

Understanding the Last Great Day

Doctrinal Statement:

- Untold millions have lived & died without ever having had **knowledge sufficient** for **salvation**. The Last Great Day represents the time when they shall be resurrected & given that chance—not a second chance but a first chance, a chance they will not have had before.
- Only then will God's initial plan for mankind be **at an end**.
- Thus, this last great holy day of God pictures the greatest period of salvation for mankind — the Great White Throne Judgment (Revelation 20:11–15).
- The culmination of the plan of salvation is marked by the renewal of the whole creation in the New Heaven & the New Earth (Revelation 21).
- Death & destruction are now no more; human history is at an end. The Kingdom of God has become eternal.

? Where do we get this understanding from?

The Feast of Booths

Lev 23:33 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

Lev 23:34 Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, The fifteenth day of this seventh month shall be the feast of tabernacles for seven days unto the LORD.

Lev 23:35 On the first day shall be an holy convocation: ye shall do no servile work therein.

Lev 23:36 Seven days ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD: **on the eighth day** shall be an holy convocation unto you; and ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD: it is a solemn assembly; and ye shall do no servile work therein.

Rivers of Living Water

Joh 7:37 In the **last day, that great day of the feast**, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If **any man thirst**, let him come unto me, and drink.

Joh 7:38 He that believeth on me (as the scripture hath said), out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.

Joh 7:39 (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the **Holy Ghost** was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)

- **Isa 12:2-3** Behold, God is my salvation, I will trust and not be afraid; 'For YAH, the LORD, is my strength and song; He also has become my salvation.' " Therefore with joy you will draw water From the wells of salvation.
- **Isa 44:3** For I will pour water on him who is thirsty, And floods on the dry ground; I will pour My Spirit on your descendants, And My blessing on your offspring;
- **Isa 58:11** The LORD will guide you continually, And satisfy your soul in drought, And strengthen your bones; You shall be like a watered garden, And like a spring of water, whose waters do not fail.

Today, I want to **review & equip** everyone here (& listening) ...

- **What happens after Jesus' return?** As we explore our way to the **events** of the Last Great Day – and beyond!
- We've heard about the saints being caught up in the air (the first Resurrection – **1Thes 4**)
- **What will we be doing after that?** “Kingdom of God” What **milestone** events??

Most important Fact for everyone on Planet Earth

- **Act 4:11-12** This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner. Neither is there salvation in any other: for **there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.**
- **Joh 14:6** Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

Key “End time” events (Rev 19-20)

- Return of Jesus – First Resurrection (**Trumpets**)
Rev 19:11 Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war.

1Th 4:16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.
1Th 4:17 Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.
- Satan bound – the 1000 years – (**Atonement**)
Rev 20:1 Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand.
Rev 20:2 He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years;
Rev 20:3 and he cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal on him, so that he should **deceive** the nations no more till the thousand years were finished. But after these things he must be released for a little while.
 - Is it a “fair chance” if someone is deceived?
 - deceive, mislead, delude, beguile mean to lead astray or frustrate usually by underhandedness. deceive implies imposing a false idea or belief that causes ignorance, bewilderment, or helplessness.

The Millenium

Matt 13 parables of the Kingdom ... we learn

- **Mustard Seed – starts small ... grows great**
- **Pearl of Great price ... Worth everything to attain**
- **Parable of the tares**

Isa 2:2-4 Now it shall come to pass in the latter days That the mountain of the LORD's house Shall be established on the top of the mountains, And shall be exalted above the hills; And all nations shall flow to it.

Isa 2:3 Many people shall come and say, "Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, To the house of the God of Jacob; He will teach us His ways, And we shall walk in His paths." For out of Zion shall go forth the law, And the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

Isa 2:4 He shall judge between the nations, And rebuke many people; They shall beat their swords into plowshares, And their spears into pruning hooks; Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, Neither shall they learn war anymore.

Isa 30:21 ... your eyes shall see your teachers. Your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, "This is the way, walk in it," Whenever you turn to the right hand Or whenever you turn to the left.

Mic 4:4 But everyone shall sit under his vine and under his fig tree, And no one shall make them afraid; For the mouth of the LORD of hosts has spoken.

