



Week 5 2019.10.08

Essential Doctrines Week #7

The Blessed Hope · The Millennial Reign of Christ · The Final Judgment · The New Heavens and The New Earth

(This session can be started or combined w/#12. This session contains #13-#16 so plan accordingly.)

Doctrine #13

THE BLESSED HOPE (2ND COMING)

{student manual pages 30-32}

One of the four cardinal doctrines {*Salvation, Baptism in Holy Spirit, Divine Healing*}

[Ask students to pull out Kingdom of God Chart. Use the large Chart Poster and as you teach and End Time Principle, place it on the Timeline.]

- What is the blessed hope?
{*Jesus' imminent return. Aka the 2nd Coming*}

Titus 2:11-15

¹¹ For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. ¹² It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, ¹³ while we wait for the blessed hope—the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, ¹⁴ who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good. ¹⁵ These, then, are the things you should teach. Encourage and rebuke with all authority. Do not let anyone despise you.

- Why would we call it blessed?
{*Be with Him. The big payoff: enemies judged, rewards for obedience.*}
- When is He coming back? {*No one knows - Matthew 24*}
- What is the important thing to know about His 2nd coming? {*That we are ready for it.*}

1 Thessalonians 4:15-18

¹⁵ According to the Lord's word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left till the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁶ For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷ After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. ¹⁸ Therefore encourage one another with these words.

- What are the three basic truths of our church's doctrine of the 2nd Coming?
 - 1.) *There will be a resurrection of the dead.*
 - 2.) *Not everyone will die a physical death.*
 - 3.) *The return of the Lord is imminent.*

- What does ‘Rapture’ mean? {*To catch up.*}

- What does pre-trib, mid-trib, post-trib refer to?

[Highlight Trib handout]

{*Pre: Raptured before the seven year tribulation begins.*

Mid: Raptured 3.5 years into the tribulation.

Post: Raptured after the seven year tribulation.}

[ASK: Where would you put Rapture on your chart?]

- What do we believe will be the two phases of the Second Coming?

{*Phase One: Will be the rapture, that moment just before the seven-year Great Tribulation when the believers of all time – dead and alive- will be caught up to be with Jesus.*

Phase Two: Will be when Jesus literally sets His feet on earth again and reclaims it as His kingdom.}

Death and Eschatology:

- What end-time significance does the following scripture have:

1 Corinthians 15:20-28

²⁰ But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. ²¹ For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a human being. ²² For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. ²³ But in this order: Christ, the firstfruits; then, when he comes, those who belong to him. ²⁴ Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority and power. ²⁵ For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. ²⁶ The last enemy to be destroyed is death. ²⁷ For he "has put everything under his feet." ²⁸ Now when it says that "everything" has been put under him, it is clear that this does not include God himself, who put everything under Christ. ²⁸ When he has done this, then the Son himself will be made subject to him who put everything under him, so that God may be all in all.

{*We know Christ has been raised from the dead. With the same conviction we can know He is returning for those who belong to Him. Then, the end will come.*}

- Where does your body go when it dies? {*In the ground to await its resurrection*}

1 Corinthians 15:53-55

⁵³ For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality. ⁵⁴ When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: "Death has been swallowed up in victory."

⁵⁵ "Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?"

- Where does your soul go when your body dies?

➤ Christian/Believer = 2 Corinthians 5:1-10

¹ For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands. ² Meanwhile we groan, longing to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling, ³ because when we are clothed, we will not be found naked. ⁴ For while we are in this tent, we groan and are burdened, because we do not wish to be unclothed but to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. ⁵ Now the one who has fashioned us for this very purpose is God, who has given us the Spirit as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.

⁶ Therefore we are always confident and know that as long as we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord. ⁷ We live by faith, not by sight. ⁸ We are confident, I say, and would prefer to be

away from the body and at home with the Lord.⁹ So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it.¹⁰ For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that everyone may receive what is due them for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.

Luke 23:42-43

⁴² Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."

⁴³ Jesus answered him, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise."

A Parable Christ Told: Luke 16:19-31

¹⁹ "There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and lived in luxury every day.²⁰ At his gate was laid a beggar named Lazarus, covered with sores²¹ and longing to eat what fell from the rich man's table. Even the dogs came and licked his sores.

