

The Three Eternal Destinies #154 *Worthy of the Second Death*

The fearful are without faithfulness (Rev 17:14). Cowards fall away in the time of persecution and hardship (Mt 24:9-12). 1 Jn 2:19 — They never belonged to the “us”. Suffering must come to test the genuineness of each one's confession and profession (Rom 10:9,10,13). To support our Master's words in Jn 3:18-19, we see that those who loved darkness more than the light, their deeds were evil as Jn 5:29 says, as well as Rom 2:8. So Rev 21:8 is what supports the gospel truth. The first two characteristics of those who were judged worthy of the second death were the cowards and the unbelieving. Actually it means the fearful and those who did not believe.

Fearful #1169

Unbelieving #571

They loved darkness because their deeds are evil (Rom 2:8,10). Faith is Jn 7:17. It can only come to one who is willing to do God's will regardless of what it will be.

Both words describe the *faith-less* (Jn 7:19) who are without courage to accept the good news or trust God, seized with dread of parents, peers, family, friends.

The unbelieving #571 are those who would not trust the word (1 Jn 5:8-11), would not believe as Jn 3:18. These two kinds of persons in Rev 21:8 had been confronted with a sent one as Mt 10:41, or Jn 7:18, or 13:20, or Lk 10:16, or Rom 10:14-19, and Jn 3:18. They were judged already worthy of the second death.

The third type called *reprobate* in Rev 21:8 is the filthy. #948 is to stink, be detestable, an abhorrence to God, abominable, disgusting, VILE. Next are the murderers, whoremongers, immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars. In Rev 21:8 the VILE (NIV), and the sexually immoral (called whoremongers in KJV) are two distinct characteristics. The abominable or vile is in a different classification of character from the sexually immoral. Both have to do with sexual immorality, but the first-mentioned disorder or character is different from fornication or adultery. It has to do with sodomy, which constitutes another class. It's one thing to be sexually immoral with the different sex, but another with your same sex. One is immorality, the other is filth — vile, detestable, abominable.

The sin of the first two classifications are eternal sins of rejecting the gospel, without necessarily being in one of the other classifications, but to reject the goodness of Messiah is as Jn 3:36.

The remaining classifications are the unjust business men, lawyers, bankers, physicians, traders, etc., who are all liars, idolaters, and sorcerers, such as the Christian charlatans of today — Billy Graham being #1! (2 Cor 11:15).

Rev 21:8 — “All liars” go to the lake of fire because they are *still* liars for all eternity (Rev 22:11). They can't stop lying. Their character is set for eternity. One unconfessed lie makes a person tell another lie, then another, until he becomes a liar and even loves to lie (Rev 22:15) — a hardened liar like a hardened criminal or a murderer. This is why the liars in Rev 21:8 will still be liars in eternity, because one little lie led to another and another until they could not quit.

Cowardice versus Courage

The believer's courage comes through faith (Dt 3:22; 1 Sam 17:45-46; Ps 56:3-4; 1 Cor 16:13; Mk 15:43; Phil 1:12-14). Courage is necessary to believe. If one does not believe, he is a coward without FAITH — in unbelief *still* and *still* a coward eternally.