

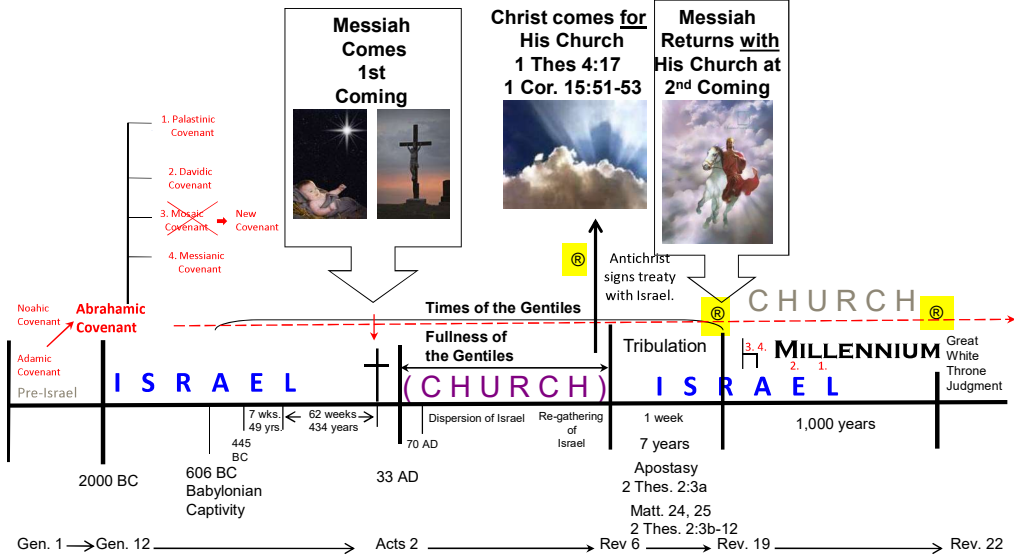
“The Judgment of the Great Harlot”