²² "The time came when the beggar died and the angels carried him to Abraham's side. The rich man also died and was buried.²³ In Hades, where he was in torment, he looked up and saw Abraham far away, with Lazarus by his side.²⁴ So he called to him, 'Father Abraham, have pity on me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I am in agony in this fire.'

²⁵ "But Abraham replied, 'Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, while Lazarus received bad things, but now he is comforted here and you are in agony.²⁶ And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been set in place, so that those who want to go from here to you cannot, nor can anyone cross over from there to us.'

²⁷ "He answered, 'Then I beg you, father, send Lazarus to my family,²⁸ for I have five brothers. Let him warn them, so that they will not also come to this place of torment.'

²⁹ "Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the Prophets; let them listen to them.'

³⁰ "'No, father Abraham,' he said, 'but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.'

³¹ "He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.'"

{Our soul goes to Paradise now.}

➤ Non believer = **Matthew 13:49-51**

⁴⁹ This is how it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come and separate the wicked from the righteous⁵⁰ and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.⁵¹ "Have you understood all these things?" Jesus asked. "Yes," they replied.

- What would this verse personally motivate you to do?

{Evangelize. Take the word seriously. Etc.}

Stop here for MAG MM

Matthew 24:27-44 (Luke 17:24-37)

²⁷ For as lightning that comes from the east is visible even in the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man.²⁸ Wherever there is a carcass, there the vultures will gather.²⁹ "Immediately after the distress of those days

" 'the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light;
the stars will fall from the sky,

and the heavenly bodies will be shaken.' ^[a] ³⁰ "At that time the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and all the peoples of the earth ^[b] will mourn. They will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven, with power and great glory. ³¹ And he will send his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of the heavens to the other.

³² "Now learn this lesson from the fig tree: As soon as its twigs get tender and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. ³³ Even so, when you see all these things, you know that it ^[c] is near, right at the door. ³⁴ Truly I tell you, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. ³⁵ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.

³⁶ "But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, ^[d] but only the Father. ³⁷ As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸ For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark; ³⁹ and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰ Two men will be in the field; one will be taken and the other left. ⁴¹ Two women will be grinding with a hand mill; one will be taken and the other left.

⁴² "Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come. ⁴³ But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what time of night the thief was coming, he would have kept watch and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴ So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.

Footnotes: a. [Matthew 24:29](#) Isaiah 13:10; 34:4 b. [Matthew 24:30](#) Or the tribes of the land c. [Matthew 24:33](#) Or he d. [Matthew 24:36](#)
Some manuscripts do not have *nor the Son*.

- What does verse 27 say the coming of Jesus will be like? What do you think this means? {Jesus' return will be 'as lightning that comes from the east is visible even in the west'. This statement could imply that Jesus' coming will be instantaneous, but it most likely refers to the worldwide visibility of His return. Unlike the first coming, no one on earth will be unaware when Jesus comes again.}

- What will take place immediately before Jesus appears (v.v. 29-30)? {Jesus spoke of "the distress of those days" which we equate with the entire Great Tribulation, as immediately preceding His return and the accompanying disruption of the universe.}

The Great Tribulation

According to the Book of Revelation, the Great Tribulation will be a seven-year period in which God, by removing His grace and releasing His wrath, will try one last time to get the attention of humanity. He will use the forces of nature to make people examine themselves, but most will perish because they will not respond. During this period, one known as the "antichrist" will, through popularity and displays of power, establish himself as the ruler of the world. Those who have responded to God's call will be greatly persecuted until the tribulation ends with Jesus' return with His saints.

- Why will the ungodly react differently to Jesus' return than believers, for whom His return is a blessed hope?

{All the nations of the earth will mourn (verse 30) because they have only judgment to look forward to. For believers, however, Jesus' return will bring only blessing and reward.}

- According to verse 31, Jesus will gather all believers at His visible return. Since we believe the Rapture will have happened seven years before, what are we to make of this verse?

{The Old Testament prophecies seemed to point to a single coming by the Messiah, but we know now that only parts of these prophecies were fulfilled by Jesus' first coming. In the same way, we believe

that New Testament prophecies of the end times do not always neatly separate the phases of Jesus' second coming. }

- What would Jesus say about the timing of His return?

{Despite Jesus' instruction to read the signs of the time (v.v. 32-33), He prophesied that His return will take everyone by surprise, allowing no last minute changes of heart (vv.36-41).}

- How did Jesus say we are to prepare for His return (v.v. 42-44)?