Those who were Changed at Christ's return

Rev 20:4-6 And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Then I saw 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. And they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.

Rev 20:5 But the rest of the dead did not live again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection.

Rev 20:6 Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but **they shall be priests of God and of Christ**, and shall **reign** with Him a thousand years.

- **The Defeat of Satan (Ezek 38-39)**

Rev 20:7 Now when the thousand years have expired, Satan will be released from his prison

Rev 20:8 and will go out to **deceive** the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle, whose number is as the sand of the sea.

Rev 20:9 They went up on the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city. And fire came down from God out of heaven and devoured them.

Upon release, he will continue his **work of deceit** by deceiving the carnal people who, at the end of the 1000-year reign of Christ, were not born again into the Kingdom (Rev 20:7–9).

Rev 20:10 The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet are. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

Now, Satan the devil is completely gone, unable to ever again be a threat to anyone. The resurrection of the “rest of the dead” who have never had a chance to understand God’s plan of salvation can begin without the interference of Satan.

Significance of the Last Great Day... (undiscussed in Lev 23)

- Judgment Before the Great White Throne

Rev 20:11 Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them.

Rev 20:12 And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books.

These are not the “dead in Christ”; they are the billions who are not Christ’s, **who have never been begotten and converted**, who may never have heard the gospel or the name of Jesus.

Rev 20:13 The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works.

The obedient believers of the Old Testament & the obedient of the church age, along with the martyrs of the tribulation period, are not included because they are not “dead”; they are alive forevermore, having received new spiritual bodies in the first resurrection (1 Cor 15:52–54).

Their works may include rejection of Christ & following of Satan, but all their works will be included in the records. When believers confess and repent of their sins, their sins will be blotted out. Even the sins believers are unaware of are cleansed, being forgiven (1 John 1:7,10; 2:1).

God allows us great leeway on many issues, but **not** on how we are saved from sin & its consequences. **To be saved, one must accept Jesus Christ as Lord & Savior.**

But what about those who have never had a chance to hear the gospel or the name of Jesus?

Are they lost forever because this saving name never reached them?

- Obviously, those who have not heard the way of salvation & the name of Jesus Christ **are without hope of salvation, are lost forever, if** there is no future opportunity for salvation.

The awesome truth is that all mankind **from all time will** have an opportunity for salvation & the attainment of eternal life in the family of God. No human being is doomed forever simply because he has never heard of Christ's name or never really understood God's purpose & plan.

- (2 Peter 3:9) God is "not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance"

Is Just Israel given this chance??

Mat 11:20-24 Then He began to rebuke the cities in which most of His mighty works had been done, because they did not repent:

Mat 11:21 "Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the mighty works which were done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes.

Mat 11:22 But I say to you, it will be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon in the day of judgment than for you.

Mat 11:23 And you, Capernaum, who are exalted to heaven, will be brought down to Hades; for if the mighty works which were done in you had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day.

Mat 11:24 But I say to you that it shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom in the day of judgment than for you."

Mat 12:41-42 The men of Nineveh will rise up in the judgment with this generation and condemn it, because they repented at the preaching of Jonah; and indeed a greater than Jonah is here.

Mat 12:42 The queen of the South will rise up in the judgment with this generation and condemn it, for she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and indeed a greater than Solomon is here.

He intends to give everyone a chance to know & understand His truth & to have the opportunity to be with Him in His glorious Kingdom

- 1Tim 2:4 (*God*) Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.

While **everyone will have an opportunity** for salvation, all will **not** receive this opportunity **at the same time.**

- From Adam until Jesus return
- The Millennium
- The 2nd Resurrection

Judgment does not always mean passing sentence. In some texts, it implies a process, a period of time during which a person's mind is opened to understand God's plan, & during which his actions are under daily scrutiny by God in the light of that understanding. God is intimately concerned with His children, and works in their lives to produce the best ultimate results.

- (Matthew 13:36–43) The parable of the tares of the field shows that Christians start out as seeds and must grow until the harvest.

For most people, this **judgment** process covers a **period of many years**.

- It is only at the end of this period that God makes the decision of whether or not that person shall enter His Kingdom at the resurrection.

