

ETERNAL DESTINATIONS

*"I call heaven and earth to record this day
against you, that I have set before you
life and death, blessing and cursing:
therefore **CHOOSE LIFE**, that both thou
and thy seed may live: "*

(Deuteronomy 30:19 KJV)

D O N G E R R I T Y

Eternal Destinations

By Don E. Gerrity

Copyright © 2024, by Donald E. Gerrity

All rights reserved. Ontario Canada

BIBLES CITED...

[KJV]: (Unless otherwise marked the KJV is implied.) King James Version Publisher:
Public Domain. Biblegateway.com Web.

Original Greek Meanings From This Great Online Ministry:
Blue Letter Bible. Web. 11 Jul, 2016. (www.blueletterbible.org)>



SeekKnockFind.org

Where Will You Be In Eternity?

*“For by GRACE are ye saved THROUGH FAITH; and that NOT of yourselves: it is the GIFT of God: NOT OF WORKS, lest any man should boast.”
(Ephesians 2:8-9 KJV)*

Where do Old Testament Saints go after death? Will all believers (OT Saints & Church Age Saints) reside on Earth during the 1000 Year Kingdom Age on Earth? Will Old Testament Saints be Raptured with Church Age believers? Where do the dead go? What does Scripture really show about this?

Lots of questions from believers about all this and so, I will show some answers we do find in Scripture about these questions. Although I am by no means a Biblical scholar, nor an expert in End Times Bible Prophecy, there are many Scriptures and passages that show us the truth about these questions.

My hope is to give you strong encouragement that the bible is sure and true. That what awaits believers should be of an enormous encouragement and excitement. That those who have not yet accepted salvation through belief on the Christ crucified died and risen may see the truth of the Bible.

Table Of Contents

WHAT IS SALVATION THROUGH CHRIST?

Does God Exist? Is The KJV Bible His Word?.....	6
What Must I Do To Be Saved?.....	16

ETERNAL DESTINATIONS

Groups Of People & Their Eternal Destinations.....	25
The Judgments Seats Explained.....	31

THE 1000 YEAR KINGDOM AGE

The Heavenly New Jerusalem. Home of The Bride Of Christ.....	41
When Does The New Heavenly Jerusalem Come Down Out Of Heaven?...	47
Satan's Final Rebellion Shows How The Earthly and Heavenly Jerusalem Are Not The same place.....	52
About The Author.....	58
Bibliography.....	59

Does God Exist? Is The Bible His Word?

“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 Godhead, so that they are without excuse, because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Professing to be wise, they became fools, and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man...”
(Romans 1:20 KJV)

Can we prove with evidence that God does exist? Notice that in this verse of Scripture it states that we can see evidence of God in creation. With all the extreme complexities in the universe there is still a harmony that can only be explained by believing that a designer created them.

If we look at nature we can know that God does exist. Just because we cannot physically see God does not in any way mean that He does not exist. Look at such laws of nature as gravity, or even the wind. We can see, and feel, ***the effects*** of them even though we do not know where they originate from. Can you see the wind, or just the *effects* of the wind? We see trees and grass moving *because of* the wind but we do not actually *see the wind* do we? So if you cannot see the wind, do you think the wind does not exist? Or do you *believe and have faith* that the wind does exist because you see and feel the effects of the wind? Though we cannot physically see the wind, or gravity even, we know that they exist. In the same way, although we may not physically see God as a being, we can know that He exists by the effect He has in the physical world.

HOW CAN GOD MAKE HIS EXISTENCE KNOWN TO US PERSONALLY?

Suppose that God did create these physical laws of nature. If God created them how much harder would it be to show who He is to each of us on *a personal level*? God would have to be infinite if he created every living being (after all, God started everything out of nothing. God even created time itself). It would be extremely difficult for us to understand God, let alone relate to Him. We can see that He exists through what he created but He seems impersonal and *'far off'* because we do not know how to relate to him. What if God talked to you audibly? How would you know for certain that it was God and not some advanced technology? What if He came as a man with extraordinary powers that were used for miracles in order to relate to us? Who would believe that he was God? (We must ask this even of Christ Himself if we are to serve Him. We must know for sure that He is the true Son of God otherwise we would be serving under a false pretense.)

Just imagine if modern day man built a time machine and went back in time 4000 years. What would the people of that time think about one of us dressed in a pure white and silver space suit having the ability to fly (with the use of a jet pack)? They could very well have thought that we were gods. If this is true, could not a man having a more advanced technology appear to perform miracles to us? This is an important question to think about.

Another very important question to ask is, if God does exist which, if any, of the world's religions and sacred books were inspired from the true God of the universe? Which were man made theories? How can our mortal minds know God and which world religion is the one that truly serves him? The fact is, by ourselves we cannot. If God exists He would have to find a way to relate to us personally, in

such a manner that it would leave no doubt in our minds that it is God trying to relate to us. So how is God doing this?

DISCERNING THE TRUTH OF WORLD SACRED WRITINGS

For many this is a tough question to answer but we must ask this of every religion; *How do I know that it is the truth from the real God?* Many religions claim that their sacred writings are from the real true God. It is the answer to this question that sets Biblical Christianity apart from all other religions. Bible Prophecy FULFILLED is what sets the Bible apart from all other sacred writings. And not just some Bible Prophecies fulfilled with a large average percentage but instead with 100% accuracy.

REASON 1: THE BIBLE IS COMPRISED OF PROPHECIES FULFILLED WITH GREAT ACCURACY.

In fact, one out of every three Scripture verses in the Bible is related to Bible Prophecy and Bible Prophecy fulfilled. Many other sacred writings contain prophecies but only the Bible has such an accurate record of Prophecy fulfilled, and with great detail. It seems that God wants us to take this into account when deciding on what sacred writings are inspired from Him. This is the one proof that I found which was a large deciding factor in determining that the Bible is the inspired word from God Himself. It is the most significant proof that the Bible is the word of God and it is also the simplest. It is the easiest for us to understand and helps us know that what the Bible says is true. It is the **fulfilment** of Bible Prophecy. Many sacred writings contain prophecy but **prophecy fulfilled** in great detail and accuracy is missing from all other sacred writings except the Bible.

In Isaiah, it reads,

“Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me, Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure:” (Isaiah 46:9-10 KJV)

“I have even from the beginning declared it to thee; before it came to pass I shewed it thee: lest thou shouldest say, Mine idol hath done them, and my graven image, and my molten image, hath commanded them. ” (Isaiah 48:5 KJV)

The God of the Bible tells us clearly that not only is He the true God, but that He has **proof** that no other can claim! He says this to us so that we will know that He is the true God. To paraphrase the above Scripture; 'BEFORE it came to pass I showed it to you so that you would not believe in false gods' (or idols, and graven images). God reaches out toward us and reveals Himself as the true God with absolute proof! Can any other sacred writings actually prove so? Of course, this all is contingent on the statement being correct and that the said proof exists in the Bible. And it does exist; very much so! All prophecies, except those to still be fulfilled, have a 100% accuracy rate thus far.

God wants us to know about Bible prophecy fulfilled and Bible prophecy for the times in which we live. Many Bible believing Christians do not realize the importance of Bible Prophecy but the fact that it comprises a whopping 30% of the Bible should send a strong signal to all of us. It is both a proof that the Bible is the inspired word of the one true God and also a light shining on the times in which we live.

How can we know that the prophecies of the future from the Bible are true and will occur? If we look at the prophecies from the past that have already been

fulfilled we can see just how accurate God's prophecies are. If we look at the Old Testament it is clear that the Jewish people (God's Chosen People) looked toward the Messiah's first coming and his death on the cross. This is because of the prophecies about His first coming found in the Old Testament. We now look back at Christ's first coming and death on the cross because of the precision with which the Old Testament prophecies were fulfilled.

Prophecies Fulfilled: The First Coming Of The Messiah

The list of the Old Testament (the Torah) prophecies fulfilled regarding the birth, life, death and resurrection of Jesus the Christ is an overwhelming proof that the Bible is the true word of the true God. Here are just some of the amazing prophecies fulfilled in Jesus' life and death:

He would be born of a virgin.

Old Testament: Isaiah 7:14, New Testament fulfillment: Matthew 1:18-23

He would come from the tribe of Judah, one of the 12 tribes descended from Jacob.

Old Testament: Genesis 49:10, New Testament fulfillment: Luke 3:23-24

He would be born in Bethlehem.