{We can only live in constant readiness, as if He could return within the next moment.}

CHART:

Revelation 1:7 (1st or 2nd Phase of the 2nd Coming?)

⁷"Look, he is coming with the clouds," ^[a] and "every eye will see him, even those who pierced him"; and all peoples on earth "will mourn because of him." ^[b] So shall it be! Amen.

Footnotes: a. [Revelation 1:7](#) Daniel 7:13 b. [Revelation 1:7](#) Zech. 12:10

Revelation 17:14 (Faithful Followers) (1st or 2nd Phase of the 2nd Coming?)

¹⁴ They will make war against the Lamb, but the Lamb will triumph over them because he is Lord of lords and King of kings—and with him will be his called, chosen and faithful followers.

Zechariah 14:5

⁵ You will flee by my mountain valley, for it will extend to Azel. You will flee as you fled from the earthquake ^[a] in the days of Uzziah king of Judah. Then the LORD my God will come, and all the holy ones with him.

Footnotes: a. [Zechariah 14:5](#) Or ⁵My mountain valley will be blocked and will extend to Azel. It will be blocked as it was blocked because of the earthquake

Revelation 19:6-9 (Marriage Supper of the Lamb)

⁶Then I heard what sounded like a great multitude, like the roar of rushing waters and like loud peals of thunder, shouting: "Hallelujah! For our Lord God Almighty reigns.

⁷ Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory!

For the wedding of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready.

⁸ Fine linen, bright and clean, was given her to wear."

(Fine linen stands for the righteous acts of God's people.)

⁹ Then the angel said to me, "Write: 'Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb!' " And he added, "These are the true words of God."

- What is the Marriage Supper of the Lamb?

{An actual meal in Heaven, is the final manifestation of the marriage of Christ and His wife. This culminates their initial relationship, likened to an engagement which was a legal arrangement in Jewish culture. This follows the coming of Christ as Bridegroom in the Rapture of the church before the Great Tribulation and precedes His return seven years later to establish His millennial kingdom.}

- When does it happen? *{Follows the Rapture and before His Triumphant Coming.}*
- What are we really doing? *{What we doing during the Tribulation.}*

{Passover as foreshadowing the marriage supper of the Lamb: **Matt. 26:29; Mark 14:25; Luke 22:7-20.** Verse in whole at the end of this section.}

Revelation 19:11-21 (White Horse) The Heavenly Warrior Defeats the Beast

¹¹ I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and makes war. ¹² His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns. He has a name written on him that no one knows but he himself. ¹³ He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God. ¹⁴ The armies of heaven were following him, riding on white horses and dressed in fine linen, white and clean. ¹⁵ Coming out of his mouth is a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations. "He will rule them with an iron scepter." ^{16a} He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty. ¹⁶ On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written: **KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.** ¹⁷ And I saw an angel standing in the sun, who cried in a loud voice to all the birds flying in midair, "Come, gather together for the great supper of God, ¹⁸ so that you may eat the flesh of kings, generals, and the mighty, of horses and their riders, and the flesh of all people, free and slave, great and small."

¹⁹ Then I saw the beast and the kings of the earth and their armies gathered together to make war against the rider on the horse and his army. ²⁰ But the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who had performed the signs on his behalf. With these signs he had deluded those who had received the mark of the beast and worshiped his image. The two of them were thrown alive into the fiery lake of burning sulfur. ²¹ The rest were killed with the sword coming out of the mouth of the rider on the horse, and all the birds gorged themselves on their flesh. **Footnotes: a. [Revelation 19:15](#) Psalm 2:9**

2 Corinthians 11:2 (Presentation of the Bride of Christ)

² I am jealous for you with a godly jealousy. I promised you to one husband, to Christ, so that I might present you as a pure virgin to him.

2 Corinthians 5:10 (Judgment Seat of Christ) [highlight REWARD handout]

¹⁰ For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that everyone may receive what is due them for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.

Luke 14:14

And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you; for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

1 Corinthians 3:10-15

¹⁰ By the grace God has given me, I laid a foundation as a wise builder, and someone else is building on it. But each one should build with care. ¹¹ For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ. ¹² If anyone builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, ¹³ their work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each person's work. ¹⁴ If what has been built survives, the builder will receive a reward. ¹⁵ If it is burned up, the builder will suffer loss but yet will be saved—even though only as one escaping through the flames.