But judgment involves **more** than just making a “yes” or “no” decision, more than the simple determination of whether a person will be granted salvation; for, indeed, the **overwhelming majority will receive salvation**.

- **Where is this indicated in Scripture or Reasoning?**

Luk 13:23-24 Then one said to Him, "**Lord, are there few who are saved?**"

Jesus Doesn't answer... He instead focuses on Action

And He said to them, "**Strive to enter through the narrow gate**, for many, I say to you, will seek to enter and will not be able.

Mat 7:14 Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.

Heb 2:10 For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things and by whom are all things, in bringing **many sons to glory**, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.

Rom 9:27 Isaiah also cries out concerning Israel: "THOUGH THE NUMBER OF THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL BE AS THE SAND OF THE SEA, **THE REMNANT** WILL BE SAVED.

God always seems to have a righteous remnant (like the 7000 God told Elijah about 1Ki 19:18)

The Valley of Dry Bones

Eze 37:1 The hand of the LORD came upon me and brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD, and set me down in the midst of the valley; and it was full of bones.

Eze 37:2 Then He caused me to pass by them all around, and behold, there were very many in the open valley; and indeed they were very dry.

Eze 37:3 And He said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" So I answered, "O Lord GOD, You know."

Eze 37:4 Again He said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them, 'O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD!

Eze 37:5 Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: "Surely I will cause breath to enter into you, and you shall live.

Eze 37:6 I will put sinews on you and bring flesh upon you, cover you with skin and put breath in you; and you shall live. Then you shall know that I am the LORD." ' ' "

Eze 37:7 So I prophesied as I was commanded; and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and suddenly a rattling; and the bones came together, bone to bone.

Eze 37:8 Indeed, as I looked, the sinews and the flesh came upon them, and the skin covered them over; but there was no breath in them.

Eze 37:9 Also He said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophecy, son of man, and say to the breath, "Thus says the Lord GOD: "Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live." ' ' "

Eze 37:10 So I prophesied as He commanded me, and breath came into them, and they lived, and stood upon their feet, an exceedingly great army.

Eze 37:11 Then He said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They indeed say, 'Our bones are dry, our hope is lost, and we ourselves are cut off!'

Eze 37:12 Therefore prophecy and say to them, "Thus says the Lord GOD: "Behold, O My people, I will open your graves and cause you to come up from your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel.

Eze 37:13 Then you shall know that I am the LORD, when I have opened your graves, O My people, and brought you up from your graves.

Eze 37:14 I will put My Spirit in you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken it and performed it," says the LORD.' "

I Will Be Their God, They Shall Be My People

Eze 37:15 Again the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

Eze 37:16 "As for you, son of man, take a stick for yourself and write on it: 'For Judah and for the children of Israel, his companions.' Then take another stick and write on it, 'For Joseph, the stick of Ephraim, and for all the house of Israel, his companions.'

Eze 37:17 Then join them one to another for yourself into one stick, and they will become one in your hand.

Eze 37:18 "And when the children of your people speak to you, saying, 'Will you not show us what you mean by these?'—

Eze 37:19 say to them, "Thus says the Lord GOD: "Surely I will take the stick of Joseph, which is in the hand of Ephraim, and the tribes of Israel, his companions; and I will join them with it, with the stick of Judah, and make them one stick, and they will be one in My hand." ' "

Eze 37:20 And the sticks on which you write will be in your hand before their eyes.

Eze 37:21 "Then say to them, "Thus says the Lord GOD: "Surely I will take the children of Israel from among the nations, wherever they have gone, and will gather them from every side and bring them into their own land;

Eze 37:22 and I will make them one nation in the land, on the mountains of Israel; and one king shall be king over them all; they shall no longer be two nations, nor shall they ever be divided into two kingdoms again.

Eze 37:23 They shall not defile themselves anymore with their idols, nor with their detestable things, nor with any of their transgressions; but I will deliver them from all their dwelling places in which they have sinned, and will cleanse them. Then they shall be My people, and I will be their God.

Eze 37:24 "David My servant shall be king over them, and they shall all have one shepherd; they shall also walk in My judgments and observe My statutes, and do them.