Old Testament: Micah 5:2, New Testament fulfillment: Matthew 2:1

He would be preceded by a messenger.

Old Testament: Isaiah 40:3, New Testament fulfillment: Matthew 3:1-2

He would enter Jerusalem riding on a colt.

Old Testament: Zechariah 9:9, New Testament fulfillment: Luke 19:35-37

He would be betrayed by a friend.

Old Testament: Psalm 41:9, New Testament fulfillment: Matthew 26:47-50

He would be sold for 30 pieces of silver.

Old Testament: Zechariah 11:12, New Testament fulfillment: Matthew 26:15

He would be beaten and spit upon.

Old Testament: Isaiah 50:6, New Testament fulfillment: Matthew 26:67

He would be wounded and whipped by his enemies.

Old Testament: Isaiah 53:5, New testament fulfillment: Matthew 27:26

His hands and feet would be pierced.

Old Testament: Psalm 22:16, New testament fulfillment: Luke 23:33

He would be crucified with thieves.

Old Testament: Isaiah 53:12, New Testament fulfillment: Matthew 27:38

Men would cast lots for his clothing.

Old Testament: Psalm 34:20, New Testament fulfillment: Matthew 27:35

He would not answer, or speak, to His accusers.

Old Testament: Isaiah 53:7, New Testament fulfillment: Matthew 27:12-14

He would live again after dying.

Old Testament: Job 19:25, New Testament fulfillment: John 2:19, Matthew 12:39, 16:3

This is just a very small example! In fact, there are 250+ Prophecies that Christ fulfilled from Old Testament Prophecies! That this is true is NOT BY CHANCE! The statistical odds are astronomical and too great to dismiss the truth of God's prophecies concerning the first coming of Christ. Some sceptics say that Christ simply read the Old Testament prophecies and then did what they said. But how could anyone predict where He would be born and under what circumstance He was born? How could anyone predict that exactly two thieves would be crucified with Him, or that men would cast lots for his clothing? And why would any man actually want to die such a horrible excruciating death on a cross?

Bible Prophecy Fulfilled:

Rebuilding of the First Temple Prophecy Fulfilled

During the First Temple Period of Jerusalem there was a Prophet named Isaiah. Isaiah prophesied doom for a sinful Judah and for all the nations of the world that oppose God. He warned Israel to turn back to God as there had been a falling away.

Isaiah states, *“That saith of Cyrus, He is my shepherd, and shall perform all my pleasure: even saying to Jerusalem, Thou shalt be built; and to the temple, Thy foundation shall be laid.” (Isaiah 44:28 KJV)*

A look at the history of Jerusalem shows that the First Temple was not built by anyone by the name of Cyrus.

“According to Hebrew scripture, King David reigned until 970 BCE. He was succeeded by his son Solomon, who built the Holy Temple on Mount Moriah. Solomon’s Temple (later known as the First Temple), went on to play a pivotal role in Jewish history as the repository of the Ark of the Covenant.” (Source Wikipedia.org, http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jerusalem#Temple_periods July/2014)

We know that at the time of Isaiah writing this the temple in Jerusalem was already in place. So this is Isaiah writing what God told him to write and is a Bible Prophecy of a future event.

“For over 450 years, until the Babylonian conquest in 587 BCE, Jerusalem was the political capital of firstly the united Kingdom of Israel and then the Kingdom of Judah and the Temple was the religious center of the Israelites. This period is known in history as the First Temple Period. Upon Solomon’s death (c. 930 BCE), the ten northern tribes split off to form the

Kingdom of Israel. Under the leadership of the House of David and Solomon, Jerusalem remained the capital of the Kingdom of Judah. The Tower of David as seen from the Hinnom Valley when the Assyrians conquered the Kingdom of Israel in 722 BCE, Jerusalem was strengthened by a great influx of refugees from the northern kingdom. The First Temple period ended around 586 BCE, as the Babylonians conquered Judah and Jerusalem, and laid waste to Solomon's Temple." (Source Wikipedia.org, http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jerusalem#Temple_periods July/2014)

It is historical fact that when the Babylonian's took control of Jerusalem they laid waste to Solomon's Temple. It was destroyed. Looking a little further into the history of this line of events we can see the fulfillment of the prophecy Isaiah had given. In 538 BCE, after fifty years of Babylonian captivity, the Persian King Cyrus the Great invited the Jews to return to Judah to rebuild the Temple. (Source Wikipedia.org, http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jerusalem#Temple_periods July/2014)

We see this prophecy was fulfilled just as written over 100 years after Isaiah wrote the words given to him by God. And 150 years before Cyrus was even born! Dr. Hugh Ross from the website Reasons.org calculated the statistical probability of chance of this being fulfilled and it equates to 1 in 10 to the power of 15. That is a chance of 1 in 1,000,000,000,000,000 for this one Bible Prophecy alone! (Source Dr. Hugh Ross, <http://www.reasons.org/articles/articles/fulfilled-prophecy-evidence-for-the-reliability-of-the-bible> July 28/2014. I encourage you to visit his article. It is an amazing read!)

It is well known that the Bible has more than 1000 Prophecies already fulfilled with 100% accuracy. Such specific accuracy proves without a shadow of a doubt that the Bible is the word of the true God. God uses *prophecy fulfilled* to let us discern the truth from the fallacy. To let us know without doubting that the Bible is the one true word of the one true God. And there are also many Bible Prophecies concerning the time period in which we live that are of great importance. (I will leave that for another ebook)

REASON 2: THE UNITY OF THE BIBLE IS CONSISTENT FROM GENESIS TO REVELATION

To this statement some might say, of course it is, it was written by a person. However, the truth is the Bible was not written by a single person. In fact, the Bible consists of 66 books, written by approximately 40 different men (most that did not know each other) at different times periods in history, education and social backgrounds spanning thousands of years. Yet, it is consistent and unified from Genesis to Revelation and reads as one book, with each book of the Bible in complete agreement with the other books. So much so, that Scriptures relating to Prophecy can be interpreted by using other Scriptures from a completely different time period, written by a different person, to help us understand the Prophecy.

The Bible is the best selling book and most widely distributed ever created. This is no coincidence. It is the inspired word of the one true God of the Universe and all who study it and learn the truths contained in it are blessed beyond measure. Contrary to what some may tell you, it is more about our relationship to God then it is about religion. It is the Revelation of Jesus Christ to the entire world and the truth about everything pertaining to life, death and our relationship to God Almighty.

REASON 3: PROOF THREE: HISTORICAL ACCURACY OF THE BIBLE

The books of the Bible are not just stories told by these writers. They are also historically accurate. The Bible is comprised of historical facts. There is much evidence from archaeology that confirm the Biblical accounts as historical facts.

Even the school system (where God is not valid and prayer is prohibited) recognizes Biblical accounts as historical truth! The historical accuracy of the Bible has been vindicated many times over as have no other religious writings. Archaeology in our modern times continues to prove that what the Bible says happened... actually happened exactly as the Bible depicts events.

REASON 4: EYE WITNESS ACCOUNTS

The Bible was written by people who actually witnessed the events it tells us about. And given that so many were martyred and killed, yet never changed their belief and story of the account of events, it makes us wonder why they would die for something they knew was untrue?

I mean, look at the Apostle Paul. Before his conversion to belief in Christ as the Son of God, he sought after and killed Christians. Yet after his road to Damascus incident, from there onward he became the complete opposite. He was completely convinced of the truth because it was PROVEN to him.

Right after Jesus' Crucifixion and death, the Apostles were terrified, dismayed and thoroughly distraught and disappointed. However, after Christ appeared to them they went on preaching the good news and ultimately changed the world for Christ with passion and belief unto death! That is quite a change of direction don't you think? What made them so convinced that they were willing to give up their lives for Christ's message of Salvation to the World? It was because they witnessed Jesus live, die, resurrect and then ascend! That's why!

What Must I Do To Be Saved

*"...whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life. For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that **whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.** For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved." (John 3:15-17 KJV)*

Believing that the Bible is the word of God, the very next question you need an answer to is what is God really like? Starting with knowing about God and His perfect ways gives you a solid foundation upon which to build better understanding when reading the Word of God. Let us quickly look at some of God's characteristics from the Bible.

