

THE GREAT WHITE THRONE

I just need to make sure everyone here knows this life is not the end but actually the beginning

Rev 20:11-15 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 ^[c]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 ^[d]death. ¹⁵ And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire

This final judgment is for those who have rejected Christ. This judgment closes the millennial period and opens the age to come

It's the greatest of all judgments because it encompasses all the wicked from the beginning of history

In this courtroom all sinners will stand before God and no one will escape or be acquitted

v. 11 – Great

Why is it called the Great White Throne? It's great because its world-wide and sinners from all ages

V. 11 – Great Crowd

At this judgment they will see how many have rejected God. There are so many there will not be enough room for them standing before the judge in masses

Hear me today – These ALL said no to God

v. 11 – White

White represents the purity of God. This trial will be a very fair and clear cut. Holy judgment with no discussion, no defense, only evidence

It won't be like a trial where mother's kill their children, admit it, but get an 11-1 verdict of not guilty (this judgment presents only evidence)

V. 11 – He Who is seated on it

The one sitting on the throne as judge is the One they rejected, Jesus Christ

John 5:22 For the Father judges no one, but has committed all judgment to the Son,

Acts 17:31 because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead."

Can you imagine standing before the judge you committed the crime against?
Also the One who gave all for us? That's very sobering

Today we have mercy, but at the judgment there is no escape and no mercy

V. 12 Judged according to your deeds

If you said no to Christ, no matter your social status, your title, how many Facebook friends and likes you have, your church attendance won't matter.

(Clearly stated you won't get away with any injustice here – you will be judged by your deeds)

So God evaluates a person's life actions as visible proof of their spiritual reality and relationship with Him

v. 12 God has Books

That's plural

ILLUSTRATE BOOKS

They will contain a complete impartial record of our life, action, thoughts, and deeds. God will reveal all that's written in these books

God is so fair in His judgment He will show you why you won't enter Heaven as He opens the books and replays your life

If you're at this judgment, it's too late. The Lamb is now the Lion and the Savior is now the Judge!

V. 12 Lambs Book of Life

Illustrate – This book will be opened up and He will show your name is or isn't written here. Only those going to Heaven and escaping this judgment have their names in this book

Rev 21:27 But there shall by no means enter it anything ^[a]that defiles, or causes an abomination or a lie, but only those who are written in the Lamb's Book of Life.

V. 14 Death and Hades

This is the temporary holding place for those who have rejected Christ and the lake of fire is the eternal place of punishment which is known as the Second Death

Those whose names aren't in the Book of Life will be thrown into the lake of fire, eternal punishment

How many planners are here today? Vacations, get aways, daily agenda?

What's sad more people spend more time planning for a one week vacation than for eternity!

What's your eternal plan?

We plan important events and just expect life to happen. My friend, you are a soul living in a body, but your eternity is determined by your life now!

Your body goes back to dust but your soul lives forever.

You have 2 choices – Heaven or Hell – that's it

Where you end up for eternity my friend was planned out ahead of time

No one will end up in hell that didn't plan on going. You chose your destination by rejecting Christ

On this day no excuses, no mulligans, and no repentance – it's too late, your eternity is sealed

Romans 1:18-20 NIV For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who ^[d]suppress the truth in

unrighteousness,¹⁹ because what may be known of God is [e]manifest [f]in them, for God has shown *it* to them.²⁰ For since the creation of the world His invisible *attributes* are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, *even* His eternal power and [g]Godhead, so that they are without excuse,

This judgment will reveal your choice!