

Seeking My King & His Kingdom
28 Who's In The Dragnet?

It is vital we recognize the 3 judgments which must be kept distinct.

1. Judgment Seat of Christ - This judgment will take place when the Lord returns in the air to receive His Church to Himself, the Rapture. Only those who are members of His Church are present for the review and reward of faithful service. [Rom. 14:10; II Cor. 5:10]

2. Judgment of the Sheep & Goats

This judgment will take place when Christ returns to earth to usher in His Millennial Kingdom. It is the judgment of the Gentiles who have survived the 7 year Tribulation Period.

3. Great White Throne Judgment: This judgment takes place at the end of time, after the 1000 year Millennial Kingdom of Jesus Christ and the last rebellion of Satan. [Rev. 20:11]

a. ALL lost souls will be arraigned at this judgment to hear to pronouncement of their doom to the Lake of Fire.

The judgment to which you will appear depends upon your relationship to Jesus Christ.

I Corinthians 10:32 Don't become a stumbling block to Jews or Greeks or to the church of God. In broad strokes the Lord paints the human race into these 3 groups. The next 3 parables will show us what the Lord is doing on the earth in relation to these 3 groups.

Hidden Treasure - Israel Pearl of Great Price—True Church Net - Gentiles

Jesus tells the Parable of the Dragnet: Outcome of the Gentiles on earth at 2nd coming
Matthew 13:47-50 Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a Net, that was cast into the sea, and gathered of every kind: ⁴⁸ Which, when it was full, they drew to shore, and sat down, and gathered the good into vessels, but cast the bad away. ⁴⁹ So shall it be at the End Of The Age: the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just, ⁵⁰ And shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.

1. In the Old Testament, when the sea is used symbolically, it refers to the gentile world.
2. During the Lord's time on earth, the regions surrounding the Sea of Galilee was called, "Galilee of the Nations or Gentiles" because of the size of the gentile population in the area.
3. The Separation Occurs At The End Of The Age - Christ's 2nd Coming
4. The largest of all fishing nets is used to teach the truth of a global judgment involving the Gentiles who remain alive on the earth at the 2nd coming of Jesus Christ.

Condition Of The World At The 2nd Coming: End of 7 year tribulation

1. The world will not be so populous when Jesus Christ returns to intervene in the desperate conditions on earth.

Matt. 24:22 And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened.

2. Universal desolations and death are pictured by the Prophets. [Ps. 46:6-9; Ezek. 38-39]

3. John describes how the vast population of the earth will be reduced to a minimum as the result of divine visitations. [Rev. 6:8; 8:8-11; 9:13-15, 18]
4. There will be left a "very small remnant" of Israel. [Isa. 1:9; Zech. 13:8-9]
5. When Jesus Christ returns, His feet are to stand upon the Mt. of Olives. [Zech. 14:4]
6. The Great Tribulation and the Campaign of Armageddon come to an end with the cataclysmic events with the events listed in Joel 3:14-17 Multitudes, multitudes, in the valley of decision! For the day of the LORD is near in the valley of decision. The sun and the moon are darkened, and the stars withdraw their shining. ¹⁶ The LORD roars from Zion, and utters his voice from Jerusalem, and the heavens and the earth quake.

But the LORD is a refuge to his people, a stronghold to the people of Israel.

The Judgment At His 2nd Coming: End of the 7 year tribulation

1. The fulfillment of the prophetic truth in this parable will occur at the 2nd coming of Jesus Christ, when the world is judged and His kingdom instituted.
2. Judgment takes place on the earth after the Battle of Armageddon but before His Kingdom is established.

There will be a 75 Day Interval before the Millennium begins.

Dan. 12:11-12 And from the time that the regular burnt offering is taken away and the abomination that makes desolate is set up, there shall be 1,290 days.

¹² Blessed is he who waits and arrives at the 1,335 days.

