

The **LAST** Generation

Prophecy Teaching Series

Pastor Dan Betzer / First Assembly of God / Fort Myers, Florida 2013

Part Seven / February 27, 2013

THE FINAL PURGE BEFORE ETERNITY

We have already discussed some of the judgment still pending, vis-a-vis The Judgment Seat of Christ and the Judgment of Nations. But tonight we open with the great “final judgment” before the White Throne of God. As Revelation clearly indicates, it is a daunting event yet to come:

Rev. 20:11-15 KJV

And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. [12] And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. [13] And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. [14] And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. [15] And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

Rev. 20:11-15 The Message

I saw a Great White Throne and the One Enthroned. Nothing could stand before or against the Presence, nothing in Heaven, nothing on earth. [12] And then I saw all the dead, great and small, standing there—before the Throne! And books were opened. Then another book was opened: the Book of Life. The dead were judged by what was written in the books, by the way they had lived. [13] Sea released its dead, Death and Hell turned in their dead. Each man and woman was judged by the way he or she had lived. [14] Then Death and Hell were hurled into Lake Fire. This is the second death—Lake Fire. [15] Anyone whose name was not found inscribed in the Book of Life was hurled into Lake Fire.

1 In the fall of 1946, a number of the remaining Nazi hierarchy appeared in a national court
2 tribunal in what was left of Nuremberg, Germany. While several of them were
3 acquitted, the others paid dearly for their bitter crimes against humanity.
4

5 Seven defendants drew prison sentences: Hess, Raeder and Funk for life, Speer and Schirach for twenty years, Neurath for fifteen, Doenitz for ten. The others were sentenced to death. At eleven minutes past 1 A.M. on October 16, 1946, Ribbentrop mounted the gallows in the execution chamber and he was followed in short intervals by Keitel, Kaltenbrunner, Rosenberg, Frank, Frick, Streicher, Seyss-Inquart, Saukel and Jodl. But not by Hermann Goering. He cheated the hangman. Two hours before his turn would have come, he swallowed a vial of poison that had been smuggled into his cell. Like his Fuhrer, Adolf Hitler, he had succeeded at the last hour in choosing the way in which he would depart this earth, on which he, like the others, had made such a murderous impact.

6
7 I have a lot of WWII film of that trial and the aftermath of the executions. In fact, I met
8 the granddaughter of Goering, who for most of WWII was the #2 figure in the Nazi party
9 and head of the Luftwaffe (the German air force). It was grim October for those Nazi
10 war lords.

11
12 But that scene will be child's play compared to what is coming for the unsaved at the
13 Great White Throne Judgment.

14
15 I recall the words of a legendary Baptist pastor in the mid-west who wrote:

16
17 *In all my ministry, I have never thought there was anything as important as keeping*
18 *folks out of Hell. I have always thought that was the biggest thing. In fact, if I*
19 *understand the Bible, that is why Jesus left Heaven. That is why He came to earth.*
20 *That is why He lived on earth for thirty-three years. That is why He went to Calvary.*
21 *That is why He rose again. That is what He is doing in Heaven tonight, interceding*
22 *for us, that people might go to Heaven. That is the biggest thing the church has to do.*
23 *That is the great job of the preacher. That is the most important job of the Christian.*
24 *Jesus said, "The Son of man is come to seek and to save the lost." He said again, "As*
25 *the Father hath sent me, even so send I you."*

26 27 THE TWO RESURRECTIONS FROM THE DEAD

28
29 At the great Rapture of the church, the dead in Christ (those believers who have passed
30 away) will rise from the graves, just as Jesus did 2,000 years ago. 1 Cor. 15:20 But

1 **now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept.**

2
3 Another word for “firstfruits” would be PROTOTYPE. Jesus was the model, the
4 pattern. Just as He rose, so shall all the dead believers rise at the first resurrection. They
5 will be raised in glory and hope to go home to their eternal rewards, to be re-united with
6 their souls and spirits already with the Lord. **YOU WANT TO BE IN THE FIRST**
7 **RESURRECTION, MY FRIEND!**

8
9 On line 9 of page 1 you were given the passage from Revelation that tells of the dreaded
10 second resurrection from the dead, that is, those who have died in their sins - great or
11 small - that were never covered by the precious atoning blood of Jesus Christ. They will
12 rise from burial sites, from ashes thrown to the wind, and even from the seas to give an
13 account of their unredeemed lives - an account to be given to God.

14 15 WHEN WILL THIS JUDGMENT TAKE PLACE?

16
17 Revelation clearly teaches that the Great White Throne Judgment will occur just after the
18 Millennium - the 1000 year reign of Christ on this earth. Rev. 20:5 **But the rest of the**
19 **dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first**
20 **resurrection.**

21 22 WHERE WILL THIS JUDGMENT OCCUR?

