

## The Three Eternal Destinies #32Gehenna

*Gehenna*, the place and state of the Wicked Dead, is symbolic language for the *Lake of Fire*. Only the Unjust and Filthy will spend eternity there, where the smoke of their torment goes up *forever and ever* (Rev 22:11). The righteous, as in Jn 5:28-29, will rise to life and the wicked will rise to Death (or a second death). The Righteous will rise to a Second life.

Christianity does not discriminate between the Righteous and the Wicked of the world as Abraham did in Gen 18:25. Our Master, the Word of God, did (Jn 5:28-29; Mt 5:44-48). The Judgment in Rom 2:14-16 and Rev 20:12-15 will determine a second life or a second death (Heb 9:27). This is the purpose for the Judgment in Heb 9:27; Rom 2:16; Rev 20:12-15; Jn 5:28-29. "If anyone's name was not found after the judgment" — so what does this mean, then?

Abraham was not a Christian so he distinguished between the Righteous and the Unjust and Filthy of the world (Gen 18:25). Rev 22:11 distinguishes between the good and bad of the world and between them and the Redeemed (The Holy). Mt 5:45 and 5:48 distinguish between these and the perfect, the Holy, or blameless of verse 48 as well (Gen 17:1; Jn 8:39).

Christianity would say this: the final destiny of the redeemed is heaven. The final destiny of the wicked (unsaved) is Gehenna. Heaven will be for just Christians. The rest of mankind will go to *Hell* (Gehenna). But they can't tell you the difference between the Righteous and the Holy in Rev 22:11; 22:2; 21:24; Mt 25:34,46; Jn 5:28-29.

Jn 3:18 — Those who have heard and believed have passed out of eternal death and into eternal life (Jn 5:24), but if one does not believe (that is, he rejected the sent one; Lk 10:16) this is the second death judgment. Of course, since they *reject salvation* for themselves (Acts 13:46), they judge themselves unworthy of salvation (NKJV). So we see Jn 3:18 very clearly. We understand why one judges himself — he is *judged already* and needs no further judgment at the Rev 20:11-15 judgment.

As far as a believer is concerned this condemnation (Jn 5:24) has fallen upon Yahshua, so they do not fear eternal condemnation (Jn 10:27-29). So through Yahshua, *believers* have the forgiveness of their sins and so have escaped the wrath of God which will fall upon those who do not obey the son (Jn 3:36). That is when they had the opportunity to *believe*. The wrath of God will fall upon all who had the opportunity to believe but rejected Him, rejected the offer, disobeyed the Son (Jn 3:18,36; Jn 10:16).

### Judgment Defined

**Heb 9:27; Rev 20:12; Rom 2:16** — *Judgment* — The word *judgment* is not just another word for condemnation and punishment. Judgment involves both discernment and action — the two are inseparable. The Judge makes a distinction between what is right and what is wrong. Then on this basis of his findings he takes action. The purpose of that action is to condemn the person who is wrong and vindicate the person who is right (Rev 20:11-15; 2:14-16; Dt 1:16-17; 16:18-20; 1 Kng 3:9, 28; Jn 5:28; Eze 7:27). Judgment (Isa 26:7-9) rectifies imbalances and sets things right again. Princes