THE DAY OF THE LORD
- A Judgment Day -

*The return of Christ in glory will be a judgment event! The righteous will be rewarded, and those who have stubbornly rejected Him will be condemned and punished on that day.*

He will return at the end of the 6th millennium. He will resurrect every person who has entered into covenant. Some have remained faithful to that covenant. Others have not. All will be raised to face Him. Also raised will be those who knew of Him, but who refused to acknowledge Him as LORD.

Not raised on this day, will be those millions who were never reached - those who had no knowledge, or very limited knowledge of the God of Israel. They will sleep on thru the 7th millennium, to be raised at The 8th Day (Rev. 20:5). We could say that the judgment of the great “Day of the LORD” will involve only the informed, but especially the “called.”

THE SECOND COMING - REWARD AND JUDGMENT

**Revelation 22:12**  “And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his work.”

**Matthew 16:27**  “For the Son of Man will come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and then He will reward each according to his works.”

*Both the righteous and the wicked are “rewarded” according to their works.*

*No one has been rewarded - yet.*

**2 Peter 2:9**  “The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished:” (KJV)

*No one is being punished now. The unjust are reserved (in death) for the judgment day.*
Revelation 11:15-18  [The seventh angel sounded.] “The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever!” [This is Daniel 7:14] The twenty-four elders worship God saying, ’We give You thanks, O Lord God Almighty, The One who is and who was and who is to come, Because You have taken Your great power and reigned. The nations were angry, and Your wrath has come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that You should reward Your servants the prophets and the saints, and those who fear Your name, small and great, and should destroy those who destroy the earth.”

Judgment day for the dead, will be the day of reward for those who have remained faithful.

2 Timothy 4:1  “I charge you therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom:"

The wicked who have died, will be raised to face judgment, at the appearing of Christ.

Romans 2:5  “But in accordance with your hardness and your impenitent heart you are treasuring up for yourself wrath in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God,”

Jude 1:14-15  “Now Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about these men also, saying, ’Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints [holy ones], to execute judgment on all, to convict all who are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have committed in an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him.’”

Jesus said He would come - with His holy angels - who would cast the tares into a furnace.

Matthew 13:47-50  “So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come forth, separate the wicked from among the just, and cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth.”

NOTE: The “furnace of fire” is the earth, which “will be burned up” (2 Pet. 3:10). (See pgs 70-71, for comments on “gnashing of teeth”.)

Matthew 25:31-41  “When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats. And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left. Then the King will say to those on His right hand,’Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world’ . . . Then He will also say to those on the left hand, ‘Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels:’”

We will address the “everlasting fire” in an upcoming study. Here we simply wish to show that the return of Christ IS a judgment event.

2 Peter 3:7 "But the heavens and the earth which are now preserved by the same word, are reserved
for fire until the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.”
In context Peter is definitely writing about events associated with the Second Coming.

**Luke 12:46** [Parable] “...the master of that servant will come on a day when he is not looking for him, and at an hour when he is not aware, and will cut him in two and appoint him his portion with the unbelievers.”

**Matthew 25:30** [Parable] “...And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

*Judgment and retribution will come on “a day” - at a specific point in time. All of the wicked will be judged on that day.*

THE EARTH WILL BE BURNED & THE WICKED ALONG WITH IT.

**Isaiah 13:6** “Wail, for the day of the LORD is at hand! It will come as destruction from the Almighty.”

**Psalm 11:6-7** “Upon the wicked He will rain coals; Fire and brimstone and a burning wind shall be the portion of their cup.” *Then upright men will see His face!*

*Wow! Upright men will see His face. That’s the Second Coming!*

**Malachi 4:1** “‘For behold, the day is coming, burning like an oven, And all the proud, yes, all who do wickedly will be stubble. And the day which is coming shall burn them up,’ Says the LORD of hosts, ‘That will leave them neither root nor branch.’”

**Isaiah 13:9-13** “Behold, the day of the LORD comes, Cruel, with both wrath and fierce anger, To lay the land desolate; And He will destroy its sinners from it. For the stars of heaven and their constellations will not give their light; The sun will be darkened in its going forth, And the moon will not cause its light to shine. ‘I will punish the world for its evil, And the wicked for their iniquity; I will halt the arrogance of the proud, And will lay low the haughtiness of the terrible. I will make a mortal more rare than fine gold, A man more than the golden wedge of Ophir. Therefore I will shake the heavens, And the earth will move out of her place, In the wrath of the LORD of hosts And in the day of His fierce anger.’”

