad things. There will be some decent people out there, but they are not saved.

Revelation

20:11 And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them.

You see, as these people are standing all out in front of the throne; they glance up at the throne, but they cannot look upon holiness because they are unholy. Even the earth cannot look upon absolute holiness because the earth, too, has fallen. Even the heaven cannot look upon absolute holiness because it too has fallen. You see the only thing that can look upon holiness is holiness itself. There is found no room for them. The people know that there is something happening. They cannot look up. They glance up but have to divert their eyes. There is no place found for them.

The Process

Then we are going to witness this process of judgment. One at a time each person is going to be called by name—"John Doe, come up here." Two angels will go out there and get him, pull and drag him up, screaming and kicking. They will open up the Book of Works, and they are going to read what John Doe did. John Doe may be your daddy, may be your son, and they are going to read all about John Doe, all that he has done, all his works.

Please note that everybody goes through two judgments: the judgment of personhood and the judgment of works. When you die as a lost person, your personhood is already judged, and you are taken to hell. Hell is like jail. You commit a burglary, and the police get you, and they take you to jail. Then they take you to court where they try you, judge you, and then they take you to prison. Jail is hell. The great white throne judgment is court, and the lake of fire is prison. That is the process

We have these people who are going to be judged, and they are going to be judged out of their works (Book of Works). The sentence will be pronounced. "You are condemned to eternity in the lake of fire." You will be set aside for execution. Then the next one is called. The small and the great, those who have been good people, and those who have been bad people are each judged. Slaves are going to be judged; free people are going to be judged; everybody out there is going to be judged. They are going to be judged on the basis of their works. Their personhood was judged before they died. They were guilty; they died in their sin; they went to hell to be held for trial; now they are coming to judgment of what they did. After this

judgment, they are going to the lake of fire. This judgment is done on their works.

Revelation

20:12 And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is [the book] of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.

20:13 And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; . . .

You remember what the sea is—these are spiritually dead people in the church. They come out of the church because they are going to be judged.

Revelation

20:13 . . . and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: . . .

When the people die physically, and they are condemned, they go to hell. What about death? Death delivered up the people in it also. Death is composed of the people who are walking around not physically dead but spiritually dead. The dead people in the church realm of life are those in the sea. The sea gives up the dead who are in it. The death area gives up the dead who are in it. They are the secular walking around people, and then hell gives up the dead who are in it. They are the physically dead people. Here are all the dead people from the sea, death, and hell, and that is what composes all of this mass of humanity out in front of the great white throne.

Revelation

20:13 . . . and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works.

This is a works judgment, and so each one of these that come out of those three realms are judged according to their works, condemned to the lake of fire, and set aside for execution.

The Execution of Death and Hell

Then we come to the time of execution. What is going to happen? Death and hell are going to be executed prior to these people. I do not know if death and hell are locations or if they are angels who are in charge of those realms. It seems that the realms are being personified here. I do not know what the answer is. I leave that to you as another question that needs to be answered. But whatever it is, a location or an angel who is in charge of that location or realm, death and hell are going to be snatched up and cast into the lake of fire. When that happens there is going to be an awakening of those awaiting their execution because when they see death and hell condemned to the lake of fire their anxiety will escalate: “I do not want to go to the lake of fire.” There is going to come a panic. I want you to see this in verse 14.

The Appeals

Revelation

20:14 And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.

As soon as death and hell go into the lake of fire, these that are awaiting execution are going to look over there and panic. They have been hearing a lot of screaming all of this time from the lake of fire since the beginning of judgment and execution, and it is going to dawn on them that somebody is already in that place. That is the lake of fire! That screaming was from the evil trinity. It is going to be a wailing, eerie scream. Continuous with no let up, and then when death and hell are snatched up and cast in there, all of a sudden this one will say, “Oh, my,” and he is going to run up to the throne, “Oh, Lord, Lord, do you not remember that I was in the church, and I was a deacon, and I did all good things? I fed the poor, and I have a ten-year perfect

attendance pin from Sunday school. I did everything right.” These kinds of appeals will come at that panic time when the condemned realize that their eternity is there in that terrible place. That is when it is going to dawn on them: the sheer terror of what lies in front of them. Look at Matthew 7:22-23:

Matthew

7:22 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?