Part 3

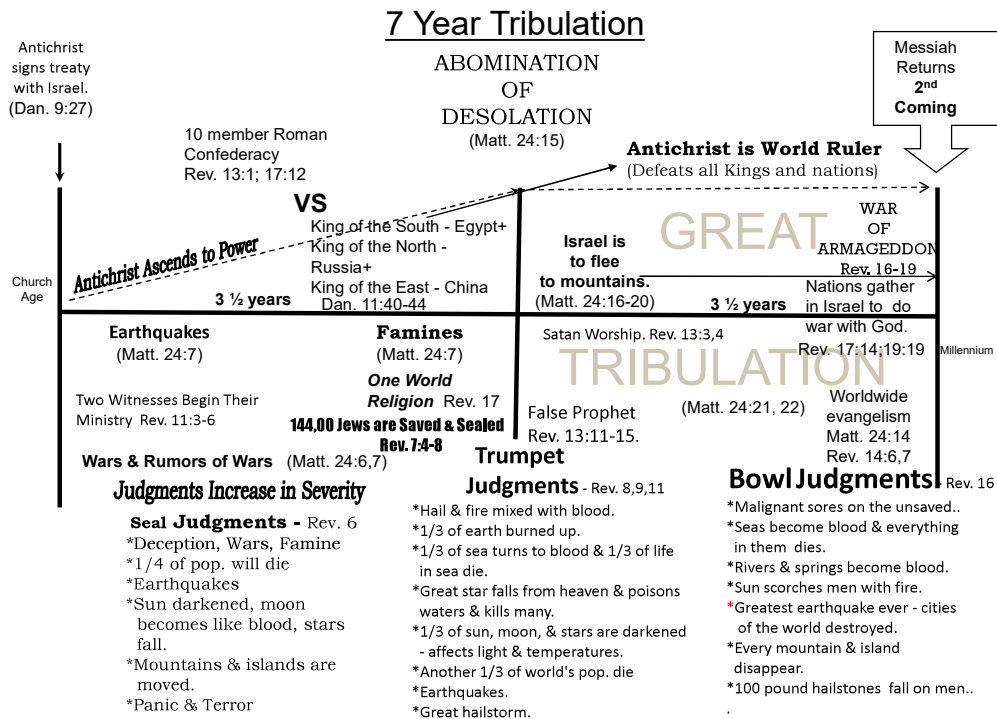
Rev. 17:6-8

Nov. 4, 2018

Comprehensive Biblical View of Future Prophetic Events



® = Resurrection



Quiz

1. How many people die in Jerusalem from an earthquake after the 2 witnesses ascend into heaven?

7,000

2. What percentage of Jerusalem is that?

10%

3. What are the 2 churches that receive no criticism from Christ?

Smyrna and Philadelphia

4. How many "woes" are there in Revelation?

3

5. What happens at each one?

1st Woe – Demon locusts out of the Abyss. (Rev 9:1-12)

2nd Woe – 4 demons at the Euphrates let loose. (Rev. 9:13-21; 11:7-13)

3rd Woe – 7 Bowl Judgments (Rev. 11:14-19;15,16)

Review –

- Chapter 17 is about the harlot of Babylon. The angel is taking us back to see the origin of all false religion.
- Babylon was founded by Nimrod in Gen. 10 &11.
- The Tower of Babel is where it all began and was a rebellion against God and His Word.
- It was here that Satan put into effect his master plan of false, man-made religion – "let us build a tower through united human effort to reach God." They were going to reach God through their own "organized" works for their own glory. 1 nation, 1 centralized government.
- Man calls the tower the "gate of God". God calls it confusion.
- This was also a demonstration of the unity of men not based on truth.
- When God dispersed those in Babel, they took what Nimrod had taught them, and scattered eventually all over the earth.
- In the Tribulation all of the harlots of false religion come home to "mama", the mother of all harlots, to form a one-world religion. Unlike today, the world becomes more and more religious.
- Babylon is portrayed here as a harlot seeking to spiritually fornicate with the nations and peoples of the world.
- She is controlling the Beast (Antichrist) and He is supporting her during first half of Tribulation.
- The Harlot of Babylon is mysterious, wealthy, and enticing.

Rev 17:6-8

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This is what angers religious people the most – the fact that born again believers:

1. In an instant can be declared righteous – made saints.
 2. Claim to be accepted by God.
 3. Proclaim to the world that total forgiveness is found in the Lord Jesus Christ **alone**.
- The belief that salvation is by works-righteousness, flows in the veins of the harlot and all of her religious followers.
 - **The core and foundation for works-righteousness is the FLESH.**
 - The flesh is greatly offended by someone saying that you as a person have nothing to offer toward your salvation.

"And I saw the woman drunk with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the witnesses of Jesus."

1. Note: The world is drunk with "wine" and the harlot is drunk with "blood".

Rev 17:2

2 with whom the kings of the earth committed acts of immorality, and those who dwell on the earth were made drunk with the wine of her immorality."

• Everyone is intoxicated:

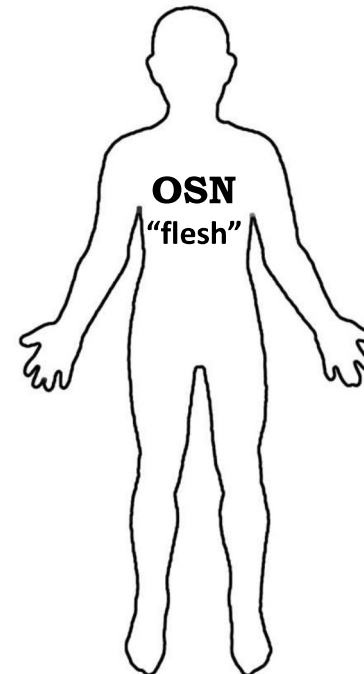
- The world is drunk with the attractiveness, the outward appearance, of the whore of Babylon. To them the one-world religion is thrilling, intoxicating.
- The harlot is drunk, "on a high", because she is murdering believers.

