

The Rapture

Christ's Promise To Return—The Blessed Hope

It is said that there are over 2500 prophecies of Christ's second coming recorded in the Bible. It is referred to as the blessed hope.

Titus 2:13 looking for the blessed hope and appearing of the glory of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;

Christ promised that He would return to earth to gather His saints and take them to heaven.

John 14:1 Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. 2) In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. 3) And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.

In His prophecy, Christ warned four times of deceptions regarding His coming back to the earth.

Matthew 24:4 And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you.

Matthew 24:5 For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many.

Matthew 24:11 And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many.

Matthew 24:24 For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.

From Christ's warning regarding deceptive prophecies of His return, we can conclude two things. 1) There will be false teachings, 2) We do not have to be deceived.

We know that the deception comes from the religious world because we are warned of false prophets and false Christs. These false prophets will be prophesying false teachings regarding the second coming. So we should be diligent to study the events of His coming that we shall not be among those that are deceived.

Not only did Christ promise to return but He has also told us the manner in which He will return.

Acts 1:9 And when He had spoken these things, while they beheld, He was taken up; and a cloud received Him out of their sight. 10) And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; 11) Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen Him go into heaven.

Will His coming be visible?

Revelation 1:7 Behold, He cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see Him, and they also which pierced Him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of Him. Even so, Amen.

Matthew 24:27 For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of Man be.

Not only will every eye see Him but we will hear Him as well.

1 Thessalonians 4:16 For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the Archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

1 Corinthians 15:52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

The Psalms prophesy of Christ's coming.

Psalms 50:3 Our God shall come, and shall not keep silence: a fire shall devour before Him, and it shall be very tempestuous round about Him. 4) He shall call to the heavens from above, and to the earth, that He may judge His people. 5) Gather my saints together unto me; those that have made a covenant with me by sacrifice.

The Bible Says He Comes As A Thief

Doesn't He come as a thief in the night?

1 Thessalonians 5:2 For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night.

If you read the context, it will be understood that only those who are not watching will be surprised.

1 Thessalonians 5:1 But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you. 2) For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. 3) For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape. 4) But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief. 5) Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness. 6) Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober.

John the revelator also reveals the same concept of coming as a thief to those who are not watching.

Revelation 3:3 Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast, and repent. If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee.

Revelation 16:12, 15 And the sixth angel poured out his vial upon the great river Euphrates; and the water thereof was dried up, that the way of the kings of the east might be prepared. . . 15) Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame.

There Is Destruction When He Comes

1 Thessalonians 5:3 For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.

Peter as well as Paul describes the destruction when Christ does come.

2 Peter 3:9 The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. 10) But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.

Matthew 13:39 The enemy that sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; and the reapers are the angels. 40) As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this world. 41) The Son of man shall send forth His angels, and they shall gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; 42) And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth. 43) Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.

Here are a few more passages that describe the sudden destruction.

Isaiah 24:19 The earth is utterly broken down, the earth is clean dissolved, the earth is moved exceedingly. 20) The earth shall reel to and fro like a drunkard, and shall be removed like a cottage; and the transgression thereof shall be heavy upon it; and it shall fall, and not rise again.

Revelation 6:14 . . . every mountain and island were moved out of their places.

Revelation 16:18-20 . . . so mighty an earthquake. . . and the great city divided. . . and the cities of the nations fell:

Jeremiah 4:23-27 I beheld the earth, and, lo, it was without form, and void; and the heavens, and they had no light. . . For thus hath the Lord said, The whole land shall be desolate;. . .

The Wicked Are Destroyed At His Coming

1 Thessalonians 5:7 And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, 8) In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: 9) Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of His power;

2 Thessalonians 2:8 And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of His mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of His coming:

Jeremiah 25:30 Therefore prophesy thou against them all these words, and say unto them, The LORD shall roar from on high, and utter His voice from His holy habitation; He shall mightily roar upon His habitation; He shall give a shout, as they that tread the grapes, against all the inhabitants of the earth. 31) A noise shall come even to the ends of the earth; for the LORD hath a controversy with the nations, He will plead with all flesh; He will give them that are wicked to the sword, saith the LORD. 32) Thus saith the LORD of hosts, Behold, evil shall go forth from nation to nation, and a great whirlwind shall be raised up from the coasts of the earth. 33) And the slain of the LORD shall be at that day from one end of the earth even unto the other end of the earth: they shall not be lamented, neither gathered, nor buried; they shall be dung upon the ground.

