

“11 He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still. 12 And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward *is* with me, to give every man according as his work shall be. 13 I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last.

14 Blessed *are* they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city. 15 For without *are* dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie. 16 I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, *and* the bright and morning star. 17 And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.

18 For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: 19 And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and *from* the things which are written in this book. 20 He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly.

Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus. 21 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ *be* with you all. Amen.” (Re 22:11-21)

Every person who walks the face of the earth, if they are not to play the fool, must live in terms of the future of all souls that God has created. All souls belong to Him and He has told us that there will be a great separation between them in the last day. I would like to observe several things about these last things that are clearly taught in Scripture, and we will lose sight of them at the critical peril of our souls. 1. That there is a separation 2. The state of the soul and body in eternity. 3. The estate of the godly in eternity

I. **Separation:** That there is a separation of the souls of men in eternity: Rev. 22:11. Note these other passages:

A. Note these clear Scriptures

1. “12 And he saith unto him, Friend, how camest thou in hither not having a wedding garment? And he was speechless. 13 Then said the king to the servants, Bind him hand and foot, and take him away, and cast *him* into outer darkness; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.” (Mt 22:12-13)
2. “10 And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage: and the door was shut. 11 Afterward came also the other virgins, saying, Lord, Lord, open to us. 12 But he answered and said, Verily I say unto you, I know you not.” (Mt 25:10-12)

3. Matthew 25:34 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.... 41 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....46 And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.
  4. Romans 2: 8-11 [God] will render to every man according to his deeds: To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honor and immortality, eternal life: But unto them that are contentious, and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath, Tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that doeth evil, of the Jew first, and also of the Gentile; But glory, honor, and peace, to every man that worketh good, to the Jew first, and also to the Gentile: For there is no respect of persons with God.
  5. This is also stated in our text, vs. 14,15: “Blessed *are* they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city. 15 For without *are* dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie.”
- B. So there is a clear separation between people at the last judgment, and the eternal state is one of joy and happiness for the godly and a very miserable state for the ungodly. Make no mistake about it.
- II. The state of body and soul in eternity
- A. At the resurrection you will be raised in a new body and completely sanctified soul:
    1. For the body: See 1Cor. 15:35-50 READ
    2. For the soul: See 1John 3:1-3 READ
  - B. We will be as the angels, there will be no births or deaths, for all the souls that God determined to create have been created. See Mark 12:25 “For when they shall rise from the dead, they neither marry, nor are given in marriage; but are as the angels which are in heaven.”
  - C. We will be as the angel as far as marrying is concerned for their will be no sexual union nor procreation of children; but we will have real physical bodies, although glorified.
  - D. What is the state of the ungodly: I do not know.
    1. But we do have the words of Christ: Matthew 10:28 “And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.”
    2. We also have Mark 9 where Jesus said to cut off the hand, cut off the foot, pluck out the eye that offends, for it is better to be halt and maimed than to go to hell. Three times in a few verses He described hell as a place where the “worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched.”
    - 3.
- III. The estate of the godly in eternity
- A. We will be forever with the Lord;

1. John 14:1-3 READ. It is a place of many mansions. It is with God and His Son forever and ever.
  2. It is a city which is to come: Heb 13:14 "For here have we no continuing city, but we seek one to come."
- B. This city comes down to earth: "1 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. 2 And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 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." (Re 21:1-3 AV)
1. Salvation is not us rising to God; but God coming down to us.
  2. The old heaven and earth will pass away:
    - a. "26 Whose voice then shook the earth: but now he hath promised, saying, Yet once more I shake not the earth only, but also heaven. 27 And this *word*, Yet once more, signifieth the removing of those things that are shaken, as of things that are made, that those things which cannot be shaken may remain. 28 Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear:" (Heb 12:26-28)
    - b. Ps. 102: 25 "Of old hast thou laid the foundation of the earth: and the heavens are the work of thy hands. 26 They shall perish, but thou shalt endure: yea, all of them shall wax old like a garment; as a vesture shalt thou change them, and they shall be changed: 27 But thou art the same, and thy years shall have no end."
    - c. 2Peter 3: "7 But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.... 10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.
- C. And so will be fulfilled the promise of God to His people: they inherit the earth, the heavens, and all things in Jesus Christ. The term "eternal life" includes all the gifts and purpose of God.
- D. There will also be degrees of reward, just as there are degrees of eternal punishment, but the reward is according to grace: "But this *I say*, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully." (2Co 9:6)

#### Application:

1. This doctrine of the eternal state of the body and souls of men is far more important to you than deciding the time of the return of Christ.

2. The body is for the spirit, not the spirit for the body. Hence in this life, we are to set our affections on things above: Col. 3: “If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. 2 Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. 3 For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God. 4 When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.”
3. Let us be faithful in our witness; to live for eternity, for that eternal inheritance that is reserved in Heaven for us, that we not come short of the glory of God.
4. All things are ours in Christ. It is through Him that our works rise to heaven; that it matters what we do now. For those without faith, there is not access to God and heaven and their works are for the world only. “Without faith it is impossible to please God” the Scripture says.
5. This world is not my home. My home is in heaven: Right now my enemies are the world, the flesh, and the devil. Eph 6:12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. 1Jo 2:16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.
6. 2 Pet. 3: “11 Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness, 12 Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat? 13 Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.”
7. Beloved, let us not grow weary in well-doing, for in due season we shall reap if we faint not.
8. If you are today without Christ, remembers verses 16, 17: “I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star. 17 And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.”

God bless you. Amen and Amen.