23
24 I believe that Revelation 20:11 teaches it will occur neither on earth or heaven, but
25 somewhere in between: **And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from**
26 **whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for**
27 **them.**

28 29 WHO WILL BE JUDGED?

30
31 Revelation 5:12 indicates that it is ‘the dead’ who stand before God. Most
32 commentators believe it is those who died “unredeemed” or “unsaved.” Revelation
33 20:12 states flatly “the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the
34 books.” Could this also mean the ‘spiritually-dead?’ I can make no clear statement on
35 that so I will just take the Word at face value.

36
37 What then will be the destiny of these people? Rev. 20:15 **And whosoever was not**
38 **found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.**

39
40 I love Dr. Pentecost’s summation:

1 *It (the Great White Throne Judgment) is climactic in dealing with evil in that Satan*
2 *will be bound and righteousness will be manifested. It is climactic in the program of*
3 *judgment in that ever living enemy of God's program is judged. It is climactic for the*
4 *program for the earth in that the earth can rejoice in the lifting of the curse. It is*
5 *climactic in the program of resurrection in that all the righteous are raised to share in*
6 *God's glory. It is climactic in the program to manifest sovereignty in that the Son is*
7 *manifested in glory in His kingdom. Such an event cannot be minimized nor deleted*
8 *in its rightful place in God's program of the ages.*

9 THINGS TO COME / D D PENTECOST / DUNHAM / PAGE 426

10
11 NOW WE COME TO THE PREPARATION FOR
12 THE ETERNAL KINGDOM OF GOD
13

14 There frankly is not a volume of information in the Bible concerning our eternal home or
15 existence; however, that which we do have assures us fully of the glorious future awaiting
16 us. But before eternity ever opens to us, God will put down the last vestige of human
17 rebellion against him. There will be one final purge - and this is truly a fascinating
18 insight into what's ahead for Satan.
19

20 Let's deal with his ultimate demise. John wrote about a scene on this earth at the end of
21 the Millennium that virtually stuns our human comprehension:
22

23 Rev. 20:2-3

24 **And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan,**
25 **and bound him a thousand years, [3] And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut**
26 **him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the**
27 **thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season.**
28

29 Rev. 20:7-9

30 **And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison,**
31 **[8] And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the**
32 **earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as**
33 **the sand of the sea. [9] And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed**
34 **the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: and fire came down from God out**
35 **of heaven, and devoured them.**
36

37 How bizarre is that! While the Millennium - the thousand-year reign of Christ - has been
38 fabulous, there will be millions born during that time who still show no interest in God or
39 His redemptive plan. They only lip-serve the King because they have to. Well, God is
40 not going to allow any person in eternity who is not redeemed in heart, spirit and action.
41 So Satan, who has been bound in hell for a thousand years, will be released for one final

1 shot at mankind. He will emerge from his thousand-year pit in unparalleled anger and
2 viciousness. *The release of Satan is viewed in Scripture as the final test that*
3 *demonstrates the corruption of the human heart. God has subjected fallen humanity*
4 *to numerous tests in the development of His program of the kingdom and of*
5 *redemption. Man has failed every test. The purpose⁴ for which Satan will be released*
6 *will demonstrate that even when tested under the reign of King Jesus and the revelation*
7 *of His holiness, man remains a failure. While those going into the Millennium were*
8 *saved, they were not perfected (that is raised in the first resurrection with glorified*
9 *bodies) and the progeny born to them during the millennial age were born with the*
10 *same fallen nature with which their parents were born and consequently needed*
11 *regeneration. During the administration of the King, in which He ruled with a rod of*
12 *iron, outward conformity to His law was necessary. The binding of Satan, the*
13 *removal of external sources of temptation, the fulness of knowledge, the bountiful*
14 *provision from the King, caused many whose hearts had not been regenerated to give*
15 *this required conformity to the law of the King. There must be a test to determine the*
16 *true heart condition of the individuals in this age.”*

17 THINGS TO COME / IBID / PAGE 549

18
19 Jennings writes:

20
21 *Has human nature changed, at least apart from sovereign grace? Is the carnal mind*
22 *at last friendship with God? Have a thousand years of absolute power and absolute*
23 *benevolence, both in unchecked activity, done away with all war forever and ever?*
24 *Those questions must be marked by a practical test. Let Satan be loosed once more*
25 *from his prison. Let him range once more earth's smiling fields that he knew of old.*
26 *He saw them last soaked with blood and flooded with tears, the evidence and*
27 *accompaniments of his own reign; he sees them now laughing with abundance.*