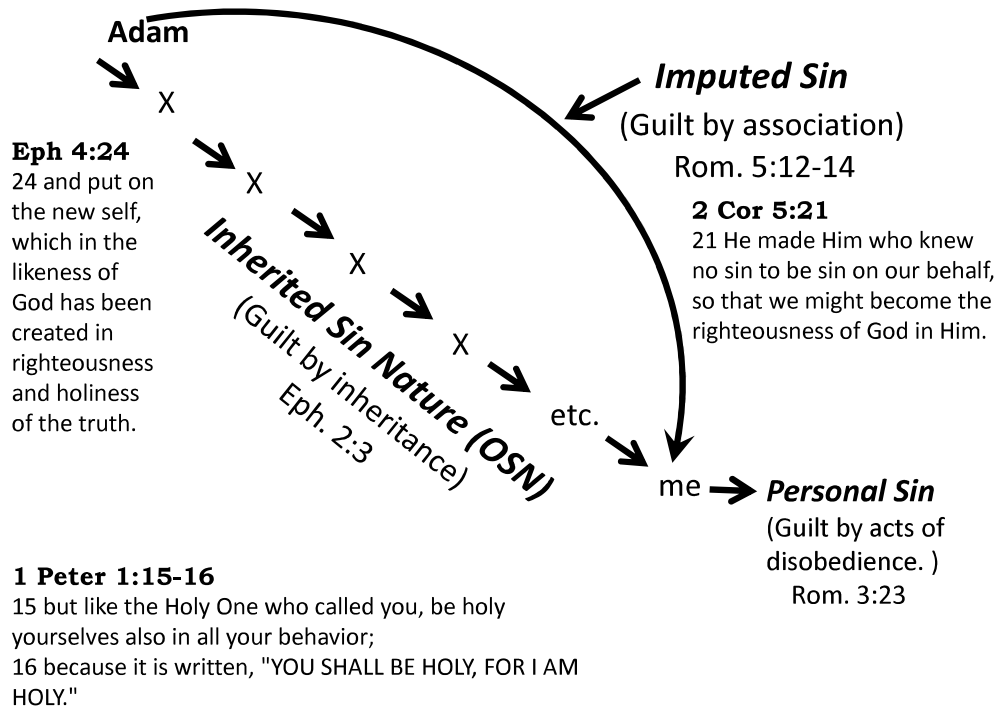
2. Notice the names of those she is drunk on:

"Saints" – $\alpha\gamma\iota\omicron\sigma$ - those declared holy (positionally) at the time of justification.

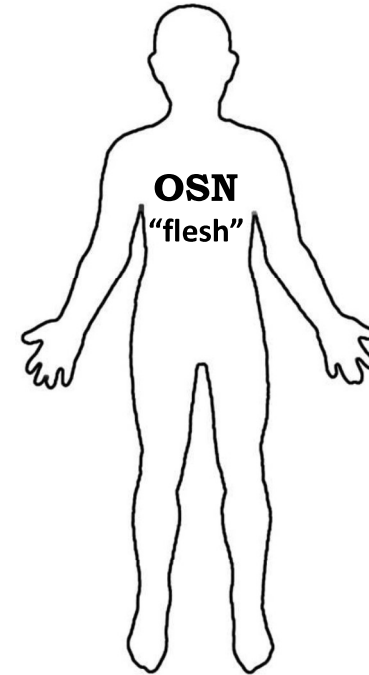
"witnesses of Jesus" – those who are brave in an extremely hostile world in their declaration of the person of Christ.

Unbeliever





Unbeliever



- Pride
- Arrogance
- Self-righteousness
- Self-sufficiency
- Independence

Self-Righteous Works

3 manifestations:

1. **Ritualism** – ceremonies, festivals, rites, music, prayers - deserve saving merit from God.
2. **Externalism** – gestures, fasts, garments, titles, postures, candles, architecture, icons, statues - deserve saving merit from God.
3. **Traditionalism** – holding all of the above from one generation to the next - deserve saving merit from God.

4 PROBLEMS WITH THIS APPROACH –

1. These are a man-made human apparatus for gaining God's favor and entrance into heaven.
2. They are all designed to exalt self, honor self, and give prominence to self. They are an abomination in the sight of God regardless how religious, sacred, and devout man may think they are, because they all come from the flesh.
3. All of the above removes Christ, voids the cross, and makes worthless the blood shed for man's sin.
4. Man, in his pride and ego, will always trend in the path of self-righteous.