1 Thessalonians 4:16-17 (Rapture)

¹⁶ For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷ After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever.

- Why does Jesus' return give us hope about those believers who die (v.v. 13)?

{Though we will not see our saved loved ones for some time, we can be certain that we will all meet again at the Rapture (v.v. 14).}

- How will Jesus announce His return?

{*“The Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet call of God.” (v.v.16).*}

- What will happen to those believers who are living when the Rapture occurs?

{*All living believers will join the dead in Christ and be caught up together in the clouds to meet Jesus.*}

The Pretribulation Rapture

Our church holds a premillennial view of Jesus’ second coming. This means we believe Jesus will return and gather all believers before the Millennium—the thousand-year reign on earth (Revelation 20). Most Pentecostals also hold a pretribulation view of the Rapture. That is, we believe Jesus will “catch away” the faithful before the Great Tribulation. All believers will gather in heaven to participate in the Marriage Supper of the Lamb before returning with Jesus to defeat the forces of the enemy (Revelation 19). End-time prophecy is difficult to understand, but we believe this is the best interpretation of what will occur.

CLOSING PRAYER: Romans 8:22-25

²² We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. ²³ Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what they already have? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.

HANDOUTS: Tribulation Chart; Daniel’s Timeline; End Times Chart; AoG Position Paper on The Rapture; Rewards Document

HOMEWORK:

- **1Corinthians 15:51-52**

⁵¹ Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed—⁵² in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. ⁵³ For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality. ⁵⁴ When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: “Death has been swallowed up in victory.” ^[a] ⁵⁵ “Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?” ^[b]

⁵⁶ The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. ⁵⁷ But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. **Footnotes:** a. [1 Corinthians 15:54](#) Isaiah 25:8 b. [1 Corinthians 15:55](#) Hosea 13:14

- What is the mystery that Paul shares in verse 51?

{*We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed.” That is, though not every believer will survive until Jesus’ return, all believers – dead or alive – will be glorified when He comes.*}

- What do you think it means that “the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable (v.v. 53)?

{*Right now, our bodies are mortal because of the Fall. We are subject to death, illness, and injury. But when Jesus returns, our bodies will become transformed into the immortal, supernatural bodies in which we will live for eternity.*}

- Why do you think the Rapture will remove the “sting” of death (v.v. 55)?

{Death is not a threat to believers, but the pain of losing loves ones in a sinful world remains (v.v 56). At the Rapture, however, believers will never have to experience the “sting” of spiritual or physical death again.}

2 Timothy 3:1-5 (Conditions of the last days)

¹ But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days. ² People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, ³ without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good, ⁴ treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God— ⁵ having a form of godliness but denying its power. Have nothing to do with such people.

List the conditions of the last days that Paul records in the above scripture.

Write down a current event, situation, or cultural attitude that corresponds in some way to the listed conditions.

CONDITIONS

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENCE

Essential Doctrines Week #7

The Blessed Hope · The Millennial Reign of Christ · The Final Judgment · The New Heavens and The New Earth

(Doctrine #14, #15, #16 can be taught lecture style. All notes are in the Students Manual.)

Doctrine #14

THE MILLENNIAL REIGN OF CHRIST

{student manual pages 33-}

- What is the Millennial Reign of Christ?

{A literal 1,000 year reign of Christ on the earth without the influence of Satan..}

mil·len·ni·um [mi lénnee əm] noun

1. **1,000 years:** a period of 1,000 years, especially a period that begins or ends in a year that is a multiple of 1000.
Also called millenary
2. **CHRISTIANITY prophesied rule by Jesus Christ:** the thousand-year period of peace on earth that, according to one interpretation of prophecies in the book of Revelation, will follow the Second Coming of Jesus Christ
3. **hoped-for utopian age:** an imagined future utopian period of joy, peace, and justice, especially one created through revolution
4. **thousandth anniversary:** a thousand-year anniversary, especially the one in the year 2000

[Mid-17th century. From modern Latin , formed from Latin *mille* “thousand” + *annus* “year” (see annual).]

- What will it demonstrate?

