

The Last Judgment

Revelation 20:11-15

The following incident is vouched for by a Church of England clergyman who knew all the circumstances.

A young woman, who had been brought up in a Christian home and who had often had very serious convictions in regard to the importance of coming to Christ, chose instead to take the way of the world. Much against the wishes of her godly mother, she insisted on keeping company with a wild, wicked crowd, who lived only for the passing moment and tried to forget the things of eternity. Again and again she was pleaded with to turn to Christ, but she persistently refused to heed the admonitions addressed to her.

Finally, she was taken with a very serious illness. All that medical science could do for her was done in order to bring about her recovery, but it soon became evident that the case was hopeless and death was staring her in the face. Still she was hard and stubborn when urged to turn to God in repentance and trust the Saviour.

One night she awoke suddenly out of a sound sleep, a frightened look in her eyes, and asked excitedly, "Mother, what is Ezekiel 7:8,9?" Her mother said, "What do you mean, my dear?"

She replied that she had had a most vivid dream. She thought there was a Presence in the room, who very solemnly said to her, "Read Ezekiel 7:8,9." Not recalling the verses in question, the mother reached for a Bible. As she opened it, her heart sank as she saw the words, but she read them aloud to the dying girl:

"Now I will shortly pour out my fury upon thee, and accomplish mine anger upon thee: and I will judge thee according to thy ways, and will recompense thee for all thine abominations. And mine eye shall not spare, neither will I have pity: I will recompense thee according to thy ways and thine abominations that are in the midst of thee; and ye shall know that I am the Lord that smiteth."

The poor sufferer, with a look of horror on her face, sank back on the pillow, utterly exhausted, and in a few moments she was in eternity.

I) Scene that's Described

A. Manifested Righteousness (Great White Throne)

Hebrews 10:31

It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

B. Multiplied Recipients (Small and Great)

C. Missing Representation (No Advocate)

1 John 2:1

2:1 My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:

II) Substantiation that's Displayed

A. Record that's Clear

Rev 20:12

12 And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened:

B. Roll that's Confirmed

Rev 20:12

12 and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.

C. Reason that's Concluded (Scriptures)

John 12:48

48 He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day.

III) Sentence that's Declared

A. Proper

Rev 21:8

8 But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

B. Punishing

Matt 13:49-50

49 So shall it be at the end of the world: the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just,

50 And shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.

Matt 22:13-14

13 Then said the king to the servants, Bind him hand and foot, and take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

14 For many are called, but few are chosen.

C. Permanent

Mark 9:43-44

43 And if thy hand offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter into life maimed, than having two hands to go into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched:

44 Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched.

The story is told of a prisoner on death row in England. A priest was called in to minister to him, and he sat reading mildly with no conviction passages from the Bible about judgment and hell. The prisoner stopped him and said: "Sir, do you believe that those things you read are true?" The priest replied that he did. To which the prisoner said, "If I were you and I really believed that what you are reading is the truth, then I would crawl on my hands and knees over burning coals the length and breadth of England to stop just one person from going there!"

Life Group Questions

1. How often does the subject of Hell cross your mind?
2. According to Matthew 18:8-9 what should be our attitude toward it?
3. If Jesus is that adamant about hell then why aren't we?
4. What was the rich man's request in Luke 16:19-31 after he was told he could have no relief?
5. What does this teach us considering we are still here and alive?
6. What changes would you like to make in your life after seeing the skit and hearing the study?
7. What have you determined to do in order to take advantage of Easter to get people church in order to hear the gospel.

Ezek 3:17-19

17 Son of man, I have made thee a watchman unto the house of Israel: therefore hear the word at my mouth, and give them warning from me.

18 When I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die; and thou givest him not warning, nor speakest to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life; the same wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand.

19 Yet if thou warn the wicked, and he turn not from his wickedness, nor from his wicked way, he shall die in his iniquity; but thou hast delivered thy soul.