- **God is eternal.** He is not a created being. He has always existed. God never changes. He is the same today as He has always been. (Malachi 3:6, Hebrews 13:8 , James 1:17, Deuteronomy 33:27, Psalms 90:2)
- **God cannot do anything against His own perfect character.** God keeps His promises to us. (Psalms 12:6-7, Mark 13:31)
- **God is perfect in every way:**
 - + Perfect in love. (1 John 4:8, 1 John 4:16, 1 John 4 :7)
 - + Perfectly Holy and perfect in justice.(Revelation 4:8, 1 Peter 1:15-16)
 - + Perfect in mercy. (Hebrews 13:5, Romans 3:23-24, Psalms 111:9)

NOTE: The list continues because He is truly perfect in every way. I have a more complete article on what the Bible has to say about God's characteristics and His ways that you can read [here](#) . For the purpose of this article we will focus on the above attributes of God.

GOD IS LOVE. THEN, ALL IS GOOD RIGHT?

Perfect love is the trait of God that we want to hear about the most right? If God loves us than what have we to fear? In fact, many pulpits focus on this aspect of God yet deny the other attributes of God. We must also remember that God is also perfectly JUST and Holy. And that is the problem that we humans need to address and face head on. If we compare our goodness to others who have done greater sins than we have, that is not a fair assessment of our true sinfulness. The Bible tells us that "all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;" (Romans 3:23 KJV) and that "*...we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags;*" (Isaiah 53:6 KJV). The very best thing we do in goodness is as filthy rags to God. You see, we all have a SIN NATURE in us. And God is so Holy that even just ONE sin is enough to cause Him to punish us with His perfect justice.

To make matters worse, the punishment for even ONE SIN is eternal death in a place of torment that was prepared for the devil and his angels (Matthew 25:41). God is THAT HOLY! And when we compare ourselves to God, believe me when I say that we fail miserably. God gave us the Ten Commandments as His Absolute Truth to show us just how sinful we really are (Romans 3:20). No normally born human has kept the Ten Commandments perfectly (James 2:10).

Some say, I have not committed murder or adultery! However, Jesus said that if you have hate toward another in your heart you have committed murder. If you lust after the opposite sex you have committed adultery in your heart. (Matthew 5). And have you really loved God with ALL YOUR HEART AND MIND? Honestly, none of us have. You see our heart, our inner being is where the problem is. We all were born with a SIN NATURE and a 'bent' toward sinning since the fall of Adam and Eve. Born with a fallen spirit at enmity with God.

So we have all sinned. What does that make us? It makes us sinners! And what does the Bible say happens to sinners? They are headed for God's judgment and condemnation in a real place called the lake of fire and hell.

"For the wages of sin is death;..." (Romans 6:23 KJV)

A look at this verse in Strong's Greek concordance defines this death as *'with the implied idea of future misery in hell'*. This is an eternal death. That is not good news right? So, what about God's love you keep hearing about? Isn't God perfect in love and mercy? Yes, He is! But not in a *wishy washy sense*. What I mean is that God is not going to just tell you in the court room of God, *"ok. You did more good deeds than bad, so I will allow you eternal life in heaven"*. **NEVER**. God CANNOT do anything against His perfect Holiness! Just one sin and you broke all the Law (James 2:10). To be given entrance to Heaven a person **must be perfect** and **without any sin debt**.

HERE IS THE GOOD NEWS! THE WONDERFUL NEWS!

God is also perfect in love and mercy and so He must also abide by these character traits perfectly. You see God loves you and me more than any being in the universe. He does not want anyone to end up in Hell. No! He loves the sinner but hates the sin. He wants all to be in heaven with Him forever and ever.

*"The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, **not willing that any should perish**, but that all **should come to repentance**." (2 Peter 3:9 KJV)*

But this thing called SIN (a noun in the book of Romans) is in the way because He must judge it. The penalty MUST be paid. So what is God to do in this predicament?

This is what Salvation is all about. The Bible tells us that God is a Trinity of Father, Son and the Holy Spirit (1 John 5:7). The Bible is clear that without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sins (Hebrews 9:22). God in His perfect love and mercy decides to commit to the single greatest act of love in the universe for all of time. God decides to take the punishment for our sins **upon Himself** so that our penalty for sins can be **paid in full**. To do this, He would have to become a human but also still be God. This God-man is Jesus, the Christ.

Jesus was conceived by the Holy Spirit (Matthew 1:20) and born of the Virgin Mary and was not born into the sin nature as we were. He is God after all. He could be *tempted to sin but never sinned* in His entire life in deed, nor in the mind. Why? Because He is God become flesh. God had to become flesh and live as one of us so His blood could be shed for us. It was the only way that we could be forgiven our sins because they have to be paid for.

When Jesus died on the cross and shed His blood, God took upon Himself all the sins of the whole world (past/present/future) and paid for them so that we could be freed from our sin debt against the Holy God Almighty. So you see, yes God is love. Amazing love! But His love that saves us was not in a *wishy washy* way. Jesus became the perfect sacrifice for our sins (Hebrews 10) and in doing so kept all His perfect traits and characteristics intact. He loves us perfectly. He judged our sins in His perfect justice and Holiness. He was perfectly merciful toward us in paying the penalty for our sins. THAT is the true love of God from the Bible. THAT is the love of God that you hear so much about. It far surpasses any love we have for each other here on Earth.

THE FREE GIFT OF THE GRACE OF GOD

*“For by GRACE are ye saved THROUGH FAITH; and that NOT of yourselves: it is the GIFT of God: NOT OF WORKS, lest any man should boast.”
(Ephesians 2:8-9 KJV)*

The Bible is clear that the cross of Christ, this perfect act of love towards us, is a FREE GIFT to be received. That is, it is not us working our way to heaven by performing good deeds and good works, being a good person nor by religious rituals. It is a Grace GIFT from God. An UNMERITED favour from God to humankind. God did not create us as robots. Instead God gave us *a free will* so that we could have a real relationship with Him. And so God offers the **free gift of Salvation** to all who believe that Jesus Christ is the only begotten Son of God, who atoned for our sins on the cross, died and rose again on the third day (1 Cor. 15:1-4). Jesus on the cross cried out, *“It is finished”* and if we look at the Greek that the New Testament was written, it actually was an accounting term meaning, *“PAID IN FULL!”* This is why the Gospel of Jesus Christ is called the good news!

WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?

Only one thing, which is not of your own self righteous efforts in any way; **BELIEVE the Gospel of Jesus Christ.** Believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, who is God (John 1), who paid your penalty for the sins you have committed in death on that cross and that He rose again. When a person believes this they are from that very moment sealed in salvation eternally, even without saying a prayer, The Holy Spirit of God indwells the person and they are SEALED and saved for all eternity!

*“In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, **the gospel of your salvation**: in whom also **after that ye BELIEVED, ye were SEALED with that holy Spirit of PROMISE**, Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.” (Ephesians 1:13-16 KJV)*

The Scripture below shows just how much God has saved such a person for all eternity. To be with God in Heaven we must be without sin debt. In belief, the person actually becomes *the very righteousness of God, in Christ*. An amazing truth to be so thankful for, yet many believers have not grasped how powerful our Salvation is!

*“For he hath made HIM [Christ] to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be **MADE the righteousness of God IN HIM**.” (2 Corinthians 5:21 KJV, [] brackets for clarification)*

Because Jesus paid the penalty for our sins and has imputed the righteousness of God to us, in God's eyes He sees us through the filter of Christ! To Him we are Holy, righteous and redeemed for all eternity. To God, all your sins (past/present/future) have all been fully paid for and so there is now no condemnation for them that believe on Christ alone in faith and belief.

“There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.” (Romans 8:1 KJV)

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that

the world through him might be saved. He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.”
(John 3:16-18 KJV)

IS JUST BELIEVING ENOUGH TO SAVE US? WHAT ABOUT REPENTANCE?

The New Testament was first penned in the Greek. The Greek word for the English word 'REPENT' is *'metanoia'* and is defined as "...a change of mind". It is not defined as *'turn from sin'* as many pulpits teaching works based Salvation are telling their church members. That is the modern day dictionary definition but not the Biblical definition of *'repentance'*. In fact, we see in the Word of God that God Himself repents many times, yet God has no sin to repent of! To repent is to *'change your mind'*. It is a word with a definition and we need to use the proper definition.