{God’s reign and government is perfect. It will replace all failed systems of human government.}

- **Revelation 20:1-7**

¹ And I saw an angel coming down out of heaven, having the key to the Abyss and holding in his hand a great chain. ² He seized the dragon, that ancient serpent, who is the devil, or Satan, and bound him for a thousand years. ³ He threw him into the Abyss, and locked and sealed it over him, to keep him from deceiving the nations anymore until the thousand years were ended. After that, he must be set free for a short time.

⁴ I saw thrones on which were seated those who had been given authority to judge. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony about Jesus and because of the word of God. They had not worshiped the beast or his image and had not received his mark on their foreheads or their hands. They came to life and reigned with Christ a thousand years. ⁵ (The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were ended.) This is the first resurrection. ⁶ Blessed and holy are those who have part in the first resurrection. The second death has no power over them, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with him for a thousand years. ⁷ When the thousand years are over, Satan will be released from his prison

The word THOUSAND – Actual or Representative?

The phrase “thousand years” might mean “a very long time” once or twice in a passage, but it is used six times in just seven verses. Also, verse 3 says Satan will be released for “a short time” – an inexact phrase in contrast to the repeated “a thousand years”. The Millennium is not a general era of godly influence, but a specific, future time period.

End of Millennial Reign

Revelation 19:11-14 The Heavenly Warrior Defeats the Beast – Lake of Burning Fire

¹¹ I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and makes war. ¹² His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns. He has a name written on him that no one knows but he himself. ¹³ He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God. ¹⁴ The armies of heaven were following him, riding on white horses and dressed in fine linen, white and clean. ¹⁵ Coming out of his mouth is a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations. “He will rule them with an iron scepter.” ¹⁶ He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty. ¹⁶ On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

¹⁷ And I saw an angel standing in the sun, who cried in a loud voice to all the birds flying in midair, “Come, gather together for the great supper of God, ¹⁸ so that you may eat the flesh of kings, generals, and the mighty, of horses and their riders, and the flesh of all people, free and slave, great and small.”

¹⁹ Then I saw the beast and the kings of the earth and their armies gathered together to make war against the rider on the horse and his army. ²⁰ But the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who had performed the signs on his behalf. With these signs he had deluded those who had received the mark of the beast and worshiped his image. The two of them were thrown alive into the fiery lake of burning sulfur. ²¹ The rest were killed with the sword coming out of the mouth of the rider on the horse, and all the birds gorged themselves on their flesh.

Footnotes: a. [Revelation 19:15](#) Psalm 2:9

Postmillennialism and Amillennialism

Postmillennialists believe Christ will return after the Millennium, which they consider an extension of the present Church Age. The spread of the gospel will cause a gradual binding of evil, leading to a great period of revival in which most people will be Christians. Amillennialists believe in no earthly Millennium. Some of them interpret the binding of Satan as Jesus’ victory at Calvary or a person’s salvation. Others think the Millennium is happening now in heaven. Both amillennialists and premillennialist (our position) believe things on earth will only get worse and Jesus will return to rescue us from judgment.

Doctrine #15

{ Student manual 34 }

THE FINAL JUDGMENT

The Judgment of Satan

Revelation 20: 7-10

⁷ When the thousand years are over, Satan will be released from his prison ⁸ and will go out to deceive the nations in the four corners of the earth—Gog and Magog—and to gather them for battle. In number they are like the sand on the seashore. ⁹ They marched across the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of God's people, the city he loves. But fire came down from heaven and devoured them. ¹⁰ And the devil, who deceived them, was thrown into the lake of burning sulfur, where the beast and the false prophet had been thrown. They will be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

The Great White Throne Judgment

Revelation 20:11-15

¹¹ Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. The earth and the heavens fled from his presence, and there was no place for them. 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. ¹³ The sea gave up the dead that were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead that were in them, and everyone was judged according to what they had done. ¹⁴ Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. The lake of fire is the second death. ¹⁵ All whose names were not found written in the book of life were thrown into the lake of fire.

The basis for judgment at the Great White Throne is that EACH PERSON will be judged according to what they have done. The first question is do they belong to Christ (Vs. 15). Are there punishments in Hell just like there are rewards in Heaven? Is this what is being judged as well? Notice the list of what goes into the Lake of Fire (Vs.14-15).

