

Why I Believe – Lesson 11
Why I Believe What the Bible Says about the End of Time
Rev 20:11-15
By Russell Earl

Thesis: I want to show what the Bible says about the end of times.

- Intro:
1. Many books have been written and many movies made about the end of time.
 2. When the world ends it will not be because of a virus, climate change, lack of food, lack of rain forests, lack of clean drinking water, Y2K part 2, WWIII, because of Russia, because of Korea, because of Terrorism, because the rapture has taken place, or hasn't taken place, or anything else.
 3. The Bible is clear, the "end of time" takes place when Christ returns for the day of judgment.
 - a. The judgment is the reason the world ceases to exist, for this reason and nothing else.

I. What happens at the End of Time?

A. Christ descends and judgment begins

1. Christ will descend to begin judgment (**2 Thess 1:7-9**)
2. (**1 Thess 4:16-17**)The dead will rise, judgment is pronounced(**v.16a**) and the faithful go on to Heaven (v.16b)

B. The World Ends

1. The world as we know it comes to a complete and total end (**2 Pt 3:10**)
2. There are those who teach we will live on a "renovated earth". This teaching is false and has no scripturally support. You cannot renovate what no longer exists.
 - a. These individuals take the "new earth" as being literal.

II. The Day of Judgment

A. Is a promised & certain day

1. After man's appointed death – He will face the judgment of Christ at His second coming (**Heb 9:27**).
2. **Acts 17:31** – God has appointed His Son as the judge of all mankind on that promised day.

B. The standard of judgment (**Rev 20:12**)

1. The books are the standard of judgment, we can understand these books to be the law of God (v.12a)
 - a. The life of man is judged in light of God's law (v.12c)
2. The book of life is also mentioned, a book that contains the name of those who will have Heaven as their home (v.12b)

C. The sentences available to mankind (**Rev 20:12a,13-14**)

1. All are present for judgment and sentencing (**v.12a, 13a**)
2. They are judged (**v.13b**) and those who were not found acceptable to God face the second death (**v.14-15**).

III. Lessons for us today.

A. Judgment day is a day of separation (**1 Pt 4:17-18**)

1. The righteous are not spared judgment (v.17a)
 - a. What about those who do not obey the gospel? (v.17b)
2. The righteous are saved but even some “righteous” fail. (v.18a)
 - a. Since this is the case where can the ungodly and sinner expect to appear (v.18b)

B. Judgment day is a day of gains for the faithful Christian

1. Paul’s attitude was death was a gain – **Phil 1:21**
2. Paul said there was a reward (a crown) waiting for him but not just him (**2 Tim 4:7-8**)
 - a. For all those who “love His appearing” (v.8)

Application & Conclusion:

1. **2 Peter 3:10-11**, every person must answer the Apostles question.
 - a. Since these things will come to pass what must you do?
2. Full Invitation

Non-Christians must:

Hear – James 1:22, Romans 10:15,17

Believe – Jn 12:44, Jn 8:24, Mt 16:16

Repent – Luke 13:2-3

Confess – John 12:42, Romans 10:9

Be Baptized – 1 Pt 3:21, Acts 22:16, Col 2:11, Mk 16:16, Rom 6:3-4

Live faithfully – John 14:15, Rev 2:10

Christians must:

Repent: Acts 17:20, Acts 8:37, Lk 13:3

Pray: James 5:16, 1 Jn 1:9