You can see clearly now that the Biblical meaning of the word REPENT is nothing like the dictionary definition (*change one's life for the better; be penitent.*) True repentance is not a work that WE DO to gain God's acceptance and favor after Salvation. God reached out to us first and provided a way for us sinners to be forgiven completely, but it is not from our own efforts. God gives Salvation to us as **a free gift to be received**. The Bible tells us that before God created the Earth He established the one and only way for us to be forgiven our sins and that way is by faith in the act of atonement provided by Jesus The Christ on the cross.

Repentance is changing our mind and thinking about how to be saved. We are not saved by our works, which is what the every religion in the world teaches. Repentance and belief in the Gospel of Jesus Christ (which is Salvation by faith alone in the atonement for our sins through Christ crucified) is two sides of the

same coin. That is, if you repent about how to deal with your sins (change your mind about how to get forgiveness for your sins) and believe that this is accomplished only through faith and belief in the finished work of Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, and the atonement for our sins on the cross, and His rising from the dead, you HAVE ALREADY repented.

Repenting is the change in your mind from the world's way of dealing with sin (good works, being a good person) and changing to God's way of dealing with sin which is believing on Christ for Salvation apart from works of any kind (Ephesians 2:8-9, Galatians 3, 5:4-5).

Stopping the practice of a particular sin is a result of repenting and changing your mind. That is, it is not the repenting itself.

THE MAIN BOOKS OF THE BIBLE ON HOW TO BE SAVED PROVE THIS

The book of John. This book is all about how to be saved. Do you know that the word 'REPENT nor 'REPENTANCE' does not even appear once! But the word BELIEVE on Christ is seen all over the book many times.

The book of Galatians. This is the book fighting against the false Gospel based on works for Salvation, refuting the Judiazers adding Law to how a person is saved. Again, the word REPENT is not found once in this book contending for the true Gospel! However the word FAITH in Jesus Christ is found all through the book.

The book of Romans. Paul tells us again and again that Salvation is NOT OF WORKS IN ANY MANNER! And where the word REPENT is found, it is not the same Greek word. It is a not defined as '*turning from your sin*'. The word SIN in Romans is not even an action verb; it is a NOUN (a thing).

The Christian religions need to stop using the dictionary definition of the word REPENT! They are teaching a FALSE GOSPEL WHICH WILL NOT SAVE ANYONE.

BELIEVE THE GOSPEL AND BE SAVED

Do you believe Jesus is the Christ, the only begotten Son of God who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, born without sin, lived a sinless life, atoned for and paid in full the sins of the whole world (past/ present/ future) on the cross, died and rose again on the third day? If so, the Holy Spirit now resides within you and you are SEALED and saved for all eternity. You are Heaven bound and your sins will not cause loss of your Salvation. They are fully PAID by Christ on the cross 2000 years ago.

*"Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you **the gospel** which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, **and wherein ye stand; By which also ye are saved**, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that **Christ died for our sins** according to the scriptures; And that **he was buried**, and that **he rose again the third day** according to the scriptures:" (1 Cor. 15:1-4 KJV)*

DOES THAT MEAN OUR GOOD WORKS AFTER SALVATION ARE MEANINGLESS?

God forbid! (Romans 6) as Apostle Paul wrote. We have a new born again Spirit which is sealed by the indwelling Holy Spirit (Eph. 1:13-14), complete in Christ (Colossians 2), which is the very righteousness of God, in Christ (2 Cor. 5:21),

which has been perfected by God (Hebrews 10:14). Our new Spirit is real. We need to RENEW OUR MIND (repenting after salvation) by God's Word; the truth of who God made us. This leads to better decisions and walking in the Spirit (Gal 5:16). We are not saved by works (Eph 2:8-9), nor kept saved by good works (Gal. 3, 5:4-5), but we should walk by the Spirit (Gal. 5:16) and not the fleshly wrong beliefs in our mind. Pray to God to help in your walk after your moment of salvation. Overtime, you will see how much He has worked in your life!

*“For we are **his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that **we should** walk in them. “***
(Ephesians 2:10KJV)

MY HOPE IS THAT YOU COME TO BELIEF ON CHRIST FOR SALVATION

Believe on the finished work of Christ and you are saved. What now? The number one goal for a new believer is to gain the knowledge of the truth of the Gospel and who Christ MADE YOU, from the very moment you believed on Christ. To renew your mind by God's Word; The Truth (Romans 12).

Read my free e-book *“Christ in Us, The Hope Of Glory” and other articles and video links* found at <https://seekknockfind.org> to gain more understanding by Scripture who you now are in Christ because you believe the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The good news! Join our Facebook Group in conversations as we all learn more and more the deep riches God has bestowed on all who believe. Jesus is returning; please be ready.

The Eternal Destinations

Shown In The Bible

Some believe that all people who reject Christ are sent immediately to eternal punishment with the devil and his fallen angels tormenting the lost. That Old Testament believers on Christ along with New Testament believers on Christ will end up at the same final destinations when bodily resurrected. Some believe after death is a place called purgatory. Are these beliefs Scriptural though? Let's see what Scripture shows us about the eternal destinations of humankind and the devil and his fallen angels. Let us open the truth to these matters by Scripture alone.

OLD TESTAMENT DESTINATIONS

Jesus preached the Gospel of The Kingdom (Matthew 4:32, 9:35, Mark 1:14-15, Luke 4:43, Luke 16:16-17, and many others), *to the Jewish people during His Earthy ministry*. What is this Kingdom of God? By the promises made to Israel about this Kingdom, it is a Kingdom on Earth with a Holy ruler; namely the Messiah, The foretold Christ. Finally real peace on Earth for 1000 years. The Jewish people look forward to this Kingdom promised to them. Israel was promised the Kingdom Age on Earth. Gentile males in Old Testament times who came to belief that a Messiah would come were also permitted to participate as Jews in the Covenant and had to be circumcised (Exodus 12:48-49). It is these Old Testament saints who looked forward to the foretold coming of the Messiah and the promise that He would usher in the promised Kingdom Age on Earth (Isaiah

9:6-7). In the Gospels Jesus is specifically teaching to the Jewish people of that time period.

*“But he answered and said, I am not sent **but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel.**” (Matthew 15:24 KJV)*

The Jewish people rejected Jesus as the Messiah and instead they crucified Him, and this promise has not yet been fulfilled. Of course, God foreknew they would and Christ had come to pay for the sins of the whole world (Ephesians 1). The Old Testament Saints that did believe on the coming Messiah will one day be bodily resurrected just after the Second Coming of Christ event and reside on Earth, in the 1000 year Kingdom Age on Earth, as promised. Some will be priests on Earth (Revelation 20:6) during the Kingdom Age to come as promised.

TRIBULATION PERIOD SAINTS DESTINATION

Those who die during the Tribulation Period to come upon the Earth, who were believers in Christ and who rejected the Mark of the Beast and who refused to worship the Antichrist as god, will be bodily resurrected along with OT Saints shortly after the Second Coming of Christ Event (Revelation 20:4-6) and will reside on the Earth in the promised 1000 year Kingdom Age. After the Tribulation Period the Second Coming happens and there will be a judgment seat of the nations called the **Sheep and Goats Judgment** for survivors of the Tribulation Period. Those who are believers (sheep) who survived the Great Tribulation (last 3.5 yrs of 7 year Tribulation Period), will enter the Kingdom Age in mortal bodies to start repopulating the Earth. All unbelievers who have survived will be put to death and their Spirit will go to Torments in Hades to await the final Great White Throne Judgment after the 1000 year Kingdom Age on Earth (Matthew 25:31-46).

CHURCH AGE SAINTS DESTINATION

When the Jews rejected Christ and crucified Him, God turned to save the Gentiles. Starting at Pentecost the Church Age began. Church Age Believers (The Bride Of Christ) are promised the New Heavenly Jerusalem. This is not on Earth but will come down out of Heaven (Rev. 21:2) at the Second Coming. Church Age believers will be Harpazo Raptured to this PLACE that Jesus has been preparing for His Bride for 2000 years now, as He promised the Church in John 14:1-3. It is a PHYSICAL PLACE PREPARED (John 14:1-3), while on Earth in the Kingdom Age, the Kingdom Age is a place that will be remade and rebuilt starting after the Second Coming. They are not the same place of residence.

Church Age believers will reside in the Heavenly New Jerusalem. Some will be Priests & Kings on Earth (Rev. 1:6, Revelation 5:10) during the Kingdom Age. These Saints will travel between the New Heavenly Jerusalem to the Earthly Jerusalem, on Earth. Travelling back and forth as needed. But only Church Age Saints will reside in the Heavenly New Jerusalem. Only those written in the Lamb's Book Of Life. It is being created and designed specifically for the Church Age believers.