Isa 64:6

And all our righteous deeds are like a filthy garment;

2 Tim 1:9

9 who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was granted us in Christ Jesus from all eternity,

Titus 3:5

5 He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit,

Phil 3:3-9

- 3 for we are the true circumcision, who worship in the Spirit of God and glory in Christ Jesus and put no confidence in the flesh,
- 4 although I myself might have confidence even in the flesh. If anyone else has a mind to put confidence in the flesh, I far more:
- 5 circumcised the eighth day, of the nation of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the Law, a Pharisee;
- 6 as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to the righteousness which is in the Law, found blameless.
- 7 But whatever things were gain to me, those things I have counted as loss for the sake of Christ.
- 8 More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish so that I may gain Christ,
- 9 and may be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own derived from the Law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which comes from God on the basis of faith,

Matt 23:13-39

- 13 "But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites, because you shut off the kingdom of heaven from people; for you do not enter in yourselves, nor do you allow those who are entering to go in.
- 14 ["Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites, because you devour widows' houses, and for a pretense you make long prayers; therefore you will receive greater condemnation.]
- 15 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites, because you travel around on sea and land to make one proselyte; and when he becomes one, you make him twice as much a son of hell as yourselves.
- 16 "Woe to you, blind guides, who say, 'Whoever swears by the temple, that is nothing; but whoever swears by the gold of the temple is obligated.'
- 17 "You fools and blind men! Which is more important, the gold or the temple that sanctified the gold?
- 18 "And, 'Whoever swears by the altar, that is nothing, but whoever swears by the offering on it, he is obligated.'
- 24 "You blind guides, who strain out a gnat and swallow a camel!

Rom 8:7-8

- 7 because the mind set on the flesh is hostile toward God; for it does not subject itself to the law of God, for it is not even able to do so,
- 8 and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

Rom 7:5-6

- 5 For while we were in the flesh, the sinful passions, which were aroused by the Law, were at work in the members of our body to bear fruit for death.

Rom 3:20

- 20 by the works of the Law no flesh will be justified in His sight;

Gal 2:16

- 16 nevertheless knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the Law but through faith in Christ Jesus, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, so that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the Law; since by the works of the Law no flesh will be justified.

- 25 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you clean the outside of the cup and of the dish, but inside they are full of robbery and self-indulgence.

- 26 "You blind Pharisee, first clean the inside of the cup and of the dish, so that the outside of it may become clean also.

- 27 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs which on the outside appear beautiful, but inside they are full of dead men's bones and all uncleanness.

- 28 "So you, too, outwardly appear righteous to men, but inwardly you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness.

- 29 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you build the tombs of the prophets and adorn the monuments of the righteous,

- 30 and say, 'If we had been living in the days of our fathers, we would not have been partners with them in shedding the blood of the prophets.'

- 31 "So you testify against yourselves, that you are sons of those who murdered the prophets.

32 "Fill up, then, the measure of the guilt of your fathers.

33 "You serpents, you brood of vipers, how will you escape the sentence of hell?"

34 "Therefore, behold, I am sending you prophets and wise men and scribes; some of them you will kill and crucify, and some of them you will scourge in your synagogues, and persecute from city to city,

35 so that upon you may fall the guilt of all the righteous blood shed on earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah, the son of Berechiah, whom you murdered between the temple and the altar.

36 "Truly I say to you, all these things will come upon this generation.

37 "Jerusalem, Jerusalem, who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, the way a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were unwilling.

38 "Behold, your house is being left to you desolate!"

COUNCIL OF TRENT

1545 - 1563

CANON 9: "If any one saith, that by faith alone the impious is justified; in such wise as to mean, that nothing else is required to co-operate in order to the obtaining the grace of Justification, and that it is not in any way necessary, that he be prepared and disposed by the movement of his own will; let him be anathema."

CANON 12: "If any one shall say that justifying faith is nothing else than confidence in the divine mercy pardoning sins for Christ's sake, or that it is that confidence alone by which we are justified . . . let him be accursed."

