

## SERMON OUTLINE

<b>SERMON TITLE:</b>	The Final Judgment of the Unsaved Dead
<b>SERMON REFERENCE:</b>	Revelation 20:11-15
<b>LWF SERMON NUMBER:</b>	#2367

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1) INTRODUCTION

- a) There is coming a time when God will put the final period upon the final paragraph upon the final page upon the final book of human history.
- b) The unsaved dead will be raised from their graves to stand before Almighty God to be judged.
- c) Revelation 20:12-15
  - i) The book of the Revelation speaks of Jesus, the Lamb of God.
  - ii) After the Great Tribulation, Jesus will come back with His saints in power and great glory to rule and reign here on Earth for one thousand years.
    - (1) The lion and the lamb will lie down together in peace.
    - (2) The Earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord.
  - iii) We then come to the final judgment, which is the great white throne judgment where God adjudicates with righteousness and justice forever.
    - (1) Proverbs 28:5
- d) There are four basic things we find in this passage in Revelation about the final judgment of the unsaved dead.

2) THE FEARFUL SETTING DESCRIBED (Revelation 20:11)

- a) The great white throne of judgment is described.
  - i) It is called “great” because of its awesome power.
  - ii) It is called “white” because of its unsullied purity.
  - iii) It is a throne because its ultimate purpose is judgment.
- b) Those who stand before the great white throne are there to be judged.
- c) The judge is the Lord Jesus Christ.
  - i) John 5:22
  - ii) Jesus Christ, who is today the Savior, will in that day become the judge.
    - (1) The Lamb will become the Lion.
    - (2) Jesus Christ is inescapable and unavoidable.
      - (a) If you do not meet Him as Savior, then you will meet Him as judge.
      - (b) You may have ignored Him, denied Him and disbelieved Him, but one day you will stand before the Lord Jesus Christ.
  - iii) Revelation 1:13-16
    - (1) The Lord Jesus is wearing the regal robes of a king and a judge.
    - (2) His white hair speaks of His purity.
    - (3) His eyes, like a flame of fire, tell us that He sees right through us; He sees and knows all.
      - (a) Hebrews 4:13
        - (i) The Lord Jesus cannot be deceived or discredited.
    - (4) His feet are like brass.
      - (a) Brass is an emblem and a symbol of judgment.
        - (i) He is going forth to judge.
    - (5) His voice is like the sound of many waters.
      - (a) His voice is like one hundred cascading waterfalls.
        - (i) Can you imagine anyone talking back to Niagara Falls?

- d) The awkward position of those who are going to be judged is described.
  - i) Revelation 20:11
  - ii) Everything stable and everything that we have known and depended upon is now gone; there is no place to run to or hide.
    - (1) Adam and Eve ran into the trees of the Garden to hide themselves from the presence of the Lord.
      - (a) Genesis 3:8
      - (2) There is no hiding place here at the great white throne of judgment.
  - iii) Those standing before the great white throne will be face to face with the Lord Jesus.

### 3) THE FORCEFUL SUMMONS DELIVERED (Revelation 20:12-13)

- a) The people who are called to the judgment:
  - i) The out and out sinner
    - (1) These are people who hate God, hate Christ and hate the church.
    - (2) They boldly and brazenly shake their fists in the face of Almighty God.
  - ii) Self-righteous people
    - (1) These are people who think that the Gospel is for the drunkard, the murderer, the adulterer, the wife abuser, the blasphemer, etc.
    - (2) They are nice people who live in nice homes and who have nice manners.
    - (3) They attend church and sing hymns.
      - (a) There is no one so bad he cannot be saved, and no one so good he need not be saved.
      - (b) The worst form of badness is human goodness when human goodness becomes a substitute for the new birth.
  - iii) The procrastinators
    - (1) They intend to be saved one day.
    - (2) They know they are sinners and are not antagonistic to the Gospel, but they just do not intend to give their hearts to Jesus today.
      - (a) Proverbs 27:1
      - (b) If you are unsaved, please do not put off salvation.
      - (c) 2 Corinthians 6:2
        - (i) If you hear God's voice, harden not your heart.
      - (d) If you die without knowing Jesus personally, then you will spend an eternity in Hell.
  - iv) The unsaved church member
    - (1) These are people who have religion, but they do not have the Lord Jesus Christ.
      - (a) They are religious.
      - (b) They are not anti-God.
    - (2) They are counting on their church contributions, church attendance and ritual.
      - (a) Religion never saved anyone; it is only Jesus who saves.