The New Heavenly Jerusalem is not ON EARTH during the Kingdom Age. When the Second Coming Happens Scripture says the sun and moon will no longer give light. And it also says that the light needed will come from God in the New Heavenly Jerusalem, at a distance in space hovering Earth (Rev. 21:22-27). It is described in great detail in Rev 21 and it has physical dimensions of approximately 1500sq miles. Way too big to be actually on the Earth. Harpazo Raptured, born again believers, will return with Christ at the Second Coming Event (Revelation 19:14).

HADES; THE ABODE OF THE DEAD

Hades is the abode of the dead (Acts 2:27) and it had two compartments:
(i) Abraham's Bosom (paradise) and
(ii) Torments (Numbers 16:30, Psalm 31:17, Isaiah 5:14, Luke 16:19-26).

Old Testament believers who died went to Abraham's Bosom, where they remained waiting for the Messiah to come to Earth and be the final sacrifice for sins as promised. When Jesus died on the cross, Peter tells us in Scripture that Jesus went to Hades and proclaimed it is finished, announcing the good news to those in Abraham's Bosom (1 Peter 3:19). He then took all those in Abraham's Bosom with Him to Heaven (Ephesians 4:8-10). Abraham's Bosom is now an empty place but the Torments side in Hades continues to grow with lost souls.

Because Christ has already come from our perspective today, when a believer dies physically, our Spirit is with the Lord immediately (2 Corinthians 5:8). Our body goes to dust on Earth until the Harpazo Rapture of the Church Event when we will receive glorified eternal bodies (1 Cor. 15: 40-58, 1 Thes. 4:13-18).

All unbelievers from present and all the past when they died went to the Torments side of Hades. And sadly in our Christ rejecting world today, the number of people there continues to grow as time passes. At the End of the Kingdom Age on Earth, these unbelieving dead and the place of Hades itself will be bodily resurrected and will face the Second Death, an eternal death, judged and condemned and thrown into the eternal Lake of Fire (Rev. 20:14-15).

This is also where the devil and his evil angels will end up. In fact, it was created for THEM.

*“Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, **prepared for the devil and his angels:** “
(Matthew 25:41 KJV)*

God planned a way for people to be freed from the wages of their sin debt through belief in the the sinless life, death and rising again of the only begotten Son of God, Jesus, the Christ.

*“For the wages of sin is death; but **the gift of God** is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. “ (Romans 6:23 KJV)*

*“And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: **That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life. For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.**“ (John 3:14-18 KJV)*

*“Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you **the gospel** which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and **wherein ye stand; By which also ye are saved**, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have **believed in vain**. For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how **that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:**” (1 Corinthians 15:1-4 KJV)*

The Judgment Seats Explained

There are preachers teaching that there is ONE future Judgment Seat for us all. Others, there are two judgments by Christ to all people. The Biblical truth though by proper context is that there are actually THREE FUTURE JUDGEMENT SEATS Of CHRIST and each one is for a different set of people. How are they different? Who are they for? Let's see what Scripture actually tells us.

THE BEMA SEAT JUDGMENT OF BELIEVERS; THE CROSS TO THE PRE-TRIBULATION RAPTURE

This is the rewards judgment seat for believers in Christ who live and lived during the Church Age. Church Age believers will be Raptured off the Earth at some point prior to the Tribulation Period on Earth.

At this Judgment Seat, Christ will reward the good works of born again believers since the moment of their conversion. Only the Bride of Christ will be at this Judgment Seat. All believers from our current dispensation of the grace of God. All those who believed on Christ from the cross until the Pre-Tribulation Rapture, which in the Greek is Harpazo, where all believers in Christ are given new glorified bodies, as Christ now has, and we will meet the Lord in the air in the twinkling of an eye.

“But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words.” (1 Thess. 4:13-18 KJV)

In this passage there were some who thought they missed the Rapture Event when Christ would come to take His Bride home to Heaven before the Tribulation Period, Daniels 70th week. Paul writes to them in verse 14 to comfort them and to rebuke that false teaching that was around. Dead or alive, all who believe on Christ will be at the Rapture; the dead would rise and the living would be changed. All believers dead or alive will be there. We are not missing this event as believers in Christ for the world folks!

Right after the Rapture, comes **The Bema Judgment Seat Of Believers** By Christ. The word SIN is not even mentioned at the Bema judgment seat for believers in Scripture. Jesus already paid for the ALL the sins of THE WHOLE WORLD on the cross 2000 years ago (1 John 2:2) and Jesus said that *“whosoever believeth in Him HATH eternal life”* having been born again in the Spirit (John 3:5-6, 14-18). Apostle Paul wrote that we became eternally saved with the Holy Spirit indwelling *“... from the very moment of belief”* on Christ (Ephesians 1:13-14) and Christ exchanged His righteousness for our sin by imputation of God (2 Cor. 5:21) forever. That God perfected us in The Spirit at that very moment of belief on Christ

for righteousness (Hebrews 10:10-14, Colossians 2). A believer's sins were already, PAID IN FULL on the cross of Christ. A believer has become a new creation in the Spirit which has become the righteousness of God, IN CHRIST from the moment of belief on Christ (2 Cor. 5:17-21, Eph. 1:13-14). A believer already rose again in the Spirit *with Christ* in the Spirit and *is complete In Christ* in the present tense (Colossians 2). But our body and mind is still corrupt with this thing, a noun in Romans, called SIN and will one day at the Rapture be changed into an immortal glorified body. Until then, our Spirit is already perfected but our mind needs renewing still by God's Word (Romans 12) and we have work to do for Christ (Ephesians 2:10), with Christ in us, working through us.

"I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me." (Galatians 2:20 KJV)

We see at this Bema Judgment Seat that the works of believers, since they believed and were born again, will be judged. Good works with the right intentions and loving motives will receive rewards and there will also be loss of rewards for missed opportunities. Some believers who lived carnally after their moment of salvation by belief in Christ and HIS finished blood atonement for their sins, will have no rewards and will experience great regret.

Yet, no one at this judgment are going to be condemned nor lose salvation. They have *already* been Raptured and are in Heaven with Christ in glorified eternal bodies. Paul wrote that Believer's works will be tested by a Holy fire. Some works done with wrong intentions or with self righteousness motives will be burned as wood, hay and even stubble and will not receive a reward. Other good works with

remain as silver Gold and precious stones. Apostle Paul describes this future event as Christ told him. Writing to the worst example of a group of believers, the Corinthians, Paul is telling them that yes, they are saved by belief on Christ and His blood atonement for their sins but that how we live after our salvation and Spiritual rebirth does matter greatly! The Corinthians were living as babes in Christ when they should be off milk and living with better understanding and eating meat as more mature believers.

*“Now he that planteth and he that watereth are one: and every man shall receive his own reward according to HIS OWN LABOUR. For we are labourers TOGETHER WITH GOD: ye are God’s husbandry, ye are God’s building. According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man TAKE HEED HOW HE BUILDETH THEREUPON. For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, WHICH IS JESUS CHRIST. Now if any man build UPON THIS FOUNDATION gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; Every man’s work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man’s work of what sort it is. If any man’s work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. If any man’s work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: **BUT HE HIMSELF SHALL BE SAVED; YET SO AS BY FIRE.**” (1 Corinthians 3:8-15 KJV)*

This fire is the Holy Spirit within the believer with intimate details of everything we did in our life since our moment of salvation by belief on Christ alone for righteousness and justification. We see in this passage very clearly that once a person believes on Christ for righteousness that they are saved eternally. Christ lives in us as the Holy Spirit and we do have our part in allowing the Holy Spirit to do good works through us. Even so, Once saved. Always saved!

Now there are many teaching that a believer can lose their salvation and most teaching this have combined the Judgment Seats together into the Great White Throne Judgment which will be explained below. That is very wrong. There are THREE Judgment Seats in Scripture to occur in the future. NOT ONE!

For the believer that always has God in mind and is about the work of helping others come to Christ and doing good and acting in love toward others this will be a celebration much like an awards ceremony. You know what? There are many good works we may have done in our lives that we just forget. We lose memory of having done them even right. We forget. But God does not forget what we did! They are written in a book of our lives! And He will amazingly reward us for loving others. How gracious is that! I certainly know that NO GOOD THING comes from me without Christ working through my life! All glory to Him forever! Yet, He will give us rewards for our good works. The amazing grace of God indeed!