*NOTE: The earth will be impacted by something so massive or so powerful, that the earth will literally be pushed out of its orbit. The seven last plagues will result, leaving the earth without inhabitant. Those delivered on that day will be “rare” as fine gold.*

**2 Peter 3:10** “But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up.”

**Mark 13:31** “*Heaven and earth will pass away . . .*” *(See also Lk 21:33, Matt. 24:36.)*
Hebrews 6:7-8  “For the earth . . . If it bears thorn and briers, it is rejected . . . whose end is to be burned.”

Zephaniah 1:14-18  “. . . On the day of the Lord’s wrath; And all the earth will be devoured in the fire of His jealousy, For He will make a complete end, Indeed a terrifying one, Of all the inhabitants of the earth.” NAS

Luke 17:26-30  “And as it was in the days of Noah, so it will be also in the days of the Son of Man: . . . the flood came and destroyed them all. Likewise as it was also in the days of Lot: . . . on the day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven and destroyed them all. Even so will it be in the day when the Son of Man is revealed.”

Only those who got on the boat, survived the flood of Noah’s day. Only those who got out of Sodom survived the fire of that day. And only those who go with Christ to the Father’s House will survive “the Day of the LORD.”

Genesis 6:13  “And God said to Noah, ‘The end of all flesh has come before Me, for the earth is filled with violence through them; and behold, I will destroy them with the earth.’”

Many of the prophecies written by Jeremiah and other prophets of the Old Testament, were dual prophecies. They predicted the coming destruction of the land of Judea by the Babylonians, but they also predict the destruction of the whole earth at the Day of the LORD.

BOTH SAVED AND LOST - will be resurrected on THAT DAY.

Daniel 12:1-3  “There will be a time of distress such as has not happened from the beginning of nations until then [the trumpet warning events]. But at that time your people—everyone whose name is found written in the book—will be delivered. Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake: some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt.” NIV

NOTICE: Those raised on this day are divided: Some are given “everlasting life” AND some are raised to “shame and everlasting contempt.”

“Everlasting contempt” is a forever judgment. No one will be recovered from “everlasting contempt.”

I also do not believe that the LORD, having judged them and left them to die horribly in the last plagues, will resurrect them again at a future time to punish them again.

NOTE: The fulfillment of this prophecy, was placed at “the time of the end.” (See v.4, v.9, v.13.) Daniel would “arise” to his own “inheritance at the end of the days” (Dan. 12:13).

NOTE: This resurrection is for “multitudes” (#07227) but NOT for ALL of those “who sleep in the dust.”

John 5:28-29  “Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice and come forth – those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those
who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation."

**NOTE:** In context, Jesus was talking to Jews. At “the hour,” “all” Israel will be resurrected to face judgment.

**Acts 24:15** “I have hope in God, which they themselves also accept, that there will be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and the unjust.”

**Matthew 26:64** Christ told the high priest who condemned him: “hereafter you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power, and coming on the clouds of heaven.”

**NOTE:** Certainly - no one thinks that Caiaphas will be raised to everlasting life.

**Revelation 1:7** “Behold, He is coming with clouds, and every eye will see Him, and they also who pierced Him.”

**NOTE:** Those who “pierced Him” were the Jewish authorities. The LORD did not hold the Roman soldiers responsible for His death. He prayed, “Father forgive them - they know not what they do” (Luke 23:34). Their sin was one of ignorance, which was therefore forgiven.

**Romans 2:5-11** “But because of your stubbornness and your unrepentant heart, you are storing up wrath against yourself for the day of God’s wrath, when his righteous judgment will be revealed. God will repay each person according to what they have done.’ 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.” (NIV) [Paul then says that both Jews and Gentiles will receive their due reward or punishment.] “For God does not show favoritism.”

**NOTE:** Once again - two types of people will be repaid on this “day of God’s wrath - “those who do evil” and “everyone who does good.”

**NOTE:** One cannot be said to have stubbornly rejected something which was never presented. Only those who have heard the truth will be judged on that day.

**LOT’S WIFE - a type of those left behind**

As in the story of Lot, those faithful to covenant will be gathered by angels and removed, before all life is destroyed by fire. Lot (and therefore his family) was in covenant. He had been circumcised by Abraham (Gen. 17:23). Lot’s wife represents those who once entered into covenant, but whose hearts still belong to this world - not to Christ. She “looked back” (Gen. 19:15-29). Her heart was in Sodom. She was “turned to a pillar of salt” and was left behind. Abraham is a type of Christ, in this story. He interceded for Sodom, just as Christ intercedes for those in covenant.