The Saints Will Be Gathered, The Sleeping Saints Resurrected,

Matthew 24:30 And then shall appear the sign of the Son of Man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of Man coming in the clouds of heaven with

power and great glory. 31) And He shall send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

John 5:25 Verily, verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live. . . . 28) Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear His voice, 29) And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation.

John 6:40 And this is the will of Him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on Him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day.

1 Thessalonians 4:13 But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. 14) For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring [Greek-lead] with Him. 15) For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent [Greek- precede] them which are asleep. 16) For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the Archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: 17) Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. 18) Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

1 Corinthians 15:51 Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, 52) In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. 53) For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. 54) So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.

One Taken, The Other Left?

Isn't there to be a **secret rapture** where one will be taken and the other left? Before we look at those passages, let us first notice what Christ says about His coming back. He has told us before time that we should not be deceived. No one will have to tell us that Christ has come, and He warned us to beware of those who say He has come in secret.

Matthew 24:24 For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect. 25) Behold, I have told you before. 26) Wherefore if they shall say unto you, Behold, He is in the desert; go not forth: behold, He is in the secret chambers; believe it not. 27) For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of Man be. 28) For wheresoever the carcase is, there will the eagles be gathered together.

Notice what Christ said, "For wheresoever the carcase is, there will the eagles be gathered together." This will be important as we examine the following verses.

Matthew 24:37 But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of Man be. 38) For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, 39) And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of Man be. 40) Then shall two be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left. 41) Two women shall be grinding at the mill; the one shall be taken, and the other left.

Christ likened His coming to the days of the flood. There were two classes of people, the wicked that died and the righteous who were left alive—saved in the ark. It states that **they** were carrying on life as normal and “knew not until the flood came.” Who would He be referring to? The righteous or the wicked? Obviously He was referring to the wicked who refused to be warned of the coming flood. Next it states that “the flood came and **“took them all away.”** With our form of speech, we would assume that they were **taken up** and saved from the destruction. But, if we allow the scriptures to define what is meant by **“took them all away,”** we will find it to be different than our assumptions. We need only to go to Luke’s account of the same reference to discover the true definition.

Luke 17:26 And as it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of Man. 27) They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, and the flood came, and destroyed them all.

Luke’s account states that, “the flood came, and **destroyed them all.**” Then Luke adds the account of Lot in Sodom and Gomorrah, in which you also have those that were destroyed and those who were left alive.

Luke 17:28 Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded; 29) But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all. 30) Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of Man is revealed.

Luke 17:34 I tell you, in that night there shall be two men in one bed; the one shall be taken, and the other shall be left. 35) Two women shall be grinding together; the one shall be taken, and the other left. 36) Two men shall be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left.

Remember what Jesus said in Matthew 24:28 regarding the eagles gathering where the carcasses were? Let’s look at the rest of Luke’s passage.

Luke 17:37 And they answered and said unto Him, Where, Lord? And He said unto them, Wheresoever the body is, thither will the eagles be gathered together.

When the disciples asked Him **“Where, Lord?”** would they have been inquiring where would they be taken or where would they be left? It is clear they would have been referring to **where would they be taken?** Christ answers, “Wheresoever the body is, thither will the eagles be gathered together.” Does the answer agree with what we have learned in comparing the two passages—**took them all away** in Matthew meaning, **destroyed them all** in Luke? Do eagles feed on live bodies or carcasses?

This understanding that the wicked are destroyed at His coming is in harmony with all the other scriptures we have examined.

Here is another scripture stating that **taken** refers to death.

Acts 8:32 The place of the scripture which he read was this, He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and like a lamb dumb before His shearer, so opened He not His mouth: 33) In His humiliation His judgment was taken away: and who shall declare His generation? for His life is taken from the earth.

Do we have any scriptures that describe the survivors as the ones that are “*left*”?

Isaiah 24:5 The earth also is defiled under the inhabitants thereof; because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance, broken the everlasting covenant. 6) Therefore hath the curse devoured the earth, and they that dwell therein are desolate: therefore the inhabitants of the earth are burned, and few men left.

Revelation speaks of Christ’s coming, the destruction of the wicked and the fowls feasting on them.

