



# **WELCOME TO BIBLE HOUSE OF GRACE**

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## **The Lake of Fire.**

(2019)

Bible House of Grace contains an easy to read New and Old Testament commentary full of spiritual treasures and pearls, complete with an insightful resource guide illuminating God's love and grace.



Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man, as to such I neither claim perfect knowledge or perfect understanding.

# The Lake of Fire.

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## Topics.

- The lake of fire and the great white throne judgment.
  - Tormented forever and ever.
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**NOTE:** the purpose of this study is not to do an in-depth study on each topic, but simply to focus on the scenario of the great White Throne Judgement and the events leading up to it.

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## THE LAKE OF FIRE AND THE GREAT WHITE THRONE JUDGMENT

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The following events take place after the Lord Jesus Christ reign as King of kings and Lord of lords during his glorious millennial reign on earth (Rev. 20:7).

- **Revelation 20:11-15:** Then I (John) saw a *Great White Throne* and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them. <sup>12</sup>And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and *books were opened*. And another book was opened, which is the *Book of Life*. And the dead were judged *according to their works* by the things which were *written in the books*. <sup>13</sup>The sea gave up the *dead* who were in it, and *death and hades* delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one *according to his works*. <sup>14</sup>Then *death and hades* were cast into the *Lake of Fire*. This is the *Second Death*. <sup>15</sup>And anyone not found written in the *Book of Life* was cast into the *Lake of Fire*.

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Prior to these verses John saw the faithful and those who had suffered persecution for the testimony of Jesus and for the word of God who had been raised in the first resurrection reigning with Christ as priest to God and of Christ until his millennial reign on earth came to an end (Rev. 20:4-6). John says three things concerning this first resurrection:

- Those who share in this first resurrection are blessed and holy.
- The second death has no power over those who share in this first resurrection.
- The rest of the dead do not come to life until Christ's millennial reign on earth is ended (Rev. 20:4-6).

At the end of this new glorious age (Christ's millennial reign) the armies of the Kingdoms of men (symbolised by Satan, Gog and Magog) come to battle against God's beloved city Jerusalem and the Lord Jesus Christ and the resurrected faithful with him. God sends fire from heaven and destroys all the armies that have come up against the Lord (Rev. 20:7-9).

### After this awesome event John sees in his vision:

1. The devil, the beast and the false prophet thrown into the Lake of Fire.
2. God descending to earth on a Great White Throne.
3. The sea, death and hades giving up the dead who were in them.
4. The great and small who the sea, death and hades have given up standing before the throne of God.
5. The Book of Life being opened and some other heavenly books being opened.

Then John says if anyone's name is not found written in the Book of Life they are not even judged, but immediately cast into the Lake of Fire and if anyone's name is found in the Book of Life the other heavenly books are opened and they are judged according to what is written in these books according to what they have done. The sea, death and hades and those counted unworthy and are thrown into the Lake of Fire a symbol of eternal death (i.e., total extinction). This event is called the second death (Rev. 20:11-15). Though it does not say that some are counted worthy at the Great White Throne judgment the fact it says that some are counted unworthy obviously implies that some are counted worthy (Rev. 20:12-13). Clearly much of this fly's in the face of traditional Christian teaching which proclaims that only those in Christ will be resurrected, this is certainly true of the first resurrection and whoever attains to it will be greatly blessed, but it cannot be applied to those who are raised at the Great White Throne judgment since it appears that God recognizes there are many good people with very charitable hearts that have a belief in God, through the language of creation and live a godly life, treating other humans with respect and doing-good who in their hearts are neither against God nor enemies of God (consider all those who have never heard the glorious Good News of the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ). It appears that their names have not been blotted out of the Book of Life and their good-deeds are recorded in these other heavenly books that are opened and they do receive some position in ETERNITY. Perhaps this is those Jesus was referring to when he said:

- Whoever gives one of these little ones even a cup of cold water because he is a disciple, truly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his reward (Matt. 10:42).

**NOTE:** since much of this is controversial to traditional Christian thinking it should be mentioned that it is not important to understand ETERNITY to be saved to eternal life. Jesus will not cast out those who have been faithful to him simply because they did not understand ETERNITY. After Christ's resurrection most New Testament Bible writers simply state that those who trust in the Lord Jesus Christ will be resurrected to eternal glory this is because it is not understanding ETERNITY that is important to salvation, but believing that we will be resurrected to it and having faith in Christ and in God's grace.

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## TORMENTED FOREVER AND EVER

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- **Revelation 20:9-10:** They went up on the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city. And fire came down from God out of heaven and devoured them. <sup>10</sup>And the devil, who deceived them, was cast into the *Lake of Fire* and *brimstone* where the beast and the false prophet are. And they will be *tormented day and night forever and ever*.

Here we are told that when the devil, the beast and the false prophet are cast into the lake of fire and brimstone they are tormented day and night forever and ever.

**NOTICE:** God is still in heaven while Christ is ruling as King of kings and Lord of lords on earth.

**Forever:** comes from the Greek word (aion) and can refer to an age, a period of time or to an eternal age without end or to the world and the Jewish Messianic period (present or future).

**Brimstone:** comes from the Greek word (theios) and carries the idea of flashing and sulphur which totally dissolves to nothing anything placed in it. Many modern Bible simply say fire.

**Brimstone:** throughout the Bible is a symbol of judgment and a symbol of total destruction and total extinction since fire destroys everything in its path until all that stands before it is utterly consumed and destroyed. When the word brimstone is added to the word fire, (i.e., fire and brimstone) it magnifies two things:

1. God's utter disdain for those in focus.
2. It magnifies the utter destruction of those the fire destroys.

**NOTICE:** John says only the devil, the beast and the false prophet are tormented day and night forever. This is the only Scripture in the entire Bible that could be taken to imply eternal torment, and it only mentions the devil, the beast and the false prophet being the tormented ones, not mankind.

This chapter begins with John seeing an angel descending from heaven holding a key and a great chain and seizing a dragon and binding him up in prison for a thousand years, obviously angels do not need literal keys and chains to lock a dragon up in a prison. This chapter is full of very symbolic language even the thousand years symbolize a long period of time and a new age to come, therefore, to view the words:

- The devil, the beast and the false prophet will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

Literally when eternal torment is not taught anywhere else in the Bible and doctrine should never be built on one or two verses at the expense of the multitudes of verses that teach a different idea or concept is a very dangerous excise especially when the verse sits amongst enormously symbolic and figurative language. It is more fitting and harmonizes far better with all other Scriptures concerning the fate of the wicked to view this as biblical lofty language to graphically highlight the extreme disdain, disgust, wrath and anger God has against everything that is evil and brings harm to other humans and as illustrative and pictorial language to strikingly depict the absolute and utter destruction of everything that is evil and opposes God and his will, plans and purposes.

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**For further information see, the titles:**

- Torment and Tormented in, Death (ON WEBSITE MENU).
- Language (includes lofty language of the Bible).

In, Various Topics (ON WEBSITE MENU).

- The Second Resurrection or Great White Throne Judgment.
- In, Resurrection (ON WEBSITE MENU).

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*As the founder of Bible House of Grace, I would like to thank the many Christian scholars, commentators and theologians who have gone before me, and the many today, who have freely made available their works to enhance the knowledge of the Bible to all people worldwide. It is only with the help of these faithful writers that much of Bible House of Grace exists as it does today.*

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