The Great White Throne Judgment

According to **2 Corinthians 5:10**, believers will face the “judgment seat of Christ”. Only those not in the book of life will be judged at the Great White Throne (**Revelation 20:11-15**). Some think this judgment may determine degrees of punishment according to each person’s sins. What is certain is that the lost will suffer “second death” in the lake of fire – cut off forever from God’s presence. While this may seem harsh, it is the forewarned culminations of His righteous judgments on sinfulness. God does not glory in those who will come under this judgment, but in those who will escape it through His grace.

Remember Matthew 13:49-51 (listed already in Chpt. 13)

⁴⁹ *This is how it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come and separate the wicked from the righteous* ⁵⁰ *and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.* ⁵¹ *"Have you understood all these things?" Jesus asked. "Yes," they replied.*

[**Matthew 13:49-51** The Separation of the Wicked and The Righteous & **2 Corinthians 5:10**; **Luke 14:14**; **1 Corinthians 3:10-15**; The Judgment Seat of Christ]

Doctrine #16

{ Student manual 34-35}

THE NEW HEAVENS AND THE NEW EARTH

2 Peter 3:13

¹³ *But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness dwells.*

John 14:2-3

² *My Father's house has plenty of room; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you?* ³ *And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.*

Why a New Heaven and New Earth?

Our future world will be a beautiful place where there will be no sickness, no death, and no tears.

The Old Order of things (Vs. 4) is filled with the effects of the Fall so a New Heaven and Earth are needed.

Revelation 21 A New Heaven and a New Earth

¹ *Then I saw "a new heaven and a new earth,"* ^[a] *for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea.* ² *I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband.* ³ *And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Look! God's dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God.* ⁴ *'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death'* ^[b] *or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away."*

⁵ *He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true."*

⁶ *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 water without cost from the spring of the water of life. ⁷ Those who are victorious will inherit all this, and I will be their God and they will be my children. ⁸ But the cowardly, the unbelieving, the vile, the murderers, the sexually immoral, those who practice magic arts, the idolaters and all liars—they will be consigned to the fiery lake of burning sulfur. This is the second death."*

The New Jerusalem, the Bride of the Lamb

⁹ *One of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and said to me, "Come, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb." ¹⁰ And he carried me away in the Spirit to a mountain great and high, and showed me the Holy City, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God. ¹¹ It shone with the glory of God, and its brilliance was like that of a very precious jewel, like a jasper, clear as crystal. ¹² It had a great, high wall with twelve gates, and with twelve angels at the gates. On the gates were written the names of the twelve tribes of Israel. ¹³ There were three gates on the east, three on the north, three on the south and three on the west. ¹⁴ The wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.*

¹⁵ *The angel who talked with me had a measuring rod of gold to measure the city, its gates and its walls. ¹⁶ The city was laid out like a square, as long as it was wide. He measured the city with the rod and found it to be 12,000 stadia ^[c] in length, and as wide and high as it is long. ¹⁷ He measured its wall and it was 144 cubits ^[d] thick, ^[e] by human measurement, which the angel was using. ¹⁸ The wall was made of jasper, and the city of pure gold, as pure as glass. ¹⁹ The foundations of the city walls were decorated with every kind of precious stone. The first foundation was jasper, the second sapphire, the third agate, the fourth emerald, ²⁰ the fifth onyx, the sixth ruby, the seventh chrysolite, the eighth beryl, the ninth topaz, the tenth turquoise, the eleventh jacinth, and the twelfth amethyst. ^[f] ²¹ The twelve gates were twelve pearls, each gate made of a single pearl. The great street of the city was of gold, as pure as transparent glass.*

²² *I did not see a temple in the city, because the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. ²³ The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp. ²⁴ The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their splendor into it. ²⁵ On no day will its gates ever be shut, for there will be no night there. ²⁶ The glory and honor of the nations will be brought into it. ²⁷ Nothing impure will ever enter it, nor will anyone who does what is shameful or deceitful, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life.*

Footnotes:

- a. [Revelation 21:1](#) Isaiah 65:17
- b. [Revelation 21:4](#) Isaiah 25:8
- c. [Revelation 21:16](#) That is, about 1,400 miles or about 2,200 kilometers
- d. [Revelation 21:17](#) That is, about 200 feet or about 65 meters
- e. [Revelation 21:17](#) Or *high*
- f. [Revelation 21:20](#) The precise identification of some of these precious stones is uncertain.