7:23 And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

This is going to be the appeal process, this is the day of the Lord that is described in Matthew 7, the day of the Lord is this day, the day of the great white throne judgment. Take note that when you see the great white throne judgment, you will remember what we are talking about right here right now. Now is a preview of when all of our eternity will come to a point.

Appeals by Religious People

Here are these religious types. God forbid that one of you be one of these. Don't be someone that is in one of my classes that could end up out here making an appeal, “I went to seminary. Oh, Lord, Lord, I went to seminary. I did everything. I knew all about the *kenosis*, I got a hundred on the test!” Beloved, that is not going to count. You have to get it right, now.

These religious people are going to make their appeal based on religion. That does not wash, because Jesus is the basis. One at a time they are going to make this appeal. I believe angels are going to be executing these religious types, and I believe that as they hear the verdict from Matthew 7: “I never knew

you; depart from me,” I believe the angels are going to open up the Book of Life, and they will say, “This is where your name should have been, right here in this place reserved for you.” Jesus will say, “My blood bought your salvation, and your name is not in there. You wanted to go your own way, do it your way, but here is where I made a way for you, and your name is not in there.” Each one of these religious types will make that appeal. After a look in the Book of Life, they will hear: “Depart from me, I never knew you.” There will be a spot for your name, but there will be no name written.

Executions of Religious People

The angels will execute each one by casting each into the lake of fire. Over and over again, all of these who think they have a religious appeal. These that have an inside track based on religion are going to make their appeal on a religious basis. They are going to be executed. I believe they are going to be executed by the angels because I think that they have been warned. They have heard the Gospel, they have been in church, they have been in seminary, they have had every opportunity, and they squandered it. They have determined to do it their own way. Therefore, their blood and their execution will be required at the hands of God's executioners.

Verse 15 of Revelation is based on the appeal.

Revelation

20:15 And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

That was the group that appealed. After that group made their appeal and was found not written in the Book of Life, they were

cast in, and then come the executions that are so horrifying in my mind.

Executions of Non-religious People

Man, I want to tell you something: this next part gives me the shivers because when we are in line with the saints, we are seeing our loved ones, our friends, our co-workers being executed, and how this first group here are the ones you are sitting beside in church. These are the ones that you are with in Sunday school. These are the ones that you have seen when you have preached your sermons, and you are looking out at the congregation. You are so sure that they are saved. They are not saved because they were depending on the wrong thing.

Now we come to the other part, I know it is coming. I am going to be out here in this line of saints. I will be weeping and agonizing because the first group is hard enough for me. They are the religious ones who have heard the Word, but the next group is the ones that are really going to be hard on me. These are the ones that should have been warned. These are the ones that are our responsibility. These are the ones we were supposed to go tell, but we did not.

Everybody in the line of saints is going to be weeping. You will be weeping because you have heard this, you will be falling down on your face, groveling in the dirt, weeping, agonizing because He is going to call your name! The Lord is going to call your name. He will say, "Bill, come here." I will have to get up in front of all of you and walk up there, and He is going to say, "That lady right there; that one is yours. You lived next door to her and did not tell her. **You** execute her." She is going to look at me like I have horns. She will say, "How could you let this happen?" What am I going to say? That I was scared? That

will not wash. I did not have time? I did not know what to say?

If you could reverse the scenario: your neighbor is up here in the line of saints, and you are out there standing with the condemned, the neighbor is going to throw you into the lake of fire, what are you going to say to him? "What kind of friend are you? What kind of Christian are you? You are a sorry excuse. You lived by me, and you let me go to the lake of fire?"

You will have to take that neighbor and cast him into the lake of fire? What about you fathers? You have a daughter: "Daddy, you mean I have to go there, and you did not do anything for me except take me to church and Sunday school? That is all you did? Daddy, how could you let this happen to me?" What are you going to say to your daughter? You mothers, do you have a son? "Mama, how could you let this happen?" You husbands, you have a wife? Are you going to leave things to chance? Are you just going to take them and pass them through Sunday school and church and hope that something takes, or are you going to tear down the strongholds? Are you going to charge hell? Are you going to get after it and make sure things happen? Are you going to make sure that your loved ones know and have an opportunity? If you love anybody, you had better think about the lake of fire. Help them avoid that before it is too late, because we are talking about eternity. It says here that you have to execute them. Read Ezekiel 3:17-19.

