

## ACCOUNTABILITY TO GOD

Romans 14:7-12; Rev 20:11-15

### Introduction:

- Can anyone hide anything from God? \_\_\_\_\_
- How does or will God hold believers accountable?
- How does or will God hold unbelievers accountable?

### The Unbeliever's Accounting (Rev 20:11-15)

- Some believe that God's punishment in the Lake of Fire is t\_\_\_\_\_ and not eternal but the Bible says otherwise.
  1. Matt 7:21-23 – some who think that they will be accepted by God in the end, will be s\_\_\_\_\_ from Christ.
  2. Matt 8:12 – Jesus stated that “the sons of the kingdom” (referring to J\_\_\_\_\_ people) will be cast into outer darkness.
  3. Rev 14:9-11 – a vision of the future foreseeing people with the mark of the beast being tormented f\_\_\_\_\_ without rest.
  4. Rev 16:2 – the first bowl of wrath is **prophesied** as being p\_\_\_\_\_ out on those who have the mark of the beast.
  5. Some argue that “forever and ever” in Revelation is symbolic of a long time, and that the punishment will eventually cease.
    - a. Rev 4:9 – God l\_\_\_\_\_ forever (obvious that is not symbolic)
    - b. Rev 11:15 – Jesus will r\_\_\_\_\_ forever (no symbolism here).
- The White Throne Judgment (Rev 20:11-15)
  1. Who are “the dead” that are resurrected from the sea & graves?
    - a. Notice that this happens after the current h\_\_\_\_\_ and earth passed away (v. 11)
    - b. Jesus reigns on the current earth for \_\_\_\_\_ years, resurrecting all believers, which is called the f\_\_\_\_\_ resurrection (Rev 20:4-6; see Rev 11:15; I Cor 15:52)
    - c. Therefore the dead that are resurrected for judgment are \_\_\_\_\_ (see Jn 5:28,29)
  2. What is the basis of God's judgment on the unbeliever? – their d\_\_\_\_\_
    - a. This means they will fall s\_\_\_\_\_ of receiving a righteous verdict (Rom 3:22,28).
    - b. They will experience a s\_\_\_\_\_ death that will be eternal.
  3. The revelation about the future of unbelievers was not written to s\_\_\_\_\_ unbelievers into believing (contrary to the Bible, Jn 3:16; Rom 5:8; I Jn 4:19); it was written to believers so that we know from what we are saved!

### The Believer's Accounting (Rom 14:7-12)

- The definition of a believer
  1. Not based on what you think is true – see I Jn 5:13
  2. Based on the reality of a genuine t\_\_\_\_\_ in Christ (the assurance of that reality comes in the results of trusting Christ – a life change)
- All believer's must account for what they have done
  1. Future accounting – the Judgment Seat of Christ
    - a. The Greek word is “bema” which refers to the p\_\_\_\_\_ on which a king's throne rests.
      - 1) Secular useage of rulers – Matt 27:19
      - 2) Religious useage of Christ or God – only in Rom 14:10; 2Cor 5:10.
    - b. Believers have passed out of j\_\_\_\_\_ (Jn 5:24 – in the sense of no condemnation for our sin)
    - c. The event of the future accounting is detailed in 1Cor 3
      - 1) The q\_\_\_\_\_ of each believer's works will be tested by a fire.
      - 2) Bad deeds will be b\_\_\_\_\_ up.
      - 3) Good deeds (deeds of faith) will become visible. So the accounting is only of our s\_\_\_\_\_ not our failures.

2. Present accounting – our conscience
  - a. Rev 3:19 – although our sins are forgiven, Jesus does not want us to stay in our sin so motivates us to repentance; this is called a judgment of d\_\_\_\_\_
  - b. I Cor 11:31,32 – we must j\_\_\_\_\_ ourselves rightly otherwise God will judge us with discipline.