- a. There will be 1,260 days from the Abomination of Desolation to the 2nd coming of Jesus.
- b. The demise of the Antichrist and the end of the 7 year Tribulation will come 1,260 days after the midpoint of the 7 years. [3 $\frac{1}{2}$ years: the Abomination of Desolation]
- c. Daniel's figure of 1290 days adds 30 days after the 2nd coming of Jesus Christ.
 - The Abomination of Desolation remains in the Temple before its removal.
- d. Daniel's figure of 1335 days adds another 45 days or a total of 75 days after the 2nd coming of Jesus Christ.
 - A special blessing is pronounced on those who will make it to the 1335th day.
 - The blessing is that those who survive until the 75th day of the interval will enter the Messianic Kingdom.

Events to Occur During the 75 Day Interval:

A. Removal of the Abomination of Desolation

1. The event that signals the beginning of the 2nd half of the Tribulation will be the Antichrist's takeover of the Jewish Temple.
2. He breaks his covenant with the Jews and declares himself to be Almighty God.
3. He will have the False Prophet set up his image in the Temple [Abomination of Desolation]. Satan, through the False Prophet, causes it to become alive.
4. Antichrist will retain control for 1260 days. The image which had been made alive will be allowed to continue another 30 days as Dan. 12:11 states.
5. The desecration of the Temple is allowed to remain for 30 days beyond the Tribulation. Then it will be destroyed bringing the Abomination of Desolation to an end.

Counterfeit Trinity

- | | | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|-------------|
| 1. Satan = | Counterfeit father | the Dragon | anti-god |
| 2. Beast = | Counterfeit son = Jesus | the Beast | anti-christ |
| 3. Lamb with 2 horns = | Counterfeit spirit | the False Prophet | anti-spirit |

B. The Antichrist

1. Member of the counterfeit trinity.
2. Rev. 19:20 The beast was taken and with him the false prophet that wrought the signs in his sight, wherewith he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast on them that worshiped his image; they two were cast alive into the lake of fire that burns with brimstone...

C. The False Prophet

1. According to Rev. 19:20, the False Prophet [counterfeit holy spirit], who will have a counterfeit gift of miracles by which he will do his work of deception, calling men to worship the Antichrist, to take upon themselves the mark of the Beast and to worship his image - He also will be cast ALIVE into the lake of fire. For the first 1,000 years, the Antichrist and the False Prophet will be the only inhabitants of the Lake of Fire.

Interesting Note: It states the Antichrist will be "cast alive" into the Lake of Fire.

1. He is killed at the end of the Great Tribulation. His body will not be buried, but his soul will be in Hell. [Habakkuk 3:13b; II Thess. 2:8; Isa. 14:3-11; 16-21]. As armed forces of the Antichrist flee Christ's slaughter, his body will be trampled under their feet. [Isa. 14:19-21]
2. He must come back to life in order to now be cast alive into the lake of fire.
3. The Antichrist, is the firstfruits of the 2nd Resurrection which applies only to the damned.
4. Result of his resurrection will end with his eternal destiny in the Lake of Fire.

D. Satan

1. The counterfeit father will be cast into his 5th abode.

Rev. 20:1-3 Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, holding in his hand the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain. ² And he seized the dragon, that ancient serpent, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years, ³ and threw him into the pit, and shut it and sealed it over him, so that he might not deceive the nations any longer, until the thousand years were ended. After that he must be released for a little while.

[He will be allowed to test mankind one more time.]

E. The Resurrection of The OT Saints

Dan. 12:2 And [at that time] many [of your people] shall awake [or be separated out] from among the sleepers in the earth's dust]. Those who awake shall be unto everlasting life, but those [the rest of the sleepers who do not awake at this time] shall be unto shame and everlasting contempt.

1. The righteous OT saints will be resurrected at this time to partake of the blessings of the Millennial Kingdom.
2. They are the friends of the bridegroom [John 3:29] who will be invited to the wedding feast with which the Millennial Kingdom will begin.