For the carnal minded saved believer who remained as babes in the faith, living carnally, they will see others getting rewards, while they may not receive any rewards except eternal life. It is better than eternity as an unbeliever but they will have great regret. My fellow believers in Christ; today, more than ever, we need to be at work for the Lord who saved us! Be bold in love towards others and help others come to the knowledge of the truth to make a decision to accept the gift of eternal life through belief on Christ crucified died and risen. Apostle Paul wrote for us to run the race of life for Christ to the very end of our lives.

SHEEP GOATS JUDGEMENT TO TRIBULATION SURVIVORS

Some are teaching that this judgment seat is the same as the Great White Throne Judgment but they are in error in doing so. In fact, doing so may mean a person is believing that they can lose salvation and that they have to work to remain saved which goes against just about every salvation passage in the entire Gospel of Grace. It goes against Jesus own teaching in John 3:5-6, 14-18, 36, John 6:37-40, Matthew 7:21-23 and Apostle Paul's writings in Ephesians 1:13-14, Ephesians 2:8-9, 1 Cor. 15:1-4, Colossians 2, Romans 5 & 6 just to mention a few.

First, it is very clear that this Judgment happens right *after* the Great Tribulation Period to come. The Bride of Christ is already Raptured and in Heaven before the Tribulation Period starts. This judgment seat is read about in Matthew 25. The very first word in Matthew 25 is the English translated word "THEN". So we need to find out, WHEN IS THE "THEN"? For that, we go back into Matthew 24 (Matthew was written as one continuous work without chapter references) and that brings us back to the only timing verse in Matthew 24:29 which clearly states this is going to happen AFTER the Tribulation. The Sheep and Goats Judgment is specifically for the judging of Tribulation survivors.

TWO GROUPS OF SURVIVORS; THE SHEEP & THE GOATS:

THE SHEEP... are those who believed that Christ is coming. They came to believe the 144,000 Jewish Evangelists that God will send along with the Two Witnesses who will be preaching that the Antichrist is not the real Christ and that the real Christ is coming. Most Tribulation Believers will be martyred during the persecution by the Antichrist. Others will reject the Mark of the Beast , without which no one can buy nor sell and will survive the persecution under great distress. They will endure great persecution. They

will be helping each other to survive. Helping the Brethren. Visiting those imprisoned, helping feed and cloth each other. Jesus will say to them, *“Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.” (Matthew 25:40 KJV)*

To these Christ gives them the Earthly 1000 year Kingdom Age on Earth. The Sheep will start repopulating the Earth in mortal bodies for 1000 years. PEACE ON EARTH for 1000 years.

THE GOATS... took the Mark of the beast in worship of the Antichrist as God, they turned in believers and Jews rejecting the Mark, to the Antichrist, they helped imprison people in great persecution. They did not give food nor shelter to the Sheep in desperate need. Jesus will say to them *“Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me.” (Matthew 25:45 KJV)* Christ will kill them quickly and their unsaved Spirits will go to the torments side of Hades to await the Great White Throne Judgment in a thousand years time.

“When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: 32 And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats: And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me. Then shall the

righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink? When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee? Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me. Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels: For I was an hungred, and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not. Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee? Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me. And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.” (Matthew 25:31-46 KJV)

THE GREAT WHITE THRONE JUDGMENT OF THE UNSAVED & THE SECOND DEATH

The Great White Throne Judgment Seat is sometimes also said to be a Bema Seat in that it looks like a Bema Seat, a raised platform where the King judges from. However, this judgment seat clearly has a different role than rewards of a saved believer. A very sober role. This is a judgment of condemnation where an unbelieving person who rejected Christ in their lifetime will be shown evidence of why they are condemned and this is shown by their works and deeds as evidence for sins that must be paid for by a Holy Just God and how they rejected the only way to have those sins forgiven; belief on Christ and HIS blood

atonement. A lifetime of sin debt! Jesus gave stern warning in Matthew 7:21-23 about relying on self righteous "*wonderful works*" for salvation. At this judgment the proud boastful unbelievers will be in shock to hear Jesus say to them the scariest words ever, "*I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.*" I hate thinking about this. I hate writing about this event but it is clear Biblical truth. Every person stands alone in deciding to accept the gift of salvation or to reject it.

God gives each person a free will to choose to accept or reject Christ (John 3:18).

A person either has their sins paid in full by accepting the gift of salvation (Eph. 2:8-9) by belief on Christ (John 3:14-18) or they reject the gift of salvation and must pay for their sins themselves. At the Great White Throne Judgment, what really determines the reason why they are being condemned is not their works, but that they rejected the only way to be saved from paying for their own sins; belief on Christ and His finished work on the cross. They are not found in the Lamb's Book of Life. Every believer on Christ for justification in salvation is written in this book, the moment they believe on Christ. Those at the Great White Throne Judgment are not found in this book. That is why they are standing in judgment at the Great White Throne and their works and sins are being judged.

"And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire." (Revelation 20:15 KJV)

That is the pivotal deciding factor at this judgment. NOTICE IT DOES NOT STATE THAT IF THEY HAD MORE GOOD WORKS THAN BAD WORKS THEY WILL BE SAVED. No! WORKS HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH SALVATION (Ephesians 2:8-9, Matthew 7:22-23, Galatians 3, Galatians 5:4-5).

Their works are just shown at this Judgment Seat *as damning evidence*. Apostle Paul is clear that, "*...the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal*

life through Jesus Christ our Lord.” (Romans 6:23 KJV). So, my point is that a person’s works are not mentioned in this judgment seat, as a determination of salvation. Belief on Christ alone decides that.

“He that BELIEVETH ON HIM is not condemned: but he that BELIEVETH NOT is condemned ALREADY, because he hath NOT BELIEVED in the name of the only begotten Son of God.” (John 3:18 KJV)

By rejecting the only payment for sins (The only begotten Son of God, who is God, Christ crucified died and risen) means paying for the sins yourself. All sin MUST be paid for; either by Christ on your behalf as a free gift to be received OR by yourself in self righteousness and boasting in your own goodness. Each of us has a free will to choose.

The Heavenly New Jerusalem.

Home Of The Bride Of Christ

The Amazing home of Church Age Saints is described in Revelation 21 and it is just an eye opening glimpse of it's true reality for our future as born again in the Spirit believers in Christ. We are the Bride of Christ and this is our real home in eternity. Apostle Paul wrote,

"For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. "
(Romans 8:18 KJV)

I believe this is describing both our new glorified bodies and our new place of residence. Jesus had Apostle John to write down a brief description of the New Heaven Jerusalem in the Book Of Revelation. And even this brief glimpse will most likely fall very short of how glorious it actually will be. Jesus promised us that He is going to prepare this place for us in John 14:1-3. It has been 2000 years since He stated this. Image how extraordinary it will be after all this time!

It is an enormous sized location. A massive 1500 miles cubed. Think about 1500 miles width across the USA and 1500 miles length in a flat square across a map. Now add 1500 miles height! To give you an image of this huge size I have created an example in comparison to Earth as a whole. It is not to scale but you get the point.

THE NEW JERUSALEM

HOME OF THE BRIDE OF CHRIST



Image By SeekKnockFind.org

GLORIOUS!

Here is what scripture says this place will be like from Revelation 21:10-27:

“And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, Having the glory of God: “

Can you just imagine how John was carried away from that prison Island of Pathos where he wrote down Revelation, directly to the future event and even seeing it himself with his own eyes!

“...and her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal; And had a wall great and high, and had twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and names written thereon, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel: On the east three gates; on the north three gates; on the south three gates; and on the west three gates. And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and in them the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. And he that talked with me had a golden reed to measure the city, and the gates thereof, and the wall thereof. And the city lieth foursquare, and the length is as large as the breadth: and he measured the city with the reed, twelve thousand furlongs. The length and the breadth and the height of it are equal. And he measured the wall thereof, an hundred and forty and four cubits, according to the measure of a man, that is, of the angel. And the building of the wall of it was of jasper: and the city was pure gold, like unto clear glass.”

