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**First Resurrection
and the
Great White Throne
Judgment**

(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.

First Resurrection and Great White Throne Judgment.

Topics.

- Overview of the first resurrection and second death.
- Events to take place at the first resurrection.
- Events to take place at the Great White Throne judgment.

OVERVIEW OF THE FIRST RESURRECTION AND SECOND DEATH

- **Revelation 3:5:** The one who conquers will be clothed thus in white garments, and I will never blot his name out of the book of life. I will confess his name before my Father and before his angels.

The Bible speaks of the following books used at the judgment of the first Resurrection, and the Great White Throne Judgement:

- The Book of Life.
- The Book of the Lamb.
- Some other books that are used at the Great White Throne judgment.

It seems when a person is born, their name is written in the Book of Life (i.e., kept in the mind of God), during their life their name can remain in the book or be blotted out. It appears if they accept the Lord Jesus Christ their name is transferred into the Lambs Book of Life. If a person has an evil heart toward God, is totally selfish and use other people for their own gain, through murder, stealing, violence, rape, etc., and deliberately inflict harm on others, it is most likely their name is blotted out of the Book of life. In contrast to this, those who show compassion and kindness remain in the record of names recorded in the Book of life.

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The Lambs Book of Life:

- **Revelation 13:8:** and all who dwell on earth will worship it (the beast), everyone whose name has not been written before the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb who was slain.
- **Revelation 21:27:** But nothing unclean will ever enter it, nor anyone who does what is detestable or false, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

At the first resurrection only those whose names are written in the Lambs book of Life are raised to life and reign with Christ for a thousand years. The rest of the dead do not come to life until the thousand years are ended. This is the first resurrection, the second death has no power over those raised in this resurrection, for they will be priests of God and of Christ, and reign with him for a thousand years. (Revelation 20:4-6).

The Great White Throne judgment: at the end of the thousand years God descends on a Great White Throne, the sea, death, and Hades give up the dead, and they stand before the Throne, the Book of Life is opened, plus some other books. It appears (at least to me), if a person's name is not found in the Book of Life they are cast into the Lake of fire, but if their name is found in the Book of Life, then other books are opened, and they are judged by what is written in these other books, according to what they had done (i.e., how they had lived their life).

- **Revelation 20:11–15:** Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. From his presence earth and sky fled away, and no place was found for them. ¹² And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Then another book was opened, which is the book of life. And the dead were judged by what was written in the books, according to what they had done. ¹³ And the sea gave up the dead who were in it, Death and Hades gave up the dead who were in them, and they were judged, each one of them, according to what they had done. ¹⁴ Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. ¹⁵ And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

EVENTS TO TAKE PLACE AT THE FIRST RESURRECTION

At the first resurrection: the following two judgments will take place:

1. If the person has confessed to believe in Christ, but used the Gospel for their own advantage and gain (i.e., for worldly riches and fame), or given Christ lip service, attended church once a week, but giving God no thought during the week, and living as they pleased (i.e., pretend, and hypocritical Christians), they will hear the words, depart from me for I have not known you.

- **Matthew 7:21–23:** “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. ²² On that day (when every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire) (v19) many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?’ ²³ And then will I declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.’

2. If they have made Christ the King of their life, trusted in him for their righteousness and not their own self-righteousness, and endeavored (no Christian attains to this perfectly) to live a life that honors God and the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and faithfully endure in faith to the end, they are guaranteed eternal salvation, and will be rewarded for their good deeds, or suffer loss because of a lack of them, but they will be saved. The apostle Paul wrote:

- If anyone builds on the foundation (being the Lord Jesus Christ) with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw— ³each one's work will become manifest, for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed by fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done. ¹⁴If the work that anyone has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. ¹⁵If anyone's work is burned up, they will suffer loss, though they themselves will be saved, but only as through fire (1 Cor. 3:11-15).

This means that those who have their name written in the Book of the Lamb and faithfully endured in faith to the end, are not judged for salvation, but rather judged, according to reward or loss, according to how they have lived before Christ (i.e., with integrity, honesty, faithfulness, and such like things) and how they have lived according to the law of love.

The book of Revelations not only speaks of those who belong to Christ being raised in the first resurrection, and reigning with the Lord Jesus Christ as priests of God and kings with Christ for a thousand years (signifying a long age of time), but also speaks of a second death that will have no power over those raised in the first resurrection.

- **Revelation 20:5-6:** 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 is the one who shares in the first resurrection! Over such the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ, and they will reign with him for a thousand years.

The second death refers to the Great White Throne judgment. At the end of Christ thousand-year reign God Himself descends to earth on a Great White Throne and opens the Book of Life. It seems this book has the names of every child born, whose names were never entered, into the Lamb's Book of Life, and that those whose names have not been blotted out of this Book (i.e., kept in the memory of God) are judged by God Himself at the Great White Throne judgment according to how they have lived their life, and according to their deeds or lack of them, which the following verse shows are recorded in another set of books.

- **Revelation 20:12:** I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Then another book was opened, which is the book of life. And the dead were judged by what was written in the books, according to what they had done. (Rev. 20:12).

Christ is not involved in this judgment this is God the Father Himself descending and judging. If a person's name is not found in the Book of Life they are automatically cast into the lake of Fire (Rev. 20:15) (a symbol of eternal death) (i.e., total extinction). This implies that amongst those who do have their names in the Book of Life, there will be some who are judged worthy according, to what they have done before God and no doubt according to the law of love, and others that will be judged unworthy.

SNAPSHOT: it is possible those counted worthy are those who never had an opportunity to hear the Gospel, but believed in God as Creator, and lived their lives according to the law of love, meaning they did good to others, especially the poor and less fortunate. Should this be correct, it is likely they will have some place in eternity, however, only those who attain to the first resurrection, have the great privilege of being Christ's Bride, and dwelling with him in the New Holy City Jerusalem, for Christ can only have one wife. The New Jerusalem is the inheritance and reward of those who have remained faithful to Christ from the beginning of time to the first resurrection. The honor bestowed on them, is the great joy and privilege of entering Christ's glorious millennial Kingdom, and reigning ruling the nations with Christ as King of kings and Lord of lords on earth, which begins immediately after the first resurrection. Those not raised in the first resurrection do not come to life until Christ's millennial Kingdom reign has ended. (Rev. 20:5).

NOTE: there maybe literal books in heaven, but it is far more likely, they symbolize God's eternal memory. Ponder for a moment, if mankind can invent computers that hold all the information of the world, the name and record of every person living, and handle trillions of bits of information every minute of every day, it should be very easy for us to comprehend that God's eternal mind, contains in His eternal memory the lives of every child born, especially when the following verses are considered:

- Matthew 10:29-32: Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. 30 But even the hairs of your head are all numbered. 31 Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows. 32

FOOTNOTE

What I have presented in this document should not be taken to be dogmatic, inflexible or the final word on the matter, since I am fully aware greater understanding of God's revelation, and the Great White Throne

Judgment will become clearer before our eyes as we move closer to the time of Christ's glorious return to gather the redeemed and establish God's Kingdom on earth.

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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