3. In the context of Dan. 12:2, Daniel is speaking of events after the Tribulation period.

F. The Resurrection of The Tribulation Saints

Rev. 20:4 Then I saw thrones, and people seated on them who were given authority to judge. I also saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony about Jesus and because of the Word of God, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and who had not accepted the mark on their foreheads or their hands. They came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.

1. John sees 2 groups of saints reigning with the Messiah.

a. To whom judgment was given: The Judgment Seat of Christ

These are church saints who have received their rewards after the Rapture.

b. The Tribulation saints or martyrs

G. The First Resurrection

Rev. 20:5-6 The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were completed. This is the first resurrection. ⁶ Blessed and holy is the one who shares in the first resurrection! The second death has no power over them, but they will be priests of God and of Christ, and they will reign with him for a thousand years.

1. 1st resurrection involves believers only. The resurrection of the Tribulation saints completes the first resurrection which is separated from the 2nd resurrection by 1000 years.

2. You are blessed to be a participant in the 1st resurrection. It is in 5 stages: [I Cor. 15:20-23]

a. Resurrection of Jesus Christ - He is the firstfruits.

b. Resurrection of the Church believers at the Rapture - I Thess. 4:16

c. Resurrection of the Two Witnesses in the middle of the Tribulation - Rev. 11:11-12

d. Resurrection of the Old Testament Saints during the 75 day interval - Dan. 12:2

e. Resurrection of the Tribulation Saints during the 75 day interval - Rev. 20:4

H. The Sheep & Goat Judgment comes as a climax to the prophecies of Christ in Matt. 24 which describe the great tribulation leading up to the 2nd coming of Christ. The nations are those who survived the terrible judgments of this period which will wipe out a majority of the people.

This judgment deals with those on earth among the Gentiles who have survived the tribulation and now await judgment in relation to entrance into His Millennial Kingdom.

Note: There is another judgment for Israel in Ez. 20:34-38 in a different place and different circumstances.

Matthew 25:31-46 When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne. ³² Before Him will be gathered all the nations [Gentiles], and He will separate them one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. ³³ And He will place the sheep on His right, but the goats on the left. ³⁴ Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, Inherit The Kingdom Prepared For You From The Foundation Of The World. ³⁵ For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶ I was naked and you

clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.' Then the righteous will answer him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink?'³⁸ And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?'⁴⁰ And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.'⁴¹ "Then He will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.'⁴² For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink,⁴³ I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.'⁴⁴ Then they also will answer, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?'⁴⁵ Then He will answer them, saying, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.'⁴⁶ And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

A. The Basis of the Judgment

Warning: A casual reading seems to suggest that salvation is the result of good works. This seems to result in salvation for the sheep and damnation for the goats. However, Scripture does not contradict itself. NOBODY has ever been saved by good works. Old Testament saints were saved by faith. [Heb. 11] The Bible clearly and repeatedly teaches that salvation is by grace through faith and not by our good works [John 1:12; Acts 15:11; Romans 3:22-24; Romans 4:4-8; Romans 7:24-25; Romans 8:12; Galatians 3:6-9; Ephesians 2:8-10].

The gospel of "do good" is NOT a scriptural message.

Note: Matt. 25:46 The Righteous go into eternal life.

The Greek word for righteous is also used of the doctrine of justification by faith (i.e., Christ's righteousness is imputed to a believer). They are good to the Jews for the same reason.

John Walvoord "works are presented here, not as the ground of salvation, but as the evidence of it, in the sense of James 2:26, where it is declared, 'Faith without works is dead'; Jesus makes it clear that the salvation of the "sheep" is not based on their works—their inheritance was theirs "since the foundation of the world" [Matthew 25:34], long before they could ever do any good works!