John is describing in as much detail as he can fathom. He wrote *“unto clear glass”*. They never had such a material back then. But today we have building that are golden looking as clear glass on many sky scraper buildings. And these will even pail in comparison I bet! John tells us the actual dimensions as being *“the breadth and height of it are equal”*. Sounds like a cube shape. He gives the enormous size of it too using furlongs. Today converted is 1400-1500 square miles! John continues in his in depth description,

“And the foundations of the wall of the city were garnished with all manner of precious stones. The first foundation was jasper; the second, sapphire; the third, a chalcedony; the fourth, an emerald; The fifth, sardonyx; the sixth, sardius; the seventh, chrysolite; the eighth, beryl; the ninth, a topaz; the tenth, a chrysoprasus; the eleventh, a jacinth; the twelfth, an amethyst. And the twelve gates were twelve pearls: every several gate was of one pearl: and the street of the city was pure gold, as it were transparent glass. “

Wow! Look up those stone names on google! Exceedingly brilliant, spectacular is this place! And in the next part of the passage we see a clear indicator that the New Heavenly Jerusalem and the Earthly Jerusalem are not the same. In the Kingdom Age it is clear by Scripture that the rebuilt temple will be on Earth, but here it says,

“And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it.”

Again another reason by Scripture that this place will hover at some distance from the Earth in space, the heavens, is that the sun and moon lose their light near the Second Coming as Jesus foretold in Matthew 24,

“Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken: “ (Matthew 24:29 KJV)

Although speculation, it could be that Earth is thrown off orbit as stars are falling from Heaven and the sun is darkened and moon shall not even give Earth light. The entire Earth will be in darkness just when they see the Second Coming Of Christ appearing and heading toward Earth! The New Jerusalem is a huge place, a huge shining brilliant cube heading for Earth in space and seen by all.

“And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof. And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: “

The New Heavenly Jerusalem will replace the sun for the Earth! It will hover at a distance in space.

“...and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honour into it. And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day: for there shall be no night there. And they shall bring the glory and honour of the nations into it. “

Some of the Church Age Saints will become Kings and Priests on Earth helping rule and reign in the Kingdom Age. Travelling back and forth to their eternal home. Only a Bride of Christ member can enter the New Heavenly Jerusalem because all

who reside there are as righteous as Christ (2 Cor. 5:21) and have zero sin. But on Earth in the Kingdom Age will be mortal people and sin is still an issue, even with Christ on Earth. Such cannot ever enter this place. Only those written in the Lamb's Book Of Life may enter this most Holy place and that is Church Age Believers who were resurrected with glorified bodies.

*“And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: **but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.**” (Revelation 21:10-27 KJV)*

When Does The New Jerusalem Come Down Out Of Heaven?

*“And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, **and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.**” Rev. 21:2-3 KJV)*

Some are teaching that this does not happen until the end of the 1000 year Millennium reign of Christ on Earth. They believe this because of the previous chapter, Revelation 20, where it describes what will happen at the end of the 1000 year Kingdom Age. But wait a minute, if you think about it, in Revelation 20, it is just discussing about Satan and His Angels and all those who rejected the great gift of salvation through belief on Christ, and where their final destination is going to be. It shows the Great White Throne Judgment of all the dead who rejected Christ. All at that final destination are going to be condemned because they are not found in the *Book Of Life*, which contains the names of every person who ever lived who was not blotted out because of unbelief on Christ at their death. It is not a chronological order between chapter 19 and 21. It is like an insert to discuss what will happen to the unredeemed and the devil and his angels and how it will take place. It is written as warning to people to repent and believe the Gospel of salvation.

Then John goes back to writing about the start of the Kingdom Age Millennium reign of Christ on Earth. Look closely at how Revelation 20 starts,

*“And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, **and bound him a thousand years,**” (Revelation 20:1-2 KJV)*

We see here that John is starting Revelation 20 at just after the Second Coming Of Christ where the devil and his evil angels will be bound in the Abyss for 1000 years, that is, bound *before* the Kingdom Age. John from there just goes on to write what will happen to satan, his fallen angels and unbelievers eventually.

“And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.

But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection.

Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.

And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison,”

Do you see it now? John just continues on the topic of satan and those who have rejected Christ. The Sheep Goats judgment of Matthew 25 is an exact mirror of what we see in this passage. At that time, the believing Tribulation saints who were killed or died during the Tribulation Period will be bodily resurrected and live and reign with Christ in the 1000 year Kingdom Age. This is the first resurrection of Old Testament Saints. They will reside on Earth in the Kingdom Age as promised to them.

John then ends the discussion of what will happen to unbelievers and the devil and his angels with a tell tale, that satan and his evil angels will be let our of the bottomless pit after the 1000 year Kingdom Age has ended. Satan will have one last rebellion on Earth to deceive those at this time. It is shocking to many that with Christ ruling on Earth, with no more temptations and scheming of the devil, in a perfect Earth, that many born in the Kingdom Age will still decide not to believe and accept Christ and rebel. However, John is clear here that at the end of the 1000 year Kingdom Age *“a number of whom is as the sand of the sea”* will line themselves with satan in rebellion against Christ!

*“And when the thousand years **are expired**, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison, And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog, and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea. And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them. And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever. And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven*

fled away; and there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: 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. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.”

Here John concludes what will happen to the unbelieving who reject Christ, who are siding with the devil and his evil angels. The topic is done. Now in Revelation 21, he is going back to the time of the Second Coming where he started in Revelation 20.

This is why I believe the New Heavenly Jerusalem comes down out of Heaven at the Second coming and not the end of the Kingdom Age. All the Bride of Christ reside in it and they are returning to Earth WITH CHRIST. Jesus will lay His feet on the Mount of Olives. He will do all He said He would do. He will defeat the enemies at Armageddon gathered against Him, He will hold The Sheep Goats Judgment. He will start The 1000 year Promised Kingdom Age!

This is written as a great encouragement for people to believe on Christ and get eternally saved by belief on Christ and His once for all blood atoning sacrifice (Hebrews 10) for the sins of the whole world (1 John 2:2). This is how I see it and it makes sense by the Scriptures in Matthew 24 and Revelation 21 as well. Everything stated by Jesus just lines up.

“And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.” (Revelation 21:1 KJV)

Now let's compare this to the description Isaiah gave those in the Old Testament as an encouragement about the final destination of those who will believe which is not the New Jerusalem but the Earthly Jerusalem on Earth in the Kingdom Age promised by God to come,

“For, behold, I create new heavens and a new earth: and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind. But be ye glad and rejoice for ever in that which I create: for, behold, I create Jerusalem a rejoicing, and her people a joy. And I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and joy in my people: and the voice of weeping shall be no more heard in her, nor the voice of crying. There shall be no more thence an infant of days, nor an old man that hath not filled his days: for the child shall die an hundred years old; but the sinner being an hundred years old shall be accursed.” (Isaiah 65:17-20 KJV)

Sound familiar? This sure looks exactly the same as Rev. 21 and the timing is at the start of the 1000 year Kingdom Age where Christ is ruling on Earth, the New Jerusalem hovering a certain distance from the Earth in space.

Satan's Final Rebellion

Shows How The Earthly and Heavenly Jerusalem Are Not The Same Place

When we look closely at Rev 20:9 it describes the final rebellion after Satan is released for a short time near the end of the 1000 year Reign of Christ on Earth.

*“And they went up **on the breadth of the earth**, and compassed **the camp of the saints** about, **and the beloved city**: and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them.” (Revelation 20:9 KJV)*

Let us look at this verse as written in the Greek to gain a better understanding about this beloved city to see clues that shed light on this topic:

It says that those rebelling against Christ and being led by Satan, “went **UP** on the **BREADTH** of the Earth”. The Strong's Greek concordance for this word 'UP' is 'anabainō' and means 'to climb...to ascend'. The Strong's Greek concordance for the word 'BREADTH' is 'platos' and means '**a great extent**'.

The original Strong's Greek concordance for 'EARTH' is 'gē' and means '**the earth as a whole, the earth as opposed to the heavens**'.

This verse is mentioning not one location on Earth, but two locations! One is the camp of the saints (Jerusalem on Earth) and the other the *'Beloved city'*. It does not state one place being attacked in this final rebellion led by the devil. It seems to indicate an attack on the camp of the saints on Earth and a Beloved City. Is this the city of Jerusalem on Earth? Is that the beloved city? Another question comes to mind and that is, won't believers be found all around the globe and not just in this camp on Earth? So who exactly is the devil and the rebellious humans trying to attack? Well, who is ruling and reigning on Earth? Who is running the world system at that time? Jesus and the resurrected saints, that's who! Everyone else is still mortal from the start of the Kingdom Age, who are the ones who repopulated the Earth in mortal human bodies. It seems like the devil and those siding with him, will attack two places where Jesus and the saints reside.