28
29 *But as he pursues his way further from Jerusalem, the center of this blessedness, the*
30 *tokens become fainter; until in the far-off corner of the earth, they cease altogether, for*
31 *he finds myriads who have instinctively shrunk from close contact with that holy center*
32 *and are not unprepared once more to be deceived.*

33 STUDIES IN REVELATION / F. C. JENNINGS / P. 538

34
35 I used to think that was really “pushing the point,” until I began visiting Russia. When Stalin died in 1953, he was hated and reviled in Moscow. That feeling remains to this day in the major cities, and well it should for “Uncle Joe” killed millions of his own people. However - and this shocked me - the farther from Moscow I traveled in the former Soviet Union, the more people I found who still actually loved and revered the despicable tyrant and wanted him back.. So it will be with the last hurrah of Satan. He will still have “fans.”

THE IDENTITY OF GOG AND MAGOG

When we studied from Ezekiel 38 and 39 the attack against Israel during the Tribulation period, we learned of Gog and Magog, readily identified as Russia and her tributaries. Now we read again that Satan will have a massive following after his return to earth at the end of the Millennium. Are we still talking about Russia? I don't think so. I believe John is telling through the Holy Spirit that just as the demons of hell motivated the attack against Israel in the Tribulation, so Satan and his minions will influence one more rebellion against Jesus Who reigns from where? – Jerusalem!

But how can such a massive insurrection take place? *It is difficult to understand how such an enterprise will be possible with Christ on the throne and in immediate authority as described in Isaiah 11:3-5: And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the Lord: and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears: [4] But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked. [5] And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins. There is no solution to this problem other than that of a divine permission in the consummation of evil in the universe. To the same end it may be inquired why with Him upon the throne of the universe He ever permitted the evil which He hates. When, in the light of heaven's understanding, the one problem is solved, the other will be solved also.*

SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY / LEWIS SPERRY CHAFER / VOLUME V / PAGE 361\

It is amazing that after everything mankind has seen in that period that there will still be multitudes who rebel against God and believe the master craftsman of lies, Satan. God will stop this final insurrection through the pouring out of fire on all the rebels under Satan's leadership (Rev. 20:9 - **And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them.**) And with that.....Satan is for all time kaput!

THE PURGING OF CREATION

You will remember that, back in the beginning, God pronounced three curses: 1) One of mankind because of sin, but Jesus took the curse of sin upon Himself at Calvary so that those who accept Him need not be concerned about that particular curse; 2) One on Satan, which, as we have just seen, was fulfilled after Satan's abortive coup attempt against God at the end of the Millennium; and 3) a curse upon the earth:

1 Genesis 3:17-18

2 **And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife,**
3 **and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of**
4 **it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy**
5 **life; [18] Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the**
6 **herb of the field;**

7
8 Now before we are ushered into Eternity, this one last curse must be dealt with. The
9 great Apostle Peter told us what would happen:

10
11 2 Peter 3:10-13

12 **But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens**
13 **shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the**
14 **earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. [11] Seeing then that**
15 **all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy**
16 **conversation and godliness, [12] Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day**
17 **of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall**
18 **melt with fervent heat? [13] Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new**
19 **heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.**

20
21 Matthew 24:35 **Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass**
22 **away.**

23
24 Hebrews 1:10-12

25 **And, Thou, Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the earth; and the**
26 **heavens are the works of thine hands: [11] They shall perish; but thou remainest;**
27 **and they all shall wax old as doth a garment; [12] And as a vesture shalt thou fold**
28 **them up, and they shall be changed: but thou art the same, and thy years shall not**
29 **fail.**

30
31 So we see, do we not, that the final bastions of anti-God rebellion are once and for all
32 repulsed. A new earth with surrounding atmosphere will be created. This new entity
33 will be the scene of the eternal theocratic (God-rule) kingdom of God.

34
35 At that point it will finally be fulfilled which John prophesied 2,000 years ago:

36
37 Rev. 21:3

38 **And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is**
39 **with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself**
40 **shall be with them, and be their God.**

1 Can you even imagine, living in the very presence of God on the earth - the new one He
2 has just created? Do you remember Jesus' prayer?

3
4 John 17:24

5 **Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am;**
6 **that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovedst me**
7 **before the foundation of the world.**

8
9 Next week we take up the residences of those in eternity - Heaven or Hell. They are both
10 very real places with very real people in them. And - it will be an eternal state.

11
12 I cannot emphasize strongly enough the importance of this study for it is what should
13 propel or motivate believers and churches today. One day - everyone of you in this
14 room - will be in one place or the other and your situation will be forever and ever.