There Was No More Sea

When John wrote Revelation 21:1, most of his readers would have understood a new earth without seas as a place without fear or dangers. Among ancient peoples, sea travel was avoided as much as possible. Mariners had no chart or compasses and were subject to the hazards of storm and reef. The Mediterranean did not accommodate sea travel during the winter months (**see Acts 27:12**). **Psalm 107:25-30** describes the terror of a violent storm at sea. **Isaiah 57:20** describes the turbulence of the wicked like a sea casting up mire, churning in a rolling storm. In contrast, the new earth will be serene.

List your interpretation of what the New Jerusalem will be like (vs. 11-21):

Why is there no temple or no sun in the New Jerusalem (vs. 22)? *“the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple”. We had the temple to help us understand something of the majesty of God’s presence and remind us that we cannot yet live in that presence. In the new creation, we will be perfected, able to commune face to face with our creator and Savior. “The glory of God give it light, and the Lamb is its lamp” (vs. 23). Physical light is a created representation of God’s uncreated glory. Perfected, we will be able to bear the “light “ of His full glory.*

Revelation 22

Eden Restored

¹ Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb ² down the middle of the great street of the city. On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. ³ No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him. ⁴ They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. ⁵ There will be no more night. They will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for the Lord God will give them light. And they will reign for ever and ever.

John and the Angel

⁶ The angel said to me, "These words are trustworthy and true. The Lord, the God who inspires the prophets, sent his angel to show his servants the things that must soon take place."

⁷ "Look, I am coming soon! Blessed are those who keep the words of the prophecy in this scroll."

⁸ I, John, am the one who heard and saw these things. And when I had heard and seen them, I fell down to worship at the feet of the angel who had been showing them to me. ⁹ But he said to me, "Don't do that! I am a fellow servant with you and with your fellow prophets and with all who keep the words of this scroll. Worship God!"

¹⁰ Then he told me, "Do not seal up the words of the prophecy of this scroll, because the time is near."

¹¹ Let those who do wrong continue to do wrong; let those who are vile continue to be vile; let those who do right continue to do right; and let those who are holy continue to be holy."

Epilogue: Invitation and Warning

¹² "Look, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to everyone according to what they have done. ¹³ I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.

¹⁴ "Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the tree of life and may go through the gates into the city. ¹⁵ Outside are the dogs, those who practice magic arts, the sexually immoral, the murderers, the idolaters and everyone who loves and practices falsehood.

¹⁶ "I, Jesus, have sent my angel to give you ^[a] this testimony for the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, and the bright Morning Star."

¹⁷ The Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let those who hear say, "Come!" Let those who are thirsty come; and let all who wish take the free gift of the water of life.

¹⁸ I warn everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this scroll: If any one of you adds anything to them, God will add to you the plagues described in this scroll. ¹⁹ And if any one of you takes words away from this scroll of prophecy, God will take away from you your share in the tree of life and in the Holy City, which are described in this scroll.

²⁰ He who testifies to these things says, "Yes, I am coming soon."

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

²¹ The grace of the Lord Jesus be with God's people. Amen.

What two features of the new creation are described in verses 1 and 2? {*Revelation 22 describes the “river of the water of life” that flows from God’s throne, and the “tree of life” that grows around this river.*}

The River and the Tree of Life: Two Features of the New Creation

The “river of the water of life” of Revelation 22:1 is living water – constantly flowing with an unending supply – and a clear allusion to the river that flowed from Eden (see Genesis 2:10). In this new Eden, believers will not be barred from the tree of life, but will enjoy its continual abundance. The river flowing from God’s throne and the tree that grows around it make explicit what we have always known by faith: God is the Source and Substance of all life. No matter what else the new creation will be, it is all about the God of life.

Why do you think verse 11 tells both the ungodly and the righteous to keep on living like they have been? {*Without Christ, not even good deeds will help you, do not bother.*}

The Timing of the End Times

Our anticipation of Jesus’ return must be based on the promise of Revelation 22:20. Some claim that Jesus was really saying, “I will come quickly”, meaning that when He does come back, everything will occur in rapid succession. But a better understanding is that His coming is truly imminent – ready to take place. It has been nearly 2,000 years since Jesus said these words to John. It may seem to us that this is not very soon. But in the scope of all history, it will not be long at all before Jesus’ return leads to earth’s end, the judgment, and the establishment of an eternal home for all those who love Him.

According to this chapter, what is our response to be to Jesus’ promise that He is “coming soon”?