CANON 14: "If any one saith, that man is truly absolved from his sins and justified, because that he assuredly believed himself absolved and justified; or, that no one is truly justified but he who believes himself justified; and that, by this faith alone, absolution and justification are effected; let him be anathema."

CANON 24: "If any one saith, that the justice received is not preserved and also increased before God through good works; but that the said works are merely the fruits and signs of Justification obtained, but not a cause of the increase thereof; let him be anathema."

CANON 30: "If any one saith, that, after the grace of Justification has been received, to every penitent sinner the guilt is remitted, and the debt of eternal punishment is blotted out in such wise, that there remains not any debt of temporal punishment to be discharged either in this world, or in the next in Purgatory, before the entrance to the kingdom of heaven can be opened (to him); let him be anathema."

“False religion is always the worst enemy of true religion.”

- John Walvoord

- The world hates us because we condemn their lifestyle.
- Religion hates us because we condemn the works of the flesh.

The Blood of the Martyrs

<u>Nation</u>	<u>god/goddess</u>
Egyptians	Amon
Canaanites	Asherah, Baal
Babylonians	Ashtoreth, Bel, Marduck, Dagon, Tammuz
Phoenicians	Baal, Molech
Philistines	Baal-Zebub, Dagon
Moabites	Chemosh

Martyrs by the harlot in Revelation:

- Antipas in the church of Pergamos was a faithful martyr (Rev. 2:13).
- Fifth seal is opened, John sees “the souls of those who had been slain for the word of God and for the testimony which they held” (Rev. 6:9).
- God’s two witnesses are martyred (Rev. 11:7).
- John sees martyrs standing on the sea of glass (Rev. 15:2)
- At the beginning of the Millennium, John sees “the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received *his* mark on their foreheads or on their hands” (Rev. 20:4).

Throughout history countless deaths can laid at the feet of the Babylonian harlot. She is responsible for the deaths of God’s children and she will be judged for her blood thirsty ways!

The Inquisition and Spanish Inquisition

- Roughly 700 years.
 - The official start is usually given as 1231 A.D.
 - One million believers killed.
- “**Bloody Mary**” - Queen Mary who ruled England.
- 288 Christians were burnt at the stake for their stand for Christian truth between 1555 and 1558.
 - **St. Bartholomews Day Massacre** – 1572
 - 3,000 Huguenots (believers) killed in Paris and altogether 70, 000 in France.
 - Today we have radical Islamic terrorists persecuting and murdering believers.
 - All those who will be martyred in the Tribulation; all of the death and suffering will be laid to the harlot’s account. God will judge the harlot for the death she has caused and the pleasure it has brought her.

Rev 17:6-13

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John is stunned by the magnitude of what he is being shown.

4 things:

1. Her support by the beast.
Why would the Antichrist want to support a 1 world religion?
2. Her great wealth.
How can she possibly gain that much wealth?
3. Her extreme hatred for believers.
How can she justify all of the bloodshed?
4. Her scope both historically and geographically.
How is it possible to cover the entire earth with one worldwide religion?