Revelation 19:11 And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and He that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He doth judge and make war. 12) His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns; and He had a name written, that no man knew, but He himself. 13) And He was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and His name is called The Word of God. 14) And the armies which were in heaven followed Him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. 15) And out of His mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it He should smite the nations: and He shall rule them with a rod of iron: and He treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. 16) And He hath on His vesture and on His thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS. 17) And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God; 18) That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all men, both free and bond, both small and great.

The 1000 Year Millennium

Revelation 20 reveals events that take place at three different time periods.

1. At the beginning of the 1000 years
2. During the 1000 years
3. At the end of the 1000 years

Revelation 20 reveals events that take place involving three different classes.

1. Satan and his angels
2. The righteous saints
3. The wicked

Satan at the Beginning and During the 1000 Years:

We will begin looking by at what happens to Satan and his angels at all three time periods covered in Revelation 20. Satan is bound in the bottomless pit at the beginning of the 1000 years and remains bound through the 1000 years. At the end of the 1000 years he shall be loosed for a little season.

How is Satan bound? Are we to understand this in a literal sense or is he bound in that he cannot deceive the nations during this time until at the end of the 1000 years? We later read in verse 7 and 8 that when he is loosed he will again be able to deceive the nations. Why will he not be able to deceive during the 1000 years? We will discover why when we look at what happens to the wicked during this time period.

Revelation 20:1 And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. 2) And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, 3) And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season.

Satan at the end of the 1000 Years:

Revelation 20:7 And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison, 8) And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea.

After the attempt to attack the saints and the city, Satan is then cast into the lake of fire and brimstone and is finally destroyed forever.

Revelation 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. 10) And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

Ezekiel 28:18 Thou hast defiled thy sanctuaries by the multitude of thine iniquities, by the iniquity of thy traffick; therefore will I bring forth a fire from the midst of thee, it shall devour thee, and I will bring thee to ashes upon the earth in the sight of all them that behold thee. 19) All they that know thee among the people shall be astonished at thee: thou shalt be a terror, and never shalt thou be any more.

The Saints During the 1000 Years:

We will now examine what happens with the saints during the 1000 years. They live and reign with Christ and judgment is given unto them. Who will they be judging?

Revelation 20:4 And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.

Daniel 7:22 Until the Ancient of days came, and judgment was given to the saints of the Most High; and the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom.

1 Corinthians 6:2 Do ye not know that the saints shall judge the world? and if the world shall be judged by you, are ye unworthy to judge the smallest matters? 3) Know ye not that we shall judge angels? how much more things that pertain to this life?

The Saints at the Beginning of the 1000 Years:

We saw that in verse 4 it spoke of those who were beheaded for their faith and how they were among those who lived and reigned with Christ. In order to live after they had died there must have been a resurrection and Revelation 20 goes on to describe this fact. It tells us as well when this resurrection took place. If the saints lived and reigned for the 1000 years, they must have been resurrected at the beginning of this time period.

Revelation 5b) This is the first resurrection. 6) Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.

What can we conclude when we read of a "first resurrection?" There must be a second. Before we deal with the second, let us first look elsewhere where these two resurrections are mentioned. The Scriptures are clear that all shall be resurrected. Again we find that the saints shall be resurrected at Christ's coming.

Acts 24:15 And have hope toward God, which they themselves also allow, that there shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust.

1 Corinthians 15:20 But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept. 21) For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. 22) For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. 23) But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at His coming.

John 5:25, 28, 29 Verily, verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live. . . 28) Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear His voice, 29) And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation.

John also tells us when the resurrection of the just shall take place.

John 6:39, 40, 44, 54 And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which He hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day. 40) And this is the will of Him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on Him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day. . . 44) No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day. . . 54) Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day.

Matthew 24:30, 31 And then shall appear the sign of the Son of Man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of Man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. And He shall send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

1 Thessalonians 4:16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

1 Corinthians 15:51 Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, 52) In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

The Wicked are Slain at Christ's Return

Matthew 24:27, 28 For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. For wheresoever the carcase is, there will the eagles be gathered together.

Revelation 19:11 And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and He that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He doth judge and make war. 12) His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns; and He had a name written, that no man knew, but He Himself. 13) And He was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and His name is called The Word of God. . . 16) And He hath on His vesture and on His thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS. 17) And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God; 18) That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all men, both free and bond, both small and great. . . 21) And the remnant were slain with the sword of Him that sat upon the horse, which sword proceeded out of His mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh.