{*“The Spirit and the bride say, ‘Come!’ And let him who hears say, ‘Come!’...”Amen. Come, Lord Jesus” MARANATHA!*}

See Also: 1 Corinthians 16:22

²² *If anyone does not love the Lord, let that person be cursed! Come, Lord ^[a]!*

Footnotes: a. [1 Corinthians 16:22](#) The Greek for *Come, Lord* reproduces an Aramaic expression (*Marana tha*) used by early Christians.

Archangel

In the celestial hierarchy, the archangel seems to be a spiritual being higher in rank than angels in general. We see archangels referred to a number of times throughout the Bible. Michael the archangel argued with the devil about Moses’ body (Jude 9) and is seen to have great power and authority in the Old Testament. Michael is said to be the guardian of Israel, especially in the times of trouble predicted for the Jews during the end days (Daniel 12).

Salvation of Israel as a nation:

Ezekiel 37:21-22

²¹ *and say to them, ‘This is what the Sovereign LORD says: I will take the Israelites out of the nations where they have gone. I will gather them from all around and bring them back into their own land. ²² I will make them one nation in the land, on the mountains of Israel. There will be one king over all of them and they will never again be two nations or be divided into two kingdoms.*

Zephaniah 3:19-20

¹⁹ *At that time I will deal with all who oppressed you. I will rescue the lame; I will gather the exiles. I will give them praise and honor in every land where they have suffered shame. ²⁰ At that time I will gather you; at that time I will bring you home. I will give you honor and praise among all the peoples of the earth when I restore your fortunes ^[a] before your very eyes,” says the LORD.*

Footnotes: a. [Zephaniah 3:20](#) Or I bring back your captives

Romans 11:26-27

²⁶ *and in this way ^[a] all Israel will be saved. As it is written: “The deliverer will come from Zion; he*

will turn godlessness away from Jacob. ²⁷ And this is ^[b] my covenant with them when I take away their sins." ^[c]

Footnotes: a. [Romans 11:26](#) Or and so b. [Romans 11:27](#) Or will be c. [Romans 11:27](#) Isaiah 59:20,21; 27:9 (see Septuagint); Jer. 31:33,34

Establishment of universal peace:

Psalm 72:3-8

³ May the mountains bring prosperity to the people, the hills the fruit of righteousness. ⁴ May he defend the afflicted among the people and save the children of the needy; may he crush the oppressor. ⁵ May he endure ^[a] as long as the sun, as long as the moon, through all generations. ⁶ May he be like rain falling on a mown field, like showers watering the earth. ⁷ In his days may the righteous flourish and prosperity abound till the moon is no more. ⁸ May he rule from sea to sea and from the River ^[b] to the ends of the earth.

Footnotes: a. [Psalm 72:5](#) Septuagint; Hebrew You will be feared b. [Psalm 72:8](#) That is, the Euphrates

Isaiah 11:6-9

⁶ The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling ^[a] together; and a little child will lead them. ⁷ The cow will feed with the bear, their young will lie down together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox. ⁸ Infants will play near the hole of the cobra; young children will put their hands into the viper's nest. ⁹ They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.

Footnotes: a. [Isaiah 11:6](#) Hebrew; Septuagint lion will feed

Micah 4:3-4

³ He will judge between many peoples and will settle disputes for strong nations far and wide. They will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore. ⁴ Everyone will sit under their own vine and under their own fig tree, and no one will make them afraid, for the LORD Almighty has spoken.

Luke 22:7- 20

The Last Supper

⁷ Then came the day of Unleavened Bread on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. ⁸ Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and make preparations for us to eat the Passover."

⁹ "Where do you want us to prepare for it?" they asked.

¹⁰ He replied, "As you enter the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him to the house that he enters, ¹¹ and say to the owner of the house, 'The Teacher asks: Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?'" ¹² He will show you a large room upstairs, all furnished. Make preparations there."

¹³ They left and found things just as Jesus had told them. So they prepared the Passover.

¹⁴ When the hour came, Jesus and his apostles reclined at the table. ¹⁵ And he said to them, "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. ¹⁶ **For I tell you, I will not eat it again until it finds fulfillment in the kingdom of God.**"

¹⁷ After taking the cup, he gave thanks and said, "Take this and divide it among you. ¹⁸ **For I tell you I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.**"

¹⁹ And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me."

²⁰ In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you."