**DAY OF ATONEMENT - Judgment day for the lost.**
This day will be both a day of judgment, AND a day of deliverance. Yom Kippur (the Day of Atonement) was the day when Israel anciently faced judgment. Those who refused to bring a sin offering prior to that day, and to humble their hearts toward the LORD were “cut off” from the people on that day (Lev. 23:29).

THOSE WHO REJECTED CHRIST OR HIS DISCIPLES
- RAISED ON THAT DAY

Matthew 10:14-15 “And whoever will not receive you nor hear your words, when you depart from that house or city, shake off the dust from your feet. Assuredly, I say to you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah in the day of judgment than for that city!”

Matthew 12:41 “The men of Nineveh will rise up in the judgment with this generation and condemn it, because they repented at the preaching of Jonah; and indeed a greater than Jonah is here.”

Matthew 12:42 “The Queen of the South will rise up in the judgment with this generation and condemn it, for she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and indeed a greater than Solomon is here.”

The Queen of Sheba, and the people of Nineveh will be resurrected at the judgment day, and will condemn the people of Christ’ day. Now that is an interesting thought!

Matthew 11:23-24 “And you, Capernaum, who are exalted to heaven, [by the presence of Christ Himself] will be brought down to Hades; for if the mighty works which were done in you had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day. But I say to you that it shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom in the day of judgment than for you.”

Mark 6:11 “And whoever will not receive you nor hear you, when you depart from there, shake off the dust under your feet as a testimony against them. Assuredly, I say to you, it will be more tolerable for Sodom and Gomorrah in the day of judgment than for that city!”

NOTE: The verses from Matthew, Mark and Luke tell me that those who heard the truth (or refused to hear the truth) will be judged on the day that Jesus returns in glory.

| Of those called - some will not listen. |
| Of those invited - some will not come. |
| Of those circumcised in flesh - most were not circumcised in heart. |
| Of those rich in the “things of God” - most were poor in true understanding. |

ONLY THE INVITED (THE CALLED) ARE JUDGED
I believe that those who never received the invitation—those who never heard the call—will NOT be judged when Christ returns. They are “the rest of the dead,” who will “not live again until the thousand years [of the 7th millennium] are finished” (Revelation 20:5).

Matthew 8:12 “But the sons of the kingdom will be cast out into outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

NOTE: In context Jesus said that believing Gentiles will be welcomed into the Kingdom of God, while the hypocritical Jews (who believed they were “sons of the Kingdom”) will be “cast out.” They believed they were guaranteed a place in the Kingdom because they were Israelites. Christ is the light of the Kingdom. To be without Him will be “outer darkness.”

Matthew 22:13-14 [Parable] “Then the king said to the servants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. For many are called, but few are chosen.’”

NOTE: Those repeatedly invited to the wedding feast (Israel and specifically the Jews of Christ’s day) refused the invitation, and even beat and killed the “servants of the King.” He then sent his servants to invite “anyone who would come” “both bad and good” (Gentiles included). When the King arrived at the feast he saw a man who did not have on a “wedding garment” (The white garment provided with the invitation, represents the imputed righteousness of Christ.) This is the man who was cast out. He thought his own righteousness was good enough.

THE IGNORANT

1 Timothy 1:12-13 [Paul writes.] “And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord who has enabled me, because He counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry, although I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and an insolent man; but I obtained mercy because I did it ignorantly in sincere unbelief.”

Acts 17:30 “Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent,”

John 9:41 “Jesus said to them, ‘If you were blind, you would have no sin; but now you say, ‘We see.’ Therefore your sin remains.”’

Hebrews 9:7 “But into the second part the high priest went alone once a year, not without blood, which he offered for himself and for the people’s sins committed in ignorance;”

NOTE: Sins “committed in ignorance” are covered by the blood of Christ.

THE PUNISHMENT OF THE UNREPENTANT - ON THAT DAY

To understand punishment death, we have only to study the death of our Savior. He suffered
“punishment death.”

The punishment is not death itself. The punishment is the suffering. The punishment is in knowing that one is shut out, rejected, cut off, separated forever - that one has missed out on the best life imaginable - life with God. The punishment is in knowing that one will cease to exist, and that no one will long grieve or even remember. This punishment Jesus Christ endured.

“Father. Why have you forsaken Me?” In His mind, He was forever separated from God. In that moment He did not foresee His glorious resurrection. He was blinded to all hope, by the forces of darkness. Faith comes from God, and God separated Himself from His Son - therefore all hope was gone. He did not need to die the “second death.” He could not - else He would not now live. (He could not have been resurrected.) He endured the punishment of the lost, believing His death and therefore His separation from God, would be permanent. His death was actually a release, as it will be for the lost.