Ezekiel

3:17 Son of man, I have made thee a watchman unto the house of Israel: therefore hear the word at my mouth, and give them warning from me.

3:18 When I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die; and thou givest him not warning, nor speakest to warn the wicked

from his wicked way, to save his life; the same wicked [man] shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand.

3:19 Yet if thou warn the wicked, and he turn not from his wickedness, nor from his wicked way, he shall die in his iniquity; but thou hast delivered thy soul.

The first group made their appeals on religion. They are those whom you have warned, and they have heard, and they have made a choice, and their choice is to reject. They are executed by the angels. But there is the other group, the group that has not heard, that has not made an obvious choice. Those are your responsibility to warn, and they were not warned. They still have to be executed even though they were not warned, but their blood is going to be required at your hands. That execution is a hard thing to face, but you had better face it now while it is easy because this judgment is coming when it will not be this easy. This passage is a requirement that we warn the wicked. If we do not, we will have to execute the wicked.

When we see this day, you are going to remember everything I have said here. This scene is going to be burned in your mind, and you are going to carry it with you for the rest of your life. I pray that it will be such a haunting thing that you will take steps to make sure that you are not executing your loved ones because it could very well be.

You make sure your people are notified. You preach to your relatives. You preach to your neighbors, you preach to your co-workers, you get tracts and get them out everywhere. You meet somebody, give them a tract. If you cannot talk to them, give them a tract. If you do not meet them, lay out a tract for someone to discover. You get these people saved because if you do not, they are going to the lake of fire.

Our Overwhelming Grief

So here we are up here near the throne, weeping and still just trembling. The execution has been completed and now all the condemned are in the lake of fire. We hear all this screaming and carrying on. You are up here, and you have been executing people, and some of you on the ends of the lines have had to make the most treks up to the front, and when you make a trek, you walk in front of those in the line. You have had to run the gauntlet. Remember how it was: here are all the saints. God calls your name, and you come up here, and you are weeping, and the saints are weeping, and feeling the disgrace. Everybody is thinking: "Why did you not do something?" That is what they are feeling. After you execute the person, and then you make the walk all the way down to your spot in line. Before long you are called back again making the walk back up here. Some of you are going to be worn out walking back and forth up here. I am trying to keep you from having to make those trips. You listen to me!!!

We are at the end of the judgments. Now we are looking at some closure.

A New Heaven and a New Earth

Revelation

21:1 And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.

Beth: No more sea is no more church?

V: That is right, there is no one left but the people of God who inherit the earth. There is no sea now, just the earth because there is no one but saved people on earth. The earth, then, is being redeemed.

The New Jerusalem

Revelation

21:2 And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

21:3 And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God [is] with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, [and be] their God.

21:4 And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; . . .

Now that is you, folks. You are going to be here slobbering around just like me. We are all going to be weeping and carrying on, making puddles and mud down here. Some of us will still be trembling so badly we cannot even stand up, just falling down with our faces down in the mud at that point, and God is going to come up and lift you up, and the healing touch of God is going to go slam through you. You are going to feel the healing love of God and the holiness that comes from His touch. He is going to hold you close. He is going to be your God, and you are going to be His child. He is going to wipe the tears from your eyes. You do not deserve it. None of us deserve it.

Our Tears and Memory Wiped Away

Revelation

21:4 And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

You wonder how you can enjoy heaven when you have cast your children into the lake of fire, your parents into the lake of fire, your uncles, your aunts, your cousins, your brothers and sisters, and even your own spouse. You have been casting them into the lake of fire. You are weeping, and you are in

agony, and the Lord God Himself comes and gives you healing and comfort and wipes away your tears. You think, “How can I enjoy heaven when I know my children are in that terrible place.” This is the miracle that you and I do not deserve! God is going to wipe away your memory. You will not even remember them. They will remember you forever. They are going to curse your name for eternity. They will never stop cursing your name, but you will not even remember them.

Isaiah

65:17 For, behold, I create new heavens and a new earth: and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind.

65:18 But be ye glad and rejoice for ever [in that] which I create: for, behold, I create Jerusalem a rejoicing, and her people a joy.

65:19 And I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and joy in my people: and the voice of weeping shall be no more heard in her, nor the voice of crying.

