

Week 26: Future Judgments and Eternity

Grudem_{ST} 56-57; Grudem_{BD} 33-34; Ryrie 91-92

A. The Fact of Judgment

1. “And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment,” (Heb. 9:27)
2. For believers...“For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.” (2 Cor. 5:10)

B. Future Resurrections (Ryrie, 603-609)

1. Between death and resurrection (Intermediate State)
 - a. Unsaved OT & NT – *sheol* (Heb.); *hades* (Gr.) (Luke 16:23)
 - b. Saved OT & NT – presence of the Lord (Grudem, 821-822; Ryrie, 605-607) (Luke 23:43)
2. Order
 - a. Christ – Rom. 6:9; Rev. 1:18
 - b. Believers – 1) NT saints (1Thess. 4:16); 2) OT saints (Dan. 12:2); 3) Tribulation Period saints (Rev. 20:4) = The First Resurrection (Rev. 20:6)
 - c. Unsaved – Rev. 20:5, 11-14

C. The Number of Judgments

1. Reformed tradition – one Final Judgment for all after the Millennium (Grudem, 1141-1142)
2. Dispensational view (Ryrie, 597-601)
 - a. Judgment Seat of Christ (*bema* seat) – 1Cor. 3:10-15; 2Cor 5:10 (for believers after the rapture; based on works; outcome – rewards or loss of rewards)
 - b. Sheep and Goats Judgment – Matt. 25:31-46 (for the *ethnos* [nations or Gentiles] of the Tribulation Period at Christ’s Second Coming; based on individual treatment of Israel during the Tribulation Period (an act of faith [cf. Jas. 2:21-24]); outcome – Millennial kingdom or hell)
 - c. Great White Throne Judgment – Rev. 20:11-15 (for the unsaved of all time; based on un-atoned for works and, thus, a name NOT recorded in the Book of Life; outcome – hell)

D. Eternal Rewards for the Believer

1. The fact of rewards (Matt. 5:12; 10:41-42; Luke 6:23, 35; 2Cor. 5:10; Col. 3:24; 2John 8)
2. There will be degrees of reward (Luke 19:12-27; 1Cor. 3:12-15)
3. Crowns as rewards (1Cor. 9:24-27; 1Thess. 2:19; 2Tim. 4:8; Jas. 1:12; 1Pet. 5:1-4; Rev. 2:10)

E. Eternal Destinies (Hitchcock, Mark: 101 Answers...End Times, 231-252)

1. Heaven – the place where God most fully makes known His presence to bless (Grudem, 1159)
 - a. A real place (John 14:1-3; 2Cor. 12:2; Rev. 21:9-22:5)
 - b. What will heaven be like? (Rev. 21-22)
 - c. Marriage Supper of the Lamb – during Tribulation Period (Rev. 19:6-10; cf. Matt. 8:11-12)
2. Hell (Gr. *gehenna*) – a place of eternal conscience punishment for the wicked (Grudem, 1149)
 - a. A literal place (see *hades* in Luke 16:19-31)
 - b. A place of memory (Luke 16:19-31)
 - c. A place of torment (Matt. 13:41-42; Mark 9:47-49; Luke 16:24-25, 28)
 - d. A place of eternal separation from God (2Thess.1:9)
 - e. There is no escape (Luke 16:26)
 - f. Compartments:
 1. Tartarus – place of confinement for fallen angels (2Pet. 2:4; cf. Jude 6-7)
 2. Abyss or bottomless pit – some demons presently confined here (Rev. 9:1-11; cf. Luke 8:31). Satan will be bound here for 1,000 years (Rev. 20:1-3)
 3. *Sheol* (Heb. שְׁאוֹל) & *Hades* (Gr. ᾗδης) – place where souls of lost people are presently confined while they wait for their final judgment (Luke 16:23; Rev. 1:18)
 - a. Will be destroyed and thrown into the lake of fire (Rev. 20:13-14)
 4. Lake of Fire – the final place of torment for Satan, demons and the lost (Rev. 20:10, 14-15)

“...and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.” (Rev. 20:10b) [lit. “into the eons of the eons”]

F. New Heavens and New Earth

1. Reformed tradition – present creation will be renewed (Grudem, 1160-1161)
2. Dispensational view – present creation will be destroyed and a completely new heaven and earth will be created (LaHaye, 355-358) [see Matt. 24:35; 2Pet. 3:10; Rev. 20:11; 21:1]