

# When Jesus comes back

Part 6 – Heaven and Hell – The Final Destinations  
Revelation 20:11-15; Revelation 21-22

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The Bible describes major events that are tied to the Second Coming of Christ:

1. The world will grow progressively **worse**.
2. True Christ followers will be **raptured** away to heaven and experience our life evaluation and rewards called “The Judgment Seat of Christ.”
3. There will be **7 years** of tribulation in which the world will see the emergence of a great world leader the Bible calls the Antichrist.
4. At the end of the 7 years, Christ will return, defeat the Antichrist at the Battle of Armageddon and set up a **1000 year** reign on this earth called the Millennial Reign of Christ.
5. At the end of the thousand years, there will be the Great White Throne Judgment where **everyone** who does not know Christ will be judged.
6. There will be a New **Heaven** and a New **Earth** and time shall be no more.

*1 Corinthians 2:9 "No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him."*

I. GOD SAYS THAT EVERY PERSON WILL **EXIST** FOREVER.

*Matthew 25:46 "And the unsaved shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the saved unto life eternal."*

II. THE BIBLE DESCRIBES AN AWESOME, FEARFUL SCENE THAT THOSE WHO DO **NOT** KNOW CHRIST AS SAVIOR WILL EXPERIENCE. (Revelation 20:11-12)

A. *Revelation 20:11 "Then I saw a great white throne and Him who was seated on it. Earth and sky fled from His presence, and there was no place for them." (NIV)*

B. There are **huge numbers** of people there from every walk of life and every background.

*Revelation 20:12 "And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne."*

C. God's throne is a fair and just place. That is why it is called "the great white throne judgment".

D. There is a **criteria** which will determine the judgment of those at this scene. (Revelation 20:12)

*Revelation 20:12 "And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, 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."*

1. The first book is called the "Book of Works." All that will be there will be judged according to their **deeds**.

*Ecclesiastes 12:14 "For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or evil."*

2. The second book is called the Book of **Life**.

There is only one way to get a person's name into the Book of Life and that is by **trusting** in Jesus Christ alone for your salvation. The criteria for determining our fate will be what we did about Jesus Christ.

3. Christians will also go through a judgment but because it is described so differently than this scene (2 Corinthians 5:10), many scholars believe that there are **two** judgments – one of the saved and one for the lost. This one is the judgment for the lost.
4. The end result of this judgment is that the **lost** will be thrown into the Lake of Fire. (Revelation 20:14)

*Revelation 20:14 "Then death and Hell were thrown into the lake of fire. The lake of fire is the second death."*

The Lake of Fire is an unending death. *Revelation 14:11 "The smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever; and they have no rest day or night."*

### III. THE BIBLE DESCRIBES A SECOND DESTINY. THIS ONE IS FOR THOSE WHO DO KNOW CHRIST AS SAVIOR. (Revelation 21-22)

- A. *The Bible says that one day all that we know and recognize on earth and in the universe will be **destroyed** and replaced with a new universe. (2 Peter 3:10)*

*2 Peter 3:10 "But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The **heavens** will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything in it will be laid bare."*

*Revelation 21:1 "Then, I saw a **new** heaven and a **new** earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away."*

- B. *What will **we** be like in this new heaven and earth?*

1. *We will have new **bodies**.*

*1 Corinthians 15:40 "There are also heavenly bodies and there are earthly bodies; but the splendor of the heavenly bodies is one kind, and the splendor of the earthly bodies is another."*

*1 Corinthians 15:42-43 "In the same way, our earthly bodies which die and decay are different from the bodies we shall have when we are resurrected, for they will never die. The bodies we have now embarrass us, for they become sick and die; but when they are resurrected they will be full of glory. Yes, they are weak, dying bodies now, but when we are in heaven they will be powerful."*

2. *When we are in heaven, we will be **fully** us.*
3. *We will **know** each other in heaven.*
4. *We are going to be **happy** and at peace in heaven.*

*Revelation 21:3-4 "And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Now the dwelling of God is with men, and He will live with them. They will be His people, and God Himself will be with them and be their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away."*

**C. What will heaven look like?**

1. *Heaven is a massive place.*
2. *Heaven is made of the most beautiful things.*

*Revelation 21:19 "The foundations of the city walls were decorated with every kind of precious stone."*

3. *Heaven has a street of pure gold.*

**D. What will God be like?**

*Revelation 21:3 "And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, 'Now the dwelling of God is with men, and He will live with them. They will be His people, and God Himself will be with them and be their God.'"*

*Revelation 4:3-5 "And the one who sat there had the appearance of jasper and carnelian. (Those colors are deep burgundy.) A rainbow, resembling an emerald, (that is a deep transparent green) encircled the throne. From the throne came flashes of lightning, rumblings and peals of thunder."*

**E. Will I be bored in heaven?**

*1 Corinthians 2:9 "No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him."*

**F. Who gets to go to Heaven?**

*The answer? Not everybody.*

*Matthew 7:13-14 "You can enter God's Kingdom only through the narrow gate. The highway to hell is broad, and its gate is wide for the many who choose the easy way. <sup>14</sup> But the gateway to life is small, and the road is narrow, and only a few ever find it."*

**G. "For God so loved the world that He gave his only begotten Son that whosoever believes in Christ will not perish but have everlasting life." (John 3:16)**

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