



## Part 4: The Last Day of Evil

*He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.* Rev. 21:4

The Bible teaches God \_\_\_\_\_ evil before it can infiltrate Heaven  
*I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and makes war. His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns. ...And the devil, who deceived them, was thrown into the lake of burning sulfur, where the beast and the false prophet had been thrown.* Rev. 19:11,12; 20:10

Jesus: *A time is coming when all who are in their graves will hear his voice and come out -- those who have done good will rise to live, and those who have done evil will rise to be condemned.* John 5:28

Jesus: *This is how it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come and separate the wicked from the righteous.* Matt. 13:49

### Common Questions About God's Final Judgement

#### Why would a loving God want to send people to hell?

*God did **not** send his Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the **world** might be saved through him.* John 3:17

*The Lord is **not** willing that **any** should perish but that **all** should come to repentance.* 2 Peter 3:9

*...God our Savior desires **everyone** to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.* 1 Timothy 2:4

If God doesn't want anyone to go to hell, why do people end up there?  
*This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but men loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil.* John 3:19

#### Why does there have to be a final judgement?

- Without it there would be no real \_\_\_\_\_
- Without it there would be no real \_\_\_\_\_
- Without it there would be no real \_\_\_\_\_

*To those who by persistence in doing good seek glory, honor and immortality, he will give eternal life. But for those who are self-seeking and who reject the truth and follow evil, there will be wrath and anger.* Rom. 2:7,8

Jesus: *...I am he who searches hearts and minds...* Rev. 2:23

#### Isn't God supposed to be forgiving?

*Let the wicked forsake his way and the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn to the Lord and he will have mercy on him, and to our God, for he will freely pardon.* Isa. 55:7

#### Will I like heaven if I see people there who've made my life hell?

*The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together; and a little child will lead them.* Isa. 11:6

#### How do I respond to this?

##### 1. Receive \_\_\_\_\_

*... I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and **will not be condemned**; he has crossed over from death to life.* John 5:22-24

##### 2. Release \_\_\_\_\_

*Do not repay anyone evil for evil. ... as far as it depends on you, live at peace with all. Do not take revenge, my friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: 'I will avenge; I will repay,' says the Lord.* Rom. 12:17-19

*Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example. ... When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly.* 1 Pet. 2:21,23

##### 3. Rest \_\_\_\_\_

*... I envied ...when I saw the prosperity of the wicked. They have no struggles; they are healthy and strong. ...Therefore pride is their necklace; they clothe themselves with violence. When I tried to understand all this, it was oppressive to me-- till I entered the sanctuary and then I understood their final destiny.*

Ps. 73:2-6, 16

##### 4. Reach \_\_\_\_\_

*And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.* Matt. 16:18

### Resources

Hank Hanegraaf, *Resurrection*

# Daily Meditations

Brief daily Bible studies and questions for reflection on today's topic!

## This week's memory verse:

*The Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!" Whoever is thirsty, let him come; and whoever wishes, let him take the free gift of the water of life. Rev. 22:17*

## Monday

Look at the notes from this past weekend. Which questions about heaven have you had?

Did any of the answers surprise you?

What do you wish you knew about heaven?

How do the Bible's descriptions of the new heaven and the new earth inspire you to live for Christ here and now? How do these ideas help you grow closer to the Lord?

How do they help you reach out to others?

*Ask God to help you think accurately and inspirationally of the new heaven and the new earth that awaits!*

## Tuesday

Read Revelation 21. Rev. 21:2 describes the Holy City--the "New Jerusalem"-- as a beautifully dressed bride. With what precious jewels and metals is the bride adorned, according to verses 11 & 18-21?

Along with this physical beauty, what promise in verse 4 makes heaven a place to long for?

In verse 4, what do you think the "old order" is? Read verse 5 and then 2 Corinthians 5:17 and describe what Christ has done for us.

Read verse 22. Why is there no need for a temple in the Holy City? And why is there no need for a sun or moon?

*It's exciting to imagine what God has prepared for us! Thank God for these glimpses of Heaven and for the joy of knowing that as believers we will be with Him forever!*

## Wednesday

Read Rev. 22. What is our Lord's promise to us in verses 7, 12, and 20?

What characteristics and names of God are found in verses 5, 13 & 16?

According to verse 17, who is invited to take the "free gift of the water of life"?

Read John 4:10-14. Describe the "living water" Jesus speaks of in these verses with the "river of the water of life" in Rev. 22:1.

*Ask God for the opportunity to share God's gift of "living water" with someone you know. Live like He's coming soon!*

## Thursday

Read Isaiah 65:17-25. Like many prophecies in Isaiah, this passage seems to be about two promises: a promise of an exciting future for the nation of Israel in this life, and a literal new heaven and new earth for the next.

What surprises you about these descriptions of the new heaven and new earth?

What are you looking forward to about the place described in this passage?

This passage was originally written to Israelites who had seen their nation fall into ruin and were longing for a new beginning. How did the Lord inspire these words to motivate them to live fully devoted lives here on earth. How do you hope like this inspire you to live your life today?

*Spend time in prayer today specifically thanking God for things you've learned about heaven and the new earth.*

## Friday

Read Isaiah 11:6-10. Some commentators believe this passage is referring to the thousand-year peace prophesied in the Bible and referred to as the "millennium", which takes place on the earth. Most believe it refers to the "new heaven and new earth" because of its parallels to Isaiah 65. Isaiah 65 explicitly refers to the new heaven and earth. What surprises you about this description?

Read Luke 13:23-30. What surprises you about these descriptions of the new heaven and new earth?

You may have noticed that many of the passages about heaven refer to those left out of heaven. How do you think the Bible contains these warnings?

Why do you think Jesus told the falsely pious, self-satisfied religious leaders that they would be left out of heaven? What does it mean about who's "in" and who's "out" of heaven?

Why is this truth important for us to hear today?

Ask God to give you a heart of love and compassion for all those who need to hear about heaven. Pray for Him for opportunities to share.

## Saturday

Finish any devotions you may have missed and polish up the memory verse. Please pray for the services this weekend-- that God would glorify and people would be brought closer to Him. Thanks!