The good works mentioned are not the *cause* of salvation but the *effect* of salvation. As Christians we become like Christ [Romans 8:29; II Cor. 3:18; Col. 2:6-7]

Question: How can the "works" mentioned be a sure evidence of salvation? CONTEXT

1. Those being judged have survived the Great Tribulation.

a. "Time of Jacob's trouble" - Jer. 30:7 - time of persecution of the Jews

Extremely difficult for people living during this 7 year period; A time of travail in preparation for the birth of the Kingdom of Jesus Christ. Suffering will lead to glory.

b. Zech. 13:8 - 2/3 of the Jews will die

c. Death sentence on all faithful Jews who do not worship Satan.

d. Satan will attempt to exterminate all Jews.

2. For anyone to befriend a Jew to an extent indicated in this passage: feed, clothe, visit; extraordinary evidence of works produced by the grace of God.
 - a. Works of kindness would involve extreme danger on the part of the person performing them as well as being executed in a time of great deception and hatred of the Jew.
 - b. For one to befriend "my brethren," it would indicate true faith in God and Jesus Christ.
 - c. The works become a clear evidence of it.
 - d. A believer who is looking for Christ's 2nd coming and is aware of His special purposes for Israel would certainly not ignore his duty and privilege of ministering to the Jews.

B. The Nature of the Judgment

1. This judgment is preparatory for entrance into Christ's Millennial Kingdom.
2. Many Scriptures indicate that at the beginning of the millennium all adult unbelievers will be purged out. Only those who are redeemed will be permitted to begin the millennial reign with Christ on earth. [Matt. 13:24-30 -Parable of Wheat/tares]

C. Jesus Christ is *The Judge, The Shepherd and The King*

1. He will come in all His glory, to judge the earth and establish His millennial reign in righteousness and peace.
 3. He will appear as "the Son of Man." He designated Himself with this title ~80 times. The once-rejected Son of Man will appear in power and great glory surrounded by heavens angelic host to administer righteous judgment among all men.
 4. He appears to pass judgment on all living men.
- Note there is no resurrection associated with this judgment.
5. Jesus Christ The Shepherd will separate the sheep from the goats.
 6. Jesus Christ The King
 - a. It is 3 days before Jesus will be crucified as a criminal.

There are two different groups at this Judgment to determine who goes into the millennium. How have they treated "My Brethren"?

A. Brethren:

1. His brothers are Jewish believers who will be hunted like dogs during the Great Tribulation in Satan's last great effort to annihilate them and prevent the Lord's return.
2. Since the believing Jews will not receive the "mark of the beast" [Rev. 13:16-17] they will be unable to buy or sell. How can they survive? through the loving care of the Gentiles who have trusted Christ and who care for His brethren.
3. Jews who enter the Millennium in BELIEF.

B. Sheep: The Gentile believers who survive the martyrdom of the Tribulation.

1. They are not members of the Church which has been in heaven since the Rapture.
2. They are not part of Israel's remnant who will recognize the Messiah at His Coming.
3. The "sheep" are surprised at Jesus' words. They don't remember seeing the Lord Jesus Christ and ministering to His needs. They lovingly ministered to the believing Jews as unto

Christ. Their motive was not reward, but sacrificial love. These Gentiles took their own lives in their hands when they welcomed the homeless Jews and cared for them.

4. The saved Gentiles are not translated at Christ's 2nd coming but carry on ordinary occupations such as farming and building houses, and they will bear children. [Isa. 65:20-25]

C. Goats: The "goats" were judged because they did not trust Jesus Christ and give evidence of that faith by caring for His brethren. Apparently, they took the mark of the beast and took care of their own needs.

1. The unsaved followers of Antichrist left at the end of the Tribulation He calls "goats."

Conclusion: Only believers will enter the Millennium—Gentile believers and Jewish believers.

Interesting truths comparing the 2 judicial sentences:

1. The sheep were blessed of the Father. The goats were cursed by the Father.

2. The sheep inherit the Kingdom. Inheritance is based on birth.

They have been born again by grace through faith.

3. The Kingdom was prepared for these saved individuals.

4. Matt. 25:41 does not state the everlasting fire was prepared for the goats.

It was prepared for the devil and his angels. [Rev. 20:10] God NEVER prepared hell for people.

a. There is NO evidence in Scripture that God predestines people to go to hell.

b. People are consigned to hell because they REJECT Jesus Christ.