He is going to wipe away the memories of these horrible events from your mind, and you will never even think of these former things. They will be gone. There will not be anything left but rejoicing. It is hard for you to hear and understand the grace of God, how far that extends because when I read it now, it is incongruent with what I have just observed about the people being cast into the lake of fire. But through the majesty and miracle of God, He is going to wipe my mind clear, and I am not even going to remember them. However, He is not going to wipe their memories. They are going to be in there cursing me, “Why did he not tell me?” Praise God, this is a miracle for us that is totally undeserved.

Revelation

21:5 And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful.

21:6 And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.

21:7 He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.

21:8 But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

We are at the end of chapter 21, and the description here of how the New Jerusalem has come down out of heaven, and there is no temple in it because God and the Lamb are the temple, but in verse 24, there is mention made of nations.

Revelation

21:24 And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: . . .

The nations (*ethnos* in Greek is nations) would be all ethnic groups. You cannot have just one ethnic group, so it is all the ethnic groups that will be walking in the light of this light that God gives out. And then in the last half of that verse it says,

The City of God

Revelation

21:24 . . . and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honour into it.

21:25 And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day: for there shall be no night there.

21:26 And they shall bring the glory and honour of the nations into it.

21:27 And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither [whatsoever] worketh abomination, or [maketh] a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.

All of the people who are in the Book of Life can go in and out of the city. Now we saw in the description of the churches there would be some people that would be pillars in

the city, and they would stay in the city, and they would not go out of the city.

I think there is going to be some hierarchy in this final arrangement, and on top of that there are going to be those saints who were right here in the line close to the Lord. I think they will be close to the Lord in the city. Those saints way out near the end of the line, I think, are going to be outside of the city running errands all over the place. Those who were idle in this life when they were given a chance and a command from God to do work for Him, they are going to be idle there too for eternity.

Draw close to the Lord while you can. You have one time at bat. Swing that bat. Do not just take a strike, take another strike, take another strike, and you are out because that kind of idleness will be reflected in your eternity. You go down swinging. You get out there and minister, get up when the Lord calls your name, get on up there. When He calls and sends you out, you go out. If He tells you to do something, you do it. You have only one try. Go do it!!!

Revelation

22:1 And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb.

22:2 In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, [was there] the tree of life, which bare twelve [manner of] fruits, [and] yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree [were] for the healing of the nations.

Sounds like some of the nations are going to need some healing even here in the eschaton. That may mean there is going to be mortal man because, you see, when we talked about the judgment awhile ago, we had the sea giving up the dead which were in it. Those were false Christians. Hell gave up the dead,

which were in it. Those were the physically dead people who were sent to hell awaiting their judgment. Then death gave up the dead that were in it. Those were the physically alive but spiritually dead people at the time of the great day of the Lord. Think about it. Could there be anybody alive, physically alive, at that time who are saved? If there were a saved person left, that person would not be executed, could there be mortal man here in heaven? I introduce the question because I believe people will be saved during the millennium, after the rapture. Give it some thought. I would be interested in what you have to say. Here is the final description.

Revelation

22:3 And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him:

22:4 And they shall see his face; and his name [shall be] in their foreheads.

22:5 And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and they shall reign for ever and ever.

22:6 And he said unto me, These sayings [are] faithful and true: and the Lord God of the holy prophets sent his angel to shew unto his servants the things which must shortly be done.

22:7 Behold, I come quickly: blessed [is] he that keepeth the sayings of the prophecy of this book.

Several of you have titled your papers, *Blessed Is He That Heareth And Keepeth The Sayings of this Book*. We all must know that it is no good to just hear it. We must keep it. As we have gone through this semester your accountability has shot through the roof. You know it. Now it is time to do it. If you do not do it, you will not be blessed. A warning to the wise: if you are a wise man, keep the sayings of the prophecy of this book.

Revelation

22:10 And he saith unto me, Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book: for the time is at hand.

Here is the closure.

Revelation

22:11 He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still.

22:12 And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward [is] with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.

“Oh, God, please awaken your Church while there is still time. Help us all to deny ourselves, take up our crosses, and follow our Lord, Jesus. I, for one, surrender myself to you. Please take me and use me as You see fit. In Jesus’ Name and for His glory, I pray. Amen.”

Chapter Questions

1. Who will reign in the Millennium?
2. Is it personhood or works that is being judged at the Great White Throne?
3. How will religious people appeal their convictions?
4. Who executes the people who have not been warned?
5. Why will you have tears for God to wipe away?