

“And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life.” (Revelation 20:12b)

Amazing God, you are worthy of praise and adoration. We give thanks for your love for your people since the beginning of time. We look forward to that day when you will raise the dead to appear before your throne, that we may worship you in praise and admiration for all eternity, through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Introduction

In the early days of the Church, God revealed to a man named John visions of the past, present, and future. John was shown a revelation of the day of the Lord, when Jesus Christ will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead. God will dwell with his faithful people forever.

Read: Revelation 20:11 - 21:4

On reading these verses, what are some of your initial impressions and questions? What stands out to you?

The Biblical Context

The last book of the Bible is a vision given to John, with symbolic picture-images describing events of the past, present, and future, and God's final victory. The Book of Revelation tells how God will fulfill his promises, and in the age to come, will dwell with us!

On the last day, Jesus will return to raise the dead, and we will all appear before his throne of Judgment. The record of our sins will be read, and we will all find ourselves guilty. But God has written the names of his chosen in the Lamb's Book of Life. We who trust and believe in Jesus will be welcomed by our Lord into Eternal Life.

God will come down to dwell with his people in the heavenly city of New Jerusalem, where there will be no more sin and suffering, and God will wipe away the tears from every eye. Death will be no more!

Discussion Questions

1. Read Matthew 25:31-32. Who is the One who will be seated on the final throne of judgment? When will this happen? Will we be there?
2. In Revelation 20 we are told that God will raise all the dead to appear before the throne. According to verse 12, how will all people be judged? What is written in the books?
3. Romans 3:20 says, “By works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight.” Is there anyone who has not sinned before God? How do you think things would turn out for you if you were judged according to your works?
4. What is the other book mentioned in verse 12 that will also be opened? How does this special book differ from the other books read on Judgment Day? What is written in the Book of Life?
5. Romans 6:23 says, “The wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.” How does the Book of Revelation show that this will be the case for us?
6. According to Revelation 21:1-4, when God creates a new heaven and earth, what will no longer exist? Where will God dwell?
7. Read Matthew 19:28-30. As we face Judgment Day, why is it important to know that the One who will judge the world is our friend? What difference does it make that he knows us and we know him?
8. Many people find the Book of Revelation to be dark and scary. But how might these promises from Revelation help our faith when times are hard? How does this book let you know that you have nothing to fear?