5. There are only 2 eternal destinies:

Everlasting punishment for those who reject Christ or eternal life for those who trust Him

Theological Implications: It is clear from this judgment, as those preceding,

a. The world does not end in a postmillennial triumph with the entire world being Christianized. Jesus Christ does NOT come to a converted world.

b. Matthew 24 makes it clear Jesus Christ comes to a world that is preaching false doctrine and persecuting the Jewish people.

b. It does not fulfill the Kingdom promises of the Old Testament nor does it describe the period when all nations will serve the Lord.

c. The dual line of good and evil developed in Matthew 13 of the good and the bad, the wheat and the tares, the good and bad fish, is further illustrated in the sheep and goats.

The Millennial Kingdom of Jesus Christ

1. The "sheep" will be ushered into the kingdom to share in Christ's glory.

2. The Church will be reigning with Jesus Christ.

3. Israel will enjoy the fulfillment of the promises made through the prophets.

4. All of God's creation will share in the glorious liberty of God's children. [Rom. 8:19-21]

5. Jesus Christ will rule from David's throne in Jerusalem. [Luke 1:30-33]

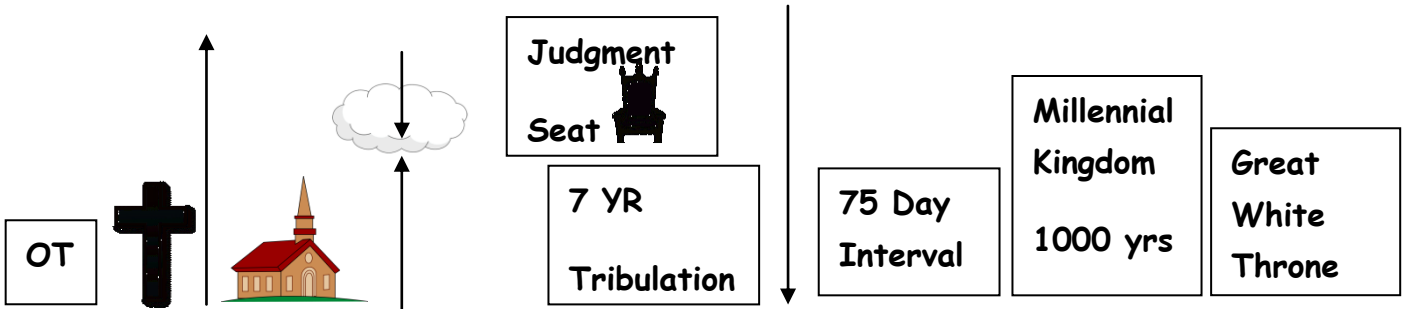
6. Peace will reign for 1000 years. [Isa. 11]

Note: It is solemn to realize that the last word of His public ministry before the Cross was - "These shall go away into everlasting punishment: But the righteous into eternal life." 26:46

Lord's Sequel:

Matt. 26:1-2 He said to His disciples: You know that after 2 days is the Passover and the Son of Man is betrayed to be crucified.

Lockyer: "Was it not wonderful for Him with calm dignity to step down, as it were, from the Throne of His glory and proceed to Gethsemane and Calvary, to finish the work His Father had given Him to do? For the joy set before Him He endured the Cross. During those days of anguish and shame He turned His back upon the glory and majesty of His coming Kingdom which He had described on the Mt. of Olives and went out to die a terrible death for our salvation. Hallelujah! What A Savior!"



75 Day Interval: Cast Beast & False Prophet Alive Into Lake Of Fire

- Satan is chained and sealed in the bottomless pit - can't deceive
- Sheep/Goat Judgment - Sheep Will Enter The Millennial Kingdom
- Abomination of Desolation is removed.
- Resurrection of Old Testament Saints
- Resurrection of Tribulation Martyrs

