

**>>>>>> Lesson 29 <<<<<<<**

- 1) Last time, we had much discussion and many questions about the millennium reign of Christ here on earth.
- 2) Probably leaving many questions unanswered.
- 3) Having a couple of weeks to mull this over (well maybe) do you have any questions or further comments on any that we discussed?
- 4) O.k. moving on to verse 11 of chapter 20 John begins his description of the new heaven and earth after the final battle of the 1000-year reign.

**Rev 20:11-15 (NIV)**

- 1) Here, John begins his description of the final scene for all of mankind.
- 2) The first thing John describes ever so briefly is “a great white throne and him who was seated on it”.
  - a) Obviously, God’s throne.
  - b) However, as MacArthur so aptly describes the one sitting on it:

“Sharing the throne with the Father is the Lord Jesus Christ. In 3:21 Jesus promised, “He who overcomes, I will grant to him to sit down with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne.” In John's vision of the new heaven and the new earth, he saw “the throne of God and of the Lamb” (22:1,3).

Though the Father and the Son share the throne, it is the Son who is uniquely in view here, since Scripture teaches that He will judge sinners. In John 5:22 Jesus said, “Not even the Father judges anyone, but He has given all judgment to the Son,” (from The MacArthur New Testament Commentary, Copyright © Moody Press and John MacArthur, Jr., 1983-2005.)

- 3) Moving to the first action that John sees, it is the demise of the earth and indeed, one can assume the universe as it has been known since its creation.
- 4) Not one person or thing will escape this moment in history.
- 5) Scattered throughout the remainder of the passage, John describes those who are there – in short, everyone.
  - a) At this point, there are no more flesh and blood beings.
    - i) Every soul that has ever lived from Adam and Eve to the last human being that was born during the millennial reign is standing before the throne.
- 6) The next action John describes is the opening of the “books.”

“and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life. The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books.”

- 7) Again, there are varying opinions on who is present here – some believe that only sinners are present because scripture tells us there is no condemnation for those of us who are in Christ.

## ***Revelation – NOTES – 2021***

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- a) I personally find that a very weak argument. Just because you are present at this point does not mean you are one of the ones being condemned so scripture would still hold true.
  - i) Another argument against that idea is scripture tells us that there are “books” that have been opened and “the dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books”
  - ii) Multiple books filled with deeds being judged!
  - iii) However, the “book of life” is also opened.
  - iv) There would be no need of that book to be opened if everyone there was condemned.
- 8) Some view this as a horrific court scene:
  - a) There is only a judge – no advocate no prosecutor.
  - b) The accused have no rights they are only there for sentencing.
- 9) On the other hand, I think this is more **like** the scene that Christ describes in Matthew.
- 10) Though it is a little longer reading I feel it is appropriate in context here.

### **Matt 25:31-46 (NIV)**

- 11) Returning to Revelation, John completes his description of this scene with ... >>>  
14 Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. The lake of fire is the second death. 15 If anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.
- 12) Death and Hades being thrown into the lake of fire means that since they are not persons – not capable of being punished – they simply pass from existence.
- 13) There are only two places in existence now for the resurrected souls of all mankind – the lake of fire and eternal punishment or the new heaven and new earth and eternal life with God.
- 14) The STRUGGLE IS ENDED!