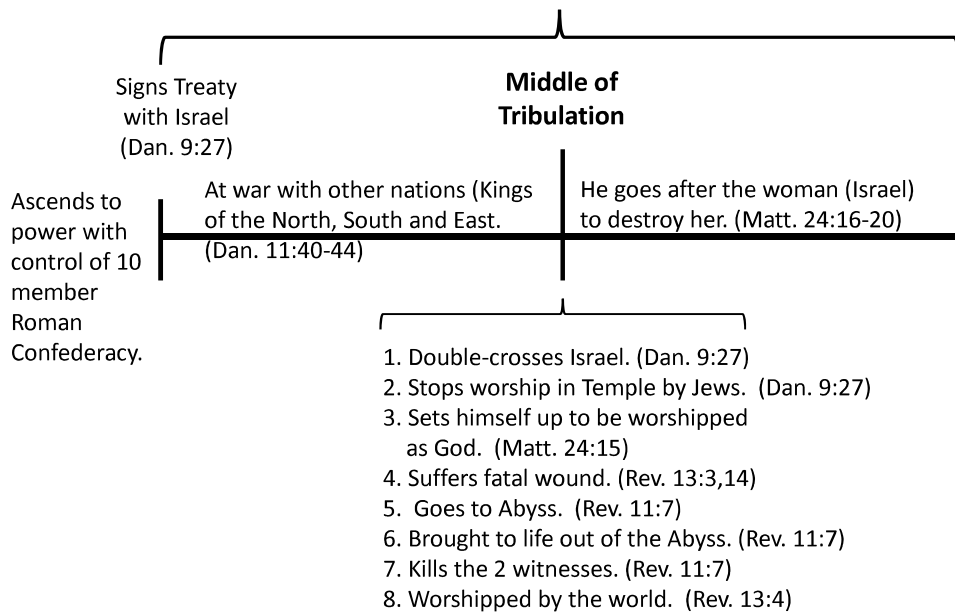
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Here is a brief summary of the existence of the Antichrist:

- "was" - *In the first half of the Tribulation the Antichrist came on the scene, defeated nations, was on the rise.*
- "is not" – *died from mortal head wound.*
- "is about to come out of abyss" – *resurrected.*

History of the Antichrist

7 Year Tribulation

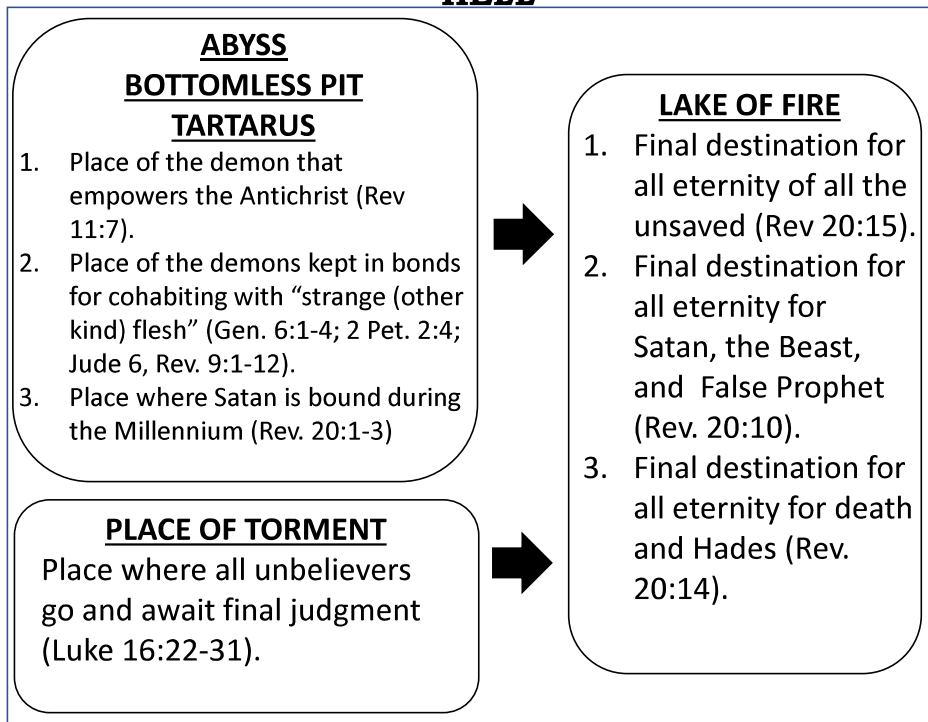


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- *"is not" – died from mortal head wound.*
- *"is about to come out of abyss" – resurrected.*
- *"and go to destruction" – cast into the Lake of Fire*

HELL



"And those who dwell on the earth, whose name has not been written in the book of life from the foundation of the world,"

- *"those who dwell on the earth" – unbelievers.*
- *These are unbelievers who have not been written in the book of life from the foundation of the world.*

Rev 13:8

8 All who dwell on the earth will worship him, everyone whose name has not been written from the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb who has been slain.

Rev 17:8

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“before the foundation of the world” – that which happened before God began the creation of the world, in eternity past.

