

The Three Eternal Destinies #1 Do Not Be Surprised At This, Part 1

Our Master said in Jn 5:28-29, "Do not be surprised at this" — that there are three eternal destinies of man. These words spoken by Messiah tell us of the *bodily resurrection* of the *nations*. Rev 20:12 and Rom 2:14-16 say the nations will be resurrected to *stand in judgment* before the Throne of God. Yahshua, the *Word of God* in person, spoke these words: "Do not be surprised at this." *Are we surprised at this?*

In Jn 5:25, He also said, "I am telling you the truth, an hour is coming and now is ("has *already come*," —Phil lips Modern English, Jerusalem Bible, New English Bible) when the *dead* shall hear the *voice* of the Son of God; and those who hear *shall live*" — by faith (Rom 10:17). This is the hour now that our Master was speaking of and at the very end of *this age* — the *last day* (Jn 6:39,44,54) of this *present evil age*, there will also be the last trumpet sound (1 Ths 4:15-17; 1 Cor 15:51-52.) The dead in Messiah shall rise. Those who hear (who are accustomed to) the *voice* of the Son of God will *come to life* on the *last day of this age*.

But not *all* the dead can hear *this call*. Only those who are like Jn 10:14,27,28. These can hear His voice as the voice of their Shepherd. The rest of the dead *could not hear* His voice as *their Shepherd*, since they never *wanted* to know Him or they never had the *opportunity* (Jn 3:18,19; 12:44-49). Those who would not believe (Jn 3:18), but *rejected* His voice have been *judged already* (Lk 10:16). These will be the ones who are *condemned even before* the judgment of Rev 20:11-12; 22:11-12. The others who have never heard the gospel or heard His voice through a sent one (Rom 10:14) will be judged as Rev 20:12-15 says — according to their *conscience*. The *deeds* they did will be judged, whether good or evil (Jn 5:29).

A Resurrection to Life or a Resurrection to Judgment

A *resurrection of life* or a resurrection of *condemnation* (a second life or a second death) will be determined for the Gentiles or nations (Rev 20:12). This judgment is based on what has been *indelibly inscribed* upon a person's *conscience*. He will either be *acquitted or condemned*, as Rom 2:14-16 says. Though they did not have the written law, they had a *law in themselves* through their *conscience*. They show that the deeds that God's law demands are written upon their hearts. Their consciences will *testify* for them and their inner thoughts will either *accuse* or *defend* them, on the day when Messiah will judge the *secret deeds* (either good or bad; Ecc 12:14; Mt 12:35-37).

The people of the *nations* in Jn 5:28-29 are either as Rom 2:6,7,14 or as Rom 1:24,26,28,32. Rom 2:8-9 are contrasted with verses 7 and 10. These scriptures explain Jn 5:28-29 and must be written out very plainly, so Jn 5:24-25 and 28-29 can be differentiated. Jn 5:28-29 distinguishes between the *Righteous* and the *Unjust and Filthy of the nations*. Jn 5:24-25 separates the *Holy* from those mentioned in verses 28 and 29. Jn 5:24 and 25 are again clearly differentiated as a separate category from the first two categories mentioned in Rev 22:11.

Yahshua was pointing out to the Jews that there were *three eternal destinies* awaiting man. This is why our Master Yahshua said, "Do not be surprised at this." Why did He say, "Do not be surprised at this," or do not *marvel* (#2296 — wonder, but with amazement; Jn 5:28-29; Rom 2:11; Acts 10:34-35; Rom 2:11-16). Because the teachers of the Law were like Christians today who could only conceive of two eternal destinies for mankind (the Jew and the gentile.) Why shouldn't the Pharisees marvel or be surprised at what He was to say? Christians today are likewise surprised to know that there are *three eternal destinies* rather than two.

Jn 5:28 — *The (hour) time is coming* — a separate time than Jn 5:25. Verse 25 refers to *believers in Him* — the *Holy* in Rev 22:11. Verse 28 refers to the *rest of the dead* in the nations who did not know God though Yahshua His Son. Verse 28 are the *Unjust*, the *Filthy*, and the *Righteous* of the nations — *all who were in their tombs* were "the rest of the dead" — (Rev 20:5,12). This judgment takes place 1,000 years after the *first* resurrection judgment for the *Holy* (2 Cor 5:10).

"All who are in their tombs" or the *rest of the dead* are those who never had the opportunity to receive

or reject a sent one (Lk 10:16). *All the dead* (the rest of the dead) in Jn 5:28, or "all who are in the grave" will be raised *after the millennium*. The *resurrections* and *judgments* of Jn 5:25 and 28 are *1,000 years apart from one another*. Verses 28-29 — The judgment will determine a second life or a second death. *So don't be surprised at this!* Everyone must die *once* and after that (the first death) they will rise to be judged (Heb 9:27).

Jn 5:24 — Those who believe in Him, as it says, will not have to face this judgment of Heb 9:27. They have already passed out of death and into life, and they all know it (1 Jn 3:14). Those in Jn 5:24-25 who were able to *hear His voice* in this present age (Jn 10:27) came to life (1 Ths 4:15-17).

Jn 5:24 — Those who have truly believed have passed out of death and into life based on Yahshua's works — His good deeds (works) done for them (Titus 3:5). But in Jn 5:29, these who never had opportunity to believe in Yahshua, the judgment that determines whether they will have life or death (a second life or second death), is based on their works (deeds) as Rev 20:12-15; Gen 3:16-19; 9:1-7; Rom 2:6-7 (or Rom 2:8-9 as Rom 2:10-16 — explain).

The Judgment For All Who Believe

The second death for believers is not the *same* Second Death as for *unbelievers* (otherwise a believer's eternal life would be according to *works*.) Even as the Book of Life is not the same book in Rev 2:11; 3:5 as in Rev 20:14-15, so Rev 20:6 is not the Second Death of Rev 20:14; 21:8 (the Lake of Fire). The believers in Jn 5:25 will be judged before the millennium begins (at Messiah's return.) This judgment will not determine *ETERNAL LIFE or eternal death* as it will be for the unbelievers at the Judgment in Rev 20:12-15. This "Judgment Seat of Messiah" (2 Cor 5:10) for believers is based on the *works* done by a disciple in the Body. This judgment determines whether or not one is *worthy* to enter the millennial Kingdom (Eph 2:10; 4:12; Col 1:10; 1 Cor 3:13-14.) Having a *part* (Rev 20:6) in the Millennium is based on whether a disciple's works *prepared him to rule with Messiah or not* (Rev 19:8; 2 Cor 5:10; 1 Cor 4:5; Rev 3:20-21.) The works they were *saved for* (by His grace through faith) were for the sole purpose of building up the Edah (Eph 4:12-13). A disciple is not saved *by works*, but *for them* (Titus 3:5). Whereas those of the nations were "saved" by their good works (deeds) and will be awarded a second life after judgment. But those who did evil will be awarded a second death (Rom 1:32; Rev 22:12).