- (b) We need to stop enduring religion and start enjoying salvation.
- (3) 2 Corinthians 13:5
  - (a) Do you know Jesus?
    - (i) This question is not asking if you are religious.
    - (ii) This question is not asking what denomination you belong to.
    - (iii) This question is not even asking if you know the plan of salvation, but do you know the Man of salvation, the Lord Jesus?
- v) Those who have never heard the Gospel
  - (1) Though one may not have enough light to save him, he has enough sin to condemn him.
    - (a) Romans 3:23
  - (2) There are degrees of judgment.
    - (a) Luke 12:47-48
    - (b) Mark 6:11
    - (c) Though they will each be called to the judgment, those who willingly and knowingly refuse the Lord Jesus will receive harsher judgment than those who have never heard the Gospel of Christ.
  - (3) This is why missions is so important; we must tell everyone we can about the Gospel of Christ.
- b) The places from which they are called:
  - i) Revelation 20:13
    - (1) Death has the body; Hell has the soul.
    - (2) The Greek word in this passage is "Hades."
  - ii) Death and Hades deliver up the dead that are in them.
  - iii) The graves and tombs will give up their dead.
    - (1) Out of the seas and desert sands they will come.
    - (2) Wherever men have died, they will be raised.
    - (3) There is a resurrection of the unsaved as well as the saved.
  - iv) When someone dies without Jesus Christ, his soul immediately goes to Hell, but he is not yet at the judgment.
    - (1) Luke 16:23
      - (a) The word "hell" used in this passage is a different word than that which is translated as "lake of fire."
      - (2) Hell can be described as a jail where the indicted criminal is held until the judgment; the lake of fire is the penitentiary.
  - v) The child of God who dies immediately goes to paradise.
    - (1) 2 Corinthians 5:6-8
- c) The authority and power of this summons:
  - i) The resurrection of Jesus Christ guarantees the judgment of the unsaved dead.
    - (1) Acts 17:31
      - (a) The man that God has ordained is Jesus Christ.
  - ii) The God who raised up Jesus Christ is the God who is going to raise up the unsaved dead.

- iii) We cannot hide from God.
  - iv) The summons is coming.
- 4) THE FATAL SECRETS DISPLAYED (Revelation 20:12)
- a) At this judgment, there is going to come an indictment.
    - i) Our lives are recorded in God's book.
    - ii) Nothing has escaped His knowledge.
      - (1) Ecclesiastes 12:14
      - (2) Romans 2:16
  - b) Secrets that have been repressed:
    - i) These are secrets about us that no one but God knows.
    - ii) These secrets will one day be revealed.
    - iii) Hebrews 4:13
  - c) Secrets that have been recorded:
    - i) God's candid camera is recording.
    - ii) Matthew 12:36
      - (1) We will give an account for every idle word, every time we have taken the Lord's name in vain.
      - (2) Exodus 20:7
  - d) Secrets that will be revealed:
    - i) Luke 12:2
    - ii) Skeletons will come out of closets that even parents, spouses and children do not know.
    - iii) There is coming a judgment day when we will face the record.
    - iv) Things in our hearts and lives that we think we've covered up will be revealed.
- 5) THE FINAL SENTENCE DETERMINED (Revelation 20:14-15)
- a) The sureness of the final sentence:
    - i) Revelation 20:12
    - ii) God swears by Himself that judgment is coming.
      - (1) Romans 14:11-12
  - b) The severity of it:
    - i) Revelation 20:12
    - ii) They were judged according to their works, not according to grace or mercy.
      - (1) If we want grace or mercy, we may have it; but we must have it in this day and in this life.
      - (2) We cannot wait and throw ourselves on the mercy of the court on the day of judgment.
        - (a) There is no room for mercy at the judgment.
        - (b) If you want mercy, you must have it today.
          - (i) Romans 10:13

6) CONCLUSION

- a) There are three parts to every trial.
  - i) The evidence is presented against you.
    - (1) The books are opened.
    - (2) Every word, thought, deed, dishonest thing, big things, small things, etc., will be presented.
    - (3) Nothing will be left out.
  - ii) You will make your defense.
    - (1) If your defense does not satisfy you, how do you expect it to satisfy a Holy God?
    - (2) What defense will you give?
      - (a) What can we possibly say for trampling on the precious blood of the Lord Jesus Christ?
        - (i) Matthew 11:28
  - iii) The verdict of the court is handed down.
    - (1) The judge is Jesus Christ.
    - (2) Matthew 10:33
    - (3) Matthew 7:23
    - (4) The sentence for those who have refused Jesus Christ will be an eternity in Hell.
      - (a) Revelation 20:15
- b) C.S. Lewis stated that everyone in the world falls into two categories:
  - i) Those who are like Satan who say to God the Father, “Not Your will but mine be done.”
  - ii) Those who are like God the Son who say to the Father, “Not my will but Thine be done.”
    - (1) For those in the first category, their souls will one day drop into Hell as a broken-hearted God says, “Not My will but thine be done.”
- c) God does not want you to go to Hell.
  - i) John 3:18
  - ii) There is no condemnation for those who believe in Jesus Christ.
    - (1) Those who believe in and trust in Jesus will not stand before the great white throne of judgment.
      - (a) We have settled out of court.
      - (b) Romans 8:33
- d) Do you want to settle out of court today?
  - i) Jesus Christ paid your sin debt with His death on the cross.
- e) Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
- f) Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
  - i) Romans 3:23
  - ii) Romans 10:9-10
  - iii) Romans 10:13

- iv) Acts 16:31
- v) John 3:16