1 Thessalonians 5:1 But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you. 2) For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. 3) For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.

Isaiah 13:9 Behold, the day of the LORD cometh, cruel both with wrath and fierce anger, to lay the land desolate: and He shall destroy the sinners thereof out of it.

Isaiah 26:21 For, behold, the LORD cometh out of His place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity: the earth also shall disclose her blood, and shall no more cover her slain.

Isaiah 66:16 For by fire and by His sword will the LORD plead with all flesh: and the slain of the LORD shall be many.

Jeremiah 25:33 And the slain of the LORD shall be at that day from one end of the earth even unto the other end of the earth: they shall not be lamented, neither gathered, nor buried; they shall be dung upon the ground.

The Condition of the Earth During the 1000 Years:

We will discover that the earth shall be in such a state that it will not accommodate any living.

Isaiah 24:1, 3 Behold, the LORD maketh the earth empty, and maketh it waste, and turneth it upside down, and scattereth abroad the inhabitants thereof. . . The land shall be utterly emptied, and utterly spoiled: for the LORD hath spoken this word.

Jeremiah 4:23 I beheld the earth, and, lo, it was without form, and void; and the heavens, and they had no light. 24) I beheld the mountains, and, lo, they trembled, and all the hills moved lightly. 25) I beheld, and, lo, there was no man, and all the birds of the heavens were fled. 26) I beheld, and, lo, the fruitful place was a wilderness, and all the cities thereof were broken down at the presence of the LORD, and by His fierce anger. 27) For thus hath the LORD said, The whole land shall be desolate; yet will I not make a full end. 28) For this shall the earth mourn, and the heavens above be black: because I have spoken it, I have purposed it, and will not repent, neither will I turn back from it.

The earth will not be totally destroyed until after the 1000 years have ended.

Jeremiah 4:27 For thus hath the LORD said, The whole land shall be desolate; yet will I not make a full end.

2 Peter 3:10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.

The Judgment of the Wicked During the 1000 Years:

We can now understand where these verses belong in the flow of events from the beginning to the end of the 1000 years. It is during the 1000 years when the wicked are sentenced.

Revelation 20:11 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.

The Second Resurrection:

It will be at this time that the wicked will receive the execution of the sentence.

Revelation 20:5a But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished.

Revelation 20:13 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.

The Second Death:

Revelation 20:14 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.

Death and hell are thrown into the lake of fire. Isn't hell the lake of fire? Most of the time that hell is used in the Bible it refers to the grave. It will be death and the grave that will be thrown into the lake of fire. Paul speaks of this concept in Corinthians.

1 Corinthians 15:26 The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death.

1 Corinthians 15:54b Death is swallowed up in victory. 55) O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?

Isaiah 25:8 He will swallow up death in victory; and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from off all faces; and the rebuke of His people shall He take away from off all the earth: for the LORD hath spoken it.

Revelation 21:4 And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

Revelation 20:8 But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

It is not the punishing that is eternal, but the punishment.

1 Thessalonians 1:7-9 And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of His power;

Isaiah 1:28 And the destruction of the transgressors and of the sinners shall be together, and they that forsake the LORD shall be consumed.

2 Thessalonians 1:9 Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;

Psalms 52:5 God shall likewise destroy thee for ever, He shall take thee away, and pluck thee out of thy dwelling place, and root thee out of the land of the living. Selah

Psalms 37:20 But the wicked shall perish, and the enemies of the LORD shall be as the fat of lambs: they shall consume; into smoke shall they consume away.

Obadiah 16 For as ye have drunk upon my holy mountain, so shall all the heathen drink continually, yea, they shall drink, and they shall swallow down, and they shall be as though they had not been.

Psalms 37:10 For yet a little while, and the wicked shall not be: yea, thou shalt diligently consider his place, and it shall not be.

Psalms 104:35 Let the sinners be consumed out of the earth, and let the wicked be no more. Bless thou the LORD, O my soul. Praise ye the LORD.

Malachi 4:1 For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the LORD of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch.

The New Heaven and New Earth Promised to the Saints After the 1000 Years:

Revelation 21:1 And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. 2) And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3) And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself shall be with them, and be their God. 4) And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. 5) And He that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And He said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful. 6) And He said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely. 7) He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.