"...and compassed the camp of the saints about, AND the beloved city..."

Ephesians 1:6 shows believers are the *'beloved'* and it is the very same word as used here in Rev 20 in the Strong's Greek Concordance. It is the Greek word 'agapaō'.

The Camp of the Saints is not a place of permanence. The saints place of permanence that Jesus is preparing for us (John 14) is the New Jerusalem which is right now residing in Heaven. At the Second Coming, glorified Saints will return with Christ from Heaven, where the New Jerusalem is now located and will be ruling and reigning on Earth with Christ. Apparently, we will be ruling and reigning from this *'Earthy camp'*, which is headquartered in Jerusalem where Christ rules on Earth from. Just like an army has stations around the globe, it is a remote camp that is away from the homeland. This is a camp on Earth where the Saints reside while away from home in the New Heavenly Jerusalem, ruling with Christ on Earth.

Satan and those who side with him for this final rebellion are where? They are on the Earth. So what is this great distance to the *beloved city* all about then? It seems to be the very city where Jesus is sitting on the throne on Earth; the city of Jerusalem on Earth. Those siding with Satan will come from all over the Earth, wherever they are, in a final rebellion against Christ and the Saints. And they will be utterly defeated as God send fire from Heaven (space) and kills them all physically.

Revelation 5 shows us that all glorified at the Rapture event may have been raptured to the third Heaven and the New Heavenly Jerusalem, but we will also be made kings and priests and will be ruling and reigning with Christ in the Kingdom Age, which is the 1000 Year Reign of Christ and His saints on Earth.

*“And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; **And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign ON THE EARTH.**”(Revelation 5:9-10 KJV)*

It may also be that ruling saints are able to travel between Earth and their real home in the New Heavenly Jerusalem in space during the Kingdom Age. We will already have been resurrected and have the same body characteristics that Jesus now has. That is a possibility too. Maybe, we go back and forth between the New Jerusalem and the temporary ‘camp’ on the Earth for our duties in the Kingdom Age as Kings and Priests. Whatever the case will actually be, God will give us meaningful and purposeful work in the ruling of the world during the Kingdom age; the 1000 year reign of Christ over the Earth.

The Bible gives us some clues about what we will be doing in the Millennium Reign of Christ. The Saints will be judges (Psalms 149:9) and officers of peace (Isaiah 60:17). Some Saints will be made kings in helping Christ rule (Job 36:7) and some will be teachers (Jeremiah 3:15) likely all will teach to some degree). These Scriptures show us that these are very plausible ways of work the Saints will perform in the coming Kingdom on Earth.

With bodies that never die, and perfected knowledge of truth, the Saints have the same kind of body that Jesus has since His resurrection. After His resurrection Jesus walked around on Earth for 40 days! He just appeared through a locked door when He greeted the Disciples and scared the gajeebies out of them at first. (Yes God does have a sense of humour!). Jesus could walk through locked doors. He appeared out of now where. He disappeared from one place and was in another place instantaneously. The Saints will have that same ability and will instantaneously be able to leave the New Jerusalem and appear on Earth to rule and reign. This is speculation though as the Bible is not really perfectly clear on this. We do know that on Earth is a CAMP – not a place of permanence. It is a temporary dwelling. That could be referencing just that we will be away from our real home, the New Beloved City Jerusalem. The Bible does not seem to be clear on this because the focus is the Kingdom Age and the fact that we will be ruling and reigning with Christ, and the final defeat of satan and his angels, and all who go along with him in this rebellion will be done with and over.

There will also be vast knowledge about Christ and Salvation in Christ during the Kingdom Age. He is here RULING physically on Earth! The saints (believers Raptured) will be doing as Christ did in His first coming to Earth; teaching in love, the truth while also ruling in judgment to keep the Earth at complete peace. Toward the end of the 1000 years though we see that a massive number of people are rejecting Christ and Satan is released from his

imprisonment to deceive them and gather them together for one final rebellion against Christ. They will be swiftly defeated and killed by Christ.

WHAT ABOUT THE REBUILT EARTHLY TEMPLE IN ISRAEL?

The Bible tells us that the Rebuilt Temple in Israel will be in full operation during the Kingdom period. During the Millennium, Israel will perform daily sacrifices as was in Old Testament days. But didn't Christ already pay for the sins? The Saints are already in their immortal perfect state of being now? Why go back to the Old Testament Sacrifices? For the same reasons the Jewish people did in the Old Testament days. It was never done to atone for their sins, but was done as a foreshadowing of what the Messiah (Jesus Christ) would do on the cross in their future (Hebrews 10). It was a remembrance of what Christ WILL DO to forgive them of their sins. Those in the Millennial Reign of Christ will do this, not to atone for sins; Christ already did that in the past tense. The sacrifices begin again as reminder to those mortal humans born in the Millennium Reign of Christ just how horrible sin is. As a remembrance looking back at what Christ did on the cross. In Revelation 21, there is no temple found in the New Heavenly Jerusalem. Again, showing two destinations, not one.

Christ will rule the nations with a *'rod of iron'* (Revelation 2:5, Revelation 19:15). Jesus once came to us as a baby in a manger, as our Savior. At the Second Coming He comes as the Lion of Judah, in great power. He comes to thwart satan and take over the world. Believe me when I say that today satan rules much of the world system. The media, the governments, religions, even many so called 'Christian' religions! Our music and television. The Internet. Advertising. Corporate marketing, corporate greed. Look closely and you can see how deceived we really are. Satan has deceived the whole world! (Revelation 12:9) The Bible is the only thing telling us the truth! And the truth in believing and receiving

Christ's atonement as God's only begotten Son, is the only way out of receiving the wrath of God coming upon the world.

There will be swift and severe consequences for evil and disobedience to the mortal humans living in the Millennium. Jesus will make the world such a wonderful place to be. There will be no more war (Isaiah 2:4). Mortal humans will live long lives. So long that living only 100 years old will be looked at as a curse by God.

*“There shall be no more thence an infant of days, nor an old man that hath not filled his days: for the child shall die an hundred years old; but the sinner being an hundred years old **shall be accursed**. And they shall build houses, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and eat the fruit of them. They shall not build, and another inhabit; they shall not plant, and another eat: for as the days of a tree are the days of my people, and mine elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands.”
(Isaiah 65:20-22 KJV).*

Jesus is ruling in strictness now. Some who rebel against Him will be given short lives and others put to death even. Rebellion will not be tolerated. He will not allow vast rebellions any longer.

Satan has been bound for the entire 1000 years and can not deceive the people. Even though satan is bound and unable to influence humankind, those born in the Millennium still have the fleshly sin nature. They can still sin. They still need to make a choice to accept the Salvation provided by Christ! They can also and will eventually die as mortals. The sacrificing is restarted because they need to know how severe a consequence sin is. Blood is required. The blood of Christ!

As the Old Testament Jewish peoples used the Sacrifices to remind them what Jesus would do on the cross in their future to forgive their sins, the Millennial people on Earth will have it to remind them the great sacrifice Jesus Christ

accomplished in blood, in their past, to redeem them. To show them how terrible sin really is. To show them their need for Salvation.

About The Author

Don Gerrity is not a preacher. He is not a leader of a church organization. He uses his talents in writing to help share the Gospel to the lost and to help encourage other believers. Don does not lead in an organization, nor an organizational church, though he does frequent many of the top Facebook Christian groups.



Don is owner of the SeekKnockFind.org website.

A growing FREE resource with Christian articles, YouTube video playlists and links to other Christian resources. The goal of the SeekKnockFind.org website is to help new believers expand their knowledge of the truth in Salvation through Jesus Christ and to show non-believers why Christianity and the Holy Bible can be believed with full assurance that the Bible is the truth.



SeekKnockFind.org

Selected Bibliography

The late Dr. James Vernon McGee. Faith + 0 = Salvation. Thru the Bible Radio Network, Revised 2006.

The Late Grant R. Jeffrey. Heaven, The Last Frontier. Frontier Research Publications. January 1990.

The late Jack Kelly. Understanding Revelation. Grace Thru Faith Ministry. www.gracethrufaith.com.