Eze 37:25 Then they shall dwell in the land that I have given to Jacob My servant, where your fathers dwelt; and they shall dwell there, they, their children, and their children's children, forever; and My servant David shall be their prince forever.

Eze 37:26 Moreover I will make a covenant of peace with them, and it shall be an everlasting covenant with them; I will establish them and multiply them, and I will set My sanctuary in their midst forevermore.

Eze 37:27 My tabernacle also shall be with them; indeed I will be their God, and they shall be My people.

Eze 37:28 The nations also will know that I, the LORD, sanctify Israel, when My sanctuary is in their midst forevermore." ' "

The New Covenant

Jer 31:31 "Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah—

Jer 31:32 not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, though I was a husband to them, says the LORD.

Jer 31:33 But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.

Jer 31:34 No more shall every man teach his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them, says the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more."

Eze 36:24 For I will take you from among the nations, gather you out of all countries, and bring you into your own land.

Eze 36:25 Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols.

Eze 36:26 **I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.**

Eze 36:27 I will put **My Spirit** within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them.

Eze 36:28 Then you shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; you shall be My people, and I will be your God.

Eze 36:29 I will deliver you from all your uncleannesses. I will call for the grain and multiply it, and bring no famine upon you.

Eze 36:30 And I will multiply the fruit of your trees and the increase of your fields, so that you need never again bear the reproach of famine among the nations.

Eze 36:31 **Then you will remember your evil ways** and your deeds that were not good; and you will loathe yourselves in your own sight, for your iniquities and your abominations.

Eze 36:32 Not for your sake do I do this," says the Lord GOD, "let it be known to you. Be ashamed and confounded for your own ways, O house of Israel!"

Eze 36:33 "Thus says the Lord GOD: "On the day that I cleanse you from all your iniquities, I will also enable you to dwell in the cities, and the ruins shall be rebuilt.

Role of Spirit beings (firstfruits) in Millennium & 2nd Resurrection ... Many coming out of their first life have broken minds to be re-taught. Eg Beaten, molested, people may not trust & love ... as compared to someone resurrected from a good home ... Is our part to help mend these minds? Is it a failure of spirit beings (family of God) to not reach out to every human (in Millennium & 2nd Resurrection) to see ANY who do not have the Holy Spirit ... to focus evangelism and education there? If we can't overcome the poison attitudes and damage caused by the first life, why bother granting a second life?

When people are **not deceived**, is it reasonable they will respond positively to their Creator offering **prosperity, joy, eternal life?**

Human Nature

Rom 7:14 For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am carnal, sold under sin.

Rom 7:15 For what I am doing, I do not understand. For what I will to do, that I do not practice; but what I hate, that I do.

Rom 7:16 If, then, I do what I will not to do, I agree with the law that it is good.

Rom 7:17 But now, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells in me.

Rom 7:18 For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh) nothing good dwells; for to will is present with me, but how to perform what is good I do not find.

Rom 7:19 For the good that I will to do, I do not do; but the evil I will not to do, that I practice.

Rom 7:20 Now if I do what I will not to do, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells in me.

Rom 7:21 I find then a law, that evil is present with me, the one who wills to do good.

Rom 7:22 For I delight in the law of God according to the inward man.

Rom 7:23 But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members.

Rom 7:24 O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?

Rom 7:25 I thank God—through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, with the mind I myself serve the law of God, but with the flesh the law of sin.

Definition ... Vanity, Jealousy, Lust, Greed

1Jn 2:16 For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world.

Other? ... Is this (human nature) what Spirit beings are helping humans to overcome (during Millennium & during 2nd resurrection)?

Judgment also involves the **reward** that God will give to each person who qualifies. There are different positions & responsibilities in God's family.

- (Luke 19:12–27) As Jesus related in the **parable of the pounds** the servants who used their pounds profitably were all given positions of rulership, but the level or degree of their position was directly proportional to how much they had accomplished.
- (Matthew 25:14–30) The **parable of the talents** shows that God rewards each person according to what he has accomplished in relationship to what he had to start with. The servant who started with two talents & made two received the same reward as the servant who started with five & made five.

God's plan of salvation for mankind is pictured in His holy days. **God the Father is fair.**

- Psa 7:11 God is a just (*ESV-righteous*) judge
- Isa 30:18 ... For the LORD is a God of justice; Blessed are all those who wait for Him.

Because He is fair, He planned for everyone who has ever lived to receive the very same opportunity for salvation many of us are receiving at this time.

Today we explore God's perfect justice & mercy upon all of those who have **never yet** had an opportunity for salvation. We learn that God's great mercy extends even beyond the Millennium.

In contrast to the overcomers who will share the blessings of eternal life, **a list of**

8 classes of people that will not enter the Kingdom of God; they will suffer the "second death" (Revelation 21:8).

Rev 21:8 But the **cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars** shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."

1. First mentioned are the "fearful," the cowardly, those who timidly are lacking faith. This includes those who allow themselves to be frightened by society into conforming to the

world, not trusting in Christ. They are more concerned with personal safety than loyalty to Christ (Mark 8:35–36; 1Thessalonians 2:4; 2 Timothy 2:12–13).

2. Second are the “unbelieving” who treat the gospel & the promises as something lacking credibility. This speaks of those who have never believed, those who rejected the gospel, & those who, like the dog that returns to its own vomit, have fallen back into the practice of the lusts of the flesh. Those who do such things, making such things a part of their lifestyle, cannot inherit the Kingdom of God (Galatians 5:19–21).
3. Third are the “abominable,” those who are detestable to God & arouse His wrath. To profess a faith in God and continue to practice evil or anything idolatrous is an abomination in the sight of God.
4. Fourth are “murderers” who have deliberately, willfully taken human life.
5. Fifth are “whoremongers,” including those who practice any kind of sexual impurity or sexual immorality.
6. Sixth are “sorcerers” who use poisons, drugs, & magic potions.
7. Seventh are “idolaters” who put something else in the place of God.
8. Eighth are “all liars,” especially including all false prophets, false apostles, & false teachers (2 Peter 2:1).

These eight classes of people mentioned here will not enter the Kingdom of God; they will suffer the “second death” (Revelation 21:8).

Many claim that a person can be immoral, adulterous, homosexual, or practice any of the lusts of the flesh and still be a true child of God. They suppose a loving God would not send anyone to eternal death. They refuse to believe the clear scriptures (**1Corinthians 6:9,10; Galatians 5:19- 21; Ephesians 5:5–7**).

3 Principles of Judgement

First principle of judgment is God’s wrath against the stored up unrepented & unforgiven sin.

Second principle of judgment is “according to deeds.” Eternal life is not obtained by being patient in well doing, but by faith..

As human society provides punishment for the evildoer & rewards for the one who does good, so it is in God’s society. Grace **through faith alone** saves, but there is a reward in proportion to work.

Third principle is to understand that “there is no partiality with God.”

God shows no partiality, human preferences, or favoritism (Revelation 20:12; Daniel 7:10 in the light of Romans 2:6–11; Ecclesiastes 12:13–14; see also 2 Corinthians 5:10).

2Co 5:10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

Final Judgment – How long will they live while being judged?

Only one passage in the prophets reveals the answer: Isaiah 65:17–25. We would expect that period to be like the one thousand years because it is under the government of God, administered by Christ. But this millennial-like prophecy is an immediate prelude to the creation of “new heavens and a new earth” (verse 17).

Verse 20 tells us: “No more shall an infant from there live but a few days, Nor an old man who has not fulfilled his days; For the child shall die one hundred years old, But the sinner being one hundred years old shall be accursed.”

There will be two classes at the conclusion. The “child” & the “sinner.”

Notice what Jesus said: “Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it” (Luke 18:17).

Habitual sinners will still be present, but by the time they reach a century in age they will be declared “cursed” (Isaiah 65:20).

End of the Holy Day Plan of Salvation

Rev 20:14 Then Death & Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.

Rev 20:15 & anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.

We can safely assume the wicked dead will also receive some sort of body—a body that can suffer death—in this resurrection to judgment, shame, & everlasting contempt (Daniel 12:2; John 5:29).