Jesus died “because of sin” - in place of sinners. He “tasted death for every man” (Heb. 2:9). He became a curse for us (Gal. 3:13), and the “curse of the law is death.”

Jesus did not die in faith, looking forward to resurrection. He died the death which the lost will die - aware of eternal separation, exclusion and rejection. This is the death we are spared, we who live in Him.

The cross displayed the full wrath of God, poured out without mercy. It was a revelation of the pain which sin has brought to the heart of Our Heavenly Father.

Jesus Christ was resurrected BECAUSE He never sinned. There was no sin in Him, for God to reject.

The saved will be given eternal life because Christ has been given “dominion” of the earth. He has won the right to choose them for His kingdom. The lost will be destroyed, because they refused Him. They refused healing.

Anciently, on the Day of Atonement, the unrepentant were “cut off” from Israel - and from God. Jesus was “cut off.” He was “the Lord’s goat.” I see both the Day of Atonement prophecy (for Christ) AND the Passover prophecy (for the people) fulfilled on the day that Christ died.

This dual fulfillment may be repeated at the end of this age. The wicked will be “cut off” while destruction will “pass over” those sealed of God.

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THOSE RAISED TO CONDEMNATION:

Those who have forsaken the covenant (Heb. 6:4-6) (Ezek. 14:8) (Deut. 29:18-29)
He who eats the Lord’s Supper (Passover Bread) in an unworthy manner (1Cor. 11:29)
Those who blaspheme against the Holy Spirit (Mk. 3:29)
Evil doers (Jn. 5:29) (1Tim. 1:9-10) (Rev. 21:8)
Those committed to rebellious sin (Num. 15:30)
Hypocrites (Mat. 23:14)
The unforgiving (Lk. 6:37, Mat. 6:15)
Those who judge others (Lk. 6:37)
Unbelievers (Jn. 3:18)
Those who treat parents with contempt (Deut. 27:16)
Those who say that they "know Him" but do not keep His commandments (1Jn. 2:4)

THE CONDEMNED WILL DIE

Those "raised to shame" at the Second Coming will die - in realization of permanent separation from God. I personally do not believe that God will resurrect them again - to suffer punishment over again, after the 7th millennium.

WHO WILL NOT BE CONDEMNED

Romans 8:1 "There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit."

Psalm 91:5-9:
You shall not be afraid of the terror by night,
Nor of the arrow that flies by day,
Nor of the pestilence that walks in darkness,
Nor of the destruction that lays waste at noonday.
A thousand may fall at your side,
And ten thousand at your right hand; But it shall not come near you.
Only with your eyes shall you look, And see the reward of the wicked.
Because you have made the LORD, who is my refuge,
Even the Most High, your dwelling place . . ."

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WHAT WILL BRING THE END OF THIS AGE?

Daniel 12:7 [In a vision] "The man clothed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, lifted his right hand and his left hand toward heaven, and I heard him swear by him who lives forever,
saying, ‘It will be for a time, times and half a time. When the power of the holy people has been finally broken, all these things will be completed.’” NIV

When no others can hear the witness or be won to the truth, because the people of God have been silenced - that’s when it’s over. The “power of the holy people” is their witness for the truth. Jesus said, “You will receive power . . . and you will be my witnesses” (Acts 1:8).

When every witness has been imprisoned, or is dead, or is in hiding because of the death edict - that’s when it’s over. A death edict WILL BE ISSUED by the Beast power. The story of Esther tells us this. The story of King Nebuchadnezzar and his golden image tells us this. Satan knows this. He knows that when he has silenced the last witness for the truth - Jesus Christ will return for judgment. He knows this - but he cannot help himself. His hatred, of Christ and of the people of God, will drive him on.

CHAPTER SUMMARY

1. Yeshua Messiah (Jesus Christ) will return in glory at the end of this age.

2. Christ will resurrect every person who knew of His existence and His Law. (This includes the intentionally ignorant - those who just would not listen.)

3. He will deliver and reward those who entered into covenant and remained faithful.

4. He will judge and condemn those who have forsaken their covenant with Him.

5. He will judge and condemn those who refused to honor Him and to obey His Law.

6. The condemned will die in the last plagues (bowls of wrath) and their bodies will burn up with the earth.

7. The condemned will never be resurrected again. Their cases will be reviewed in the final judgment, but these persons will never be raised to continue their lives.

We will consider the final judgment and the “lake of fire” in an upcoming study.

8. Christ will NOT at this time resurrect the ignorant who never knew of Him.

9. The ignorant (“the blind” - the unaware and uninformed - including children) will sleep on - thru the 7th millennium. They are “the rest of the dead” who will be raised to continue their lives - at The 8th Day.
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