

## 16 declarations of faith of the Assemblies of God

### 15 The great white throne

There will be a final judgment in which the dead who died **without** accepting Jesus Christ will be raised (**resurrected**). They will be judged according to the way they lived. All their actions and works are written in books that will be opened on that day of judgment. They will be judged by what is written in those books. Another book will be opened "The Lamb's Book of Life" and anyone whose name is not found in the Book of Life along with the devil, his angels, the beast, and the false prophet will be cast into the lake of fire that burns with fire and brimstone for eternity. This is called the second death

**Revelation 20:4** Then I saw thrones, and those who sat on them were given the authority to judge. I also saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of the testimony of Jesus and for the Word of God. They had refused to worship the wild beast or its image and did not have their foreheads or hands marked by the wild beast. They lived and reigned with the Christ for one thousand years. **5** This is the first resurrection. (The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were ended.) **6** Wonderfully blessed and holy are those who share in the first resurrection! The second death holds no power over them, but they will be priests of God and of the Christ. And they will reign as kings with him a thousand years!

- There are 2 parts of the 2nd coming of Jesus
  - The rapture
  - The establishment of the millennial reign of Christ
- There are 2 resurrections
  - The rapture
  - The resurrection of the great white throne
- There are 2 deaths
  - Natural death
  - The lake of fire

**Revelation 20:11** Then I 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. **12** 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. **13** 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. **14** Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. **15** And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.

- Great white Throne
- The one sitting is so glorious that the earth and heaven fled from Him
- Who will be brought to judgment?
  - The dead, small, and great. All who did not take part in the first resurrection

- They will be judged for all of their works, words, thoughts, and intentions Matthew 12:36 But I say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment.
- The books will be opened (good and evil) record of every action, word, thought, and intentions
- The Book of Life (Lamb's Book of Life) The book of the eternal decree of God, in which God the Father has elected in Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, those that shall be heirs of life. Those who received Jesus as their Lord and Savior
- Whoever is not found in the Book of Life will be cast into the Lake of fire

**Matthew 25:41** "Then He will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels:

**Luke 10:20** Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rather rejoice because your names are written in heaven."

### **The significance of this doctrine**

God is a God of Love, but he is also a just God. He cannot allow wickedness and sin to go unpunished. Some false teachings suggest that all people, whether righteous or bad, will eventually be saved. But this is contrary to what the Bible teaches. This doctrine is important because it reminds us all that the wages of is death **Romans 3:23**. The bible teaches that there is an everlasting punishment that has been prepared for the devil and his cohorts and all people who do not accept God's gracious provision of Salvation through his Son Jesus Christ. Those who receive the precious gift of God will be found in the Lamb Book of Life; they will be with the Lord for eternity.

## **16 NEW HEAVENS AND NEW EARTH**

In keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness dwells

**2 Peter 3:13** Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

**Revelation 21 and 22** (Read slowly, and ask questions)

- Old earth and heaven are gone
- New heavens new earth
- No more sea
- No more sun, or moon
- No more death, no more sorrow, or pain
- All things made new
- The New Jerusalem will descend from heaven

- No temple for God and the Lamb will be their temple
- Streets of Gold, Chrystal sea, precious stones for gates
- The only ones to enter are those who are written in the Lambs Book of Life.

### **The significance of this doctrine**

In the midst of our daily struggles and difficulties, we are encouraged by the promise of what God has prepared for His Faithful followers. Jesus told His disciples and made the promise to all generations of Christians.

**John 14:1** “Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. **2** In My Father’s house are many mansions; if *it were* not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. **3** And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, *there* you may be also.