John 17:24

24 "Father, I desire that they also, whom You have given Me, be with Me where I am, so that they may see My glory which You have given Me, for You loved Me before the foundation of the world.

Eph 1:3

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,

4 just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world,

1 Peter 1:20

20 For He was foreknown before the foundation of the world, but has appeared in these last times for the sake of you

“foundation of the world” – a phrase that describes God’s initial work of creating the earth.

Zech 12:1

1 Thus declares the Lord who stretches out the heavens, lays the foundation of the earth, and forms the spirit of man within him,

Luke 11:50

50 so that the blood of all the prophets, shed since the foundation of the world, may be charged against this generation,

Matt 25:34

34 "Then the King will say to those on His right, 'Come, you who are blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.

“book of life”

- The “book of life” is the registry in which God inscribed the names of those chosen (the elect) for salvation before the foundation of the world. (This phrase is used as a synonym for eternity past in 17:8; Matt 13:35; 25:34; Luke 11:50; Eph 1:4; Heb 9:26; 1 Peter 1:20; cf. 2 Thess 2:13; and 2 Tim 1:9.)
- Seven times in the New Testament, believers are identified as those whose names are written in the book of life (cf. 3:5; 17:8; 20:12,15; 21:27; Phil 4:3).
- “written in the Book of Life” – perfect passive indicative verb.

Rev 3:5

5 'He who overcomes will thus be clothed in white garments; and I will not erase his name from the book of life, and I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels.

1 John 5:4,5

4 For whatever is born of God overcomes the world; and this is the victory that has overcome the world — our faith.

5 Who is the one who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

Phil 4:3

3 Indeed, true companion, I ask you also to help these women who have shared my struggle in the cause of the gospel, together with Clement also and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the book of life.

Rev 21:25-27

25 In the daytime (for there will be no night there) its gates will never be closed;

26 and they will bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it;

27 and nothing unclean, and no one who practices abomination and lying, shall ever come into it, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life.



Fanny Crosby
(1820–1915)

Fanny Crosby, who lived for 95 years, wrote over 7,000 hymns - nearly a hundred hymns every year for 70 years. Her output would fill seven large volumes of a thousand hymns each, and she never appears to have grown weary of her task.

Here is what she said about the origin of the hymn we are looking at tonight. "The hymn was called into being through a sermon preached by Dr. Howard Crosby who was a distant relative and dear friend of mine. He said that no Christian should fear death, for if each of us was faithful to the grace given us by Christ, the same grace that teaches us how to live would also teach us how to die. His remarks were afterward published in a newspaper, and they were read to me by Mr. Biglow. Not many hours after I heard them I began to write the hymn."

However, these words almost didn't see light of day. They came to public notice by accident, during a conference Fanny attended at Northfield, Massachusetts.



Fanny Crosby
(1820–1915)

During the meeting, the great evangelist, Dwight Moody, asked if Fanny—like so many others—would give a personal testimony to the audience. Not wanting to draw attention to herself, she almost declined, but finally got up to speak, and said: “Here is one hymn I have written which has never been published. I call it my soul’s poem. Sometimes when I am troubled, I repeat it to myself, for it brings comfort to my heart.” This hymn speaks of the day when we will reach our eternal destiny. We will rejoice and sing and testify that it was all by God’s grace. The name of this hymn is . . .

SAVED BY GRACE

1. Some day the silver cord will break,
And I no more as now shall sing;
But oh, the joy when I shall wake
Within the palace of the King!

Refrain

*And I shall see Him face to face,
And tell the story—Saved by grace;
And I shall see Him face to face,
And tell the story—Saved by grace.*

2. Some day my earthly house will
fall.

I cannot tell how soon ’twill be;
But this I know—my All in All
Has now a place in Heav’n for me.

Refrain

3. Some day, when fades the golden
sun
Beneath the rosy tinted west,
My blessèd Lord will say, Well done!
And I shall enter into rest.

Refrain

4. Some day: till then I’ll watch and
wait,
My lamp all trimmed and burning
bright,
That when my Savior opens the gate,
My soul to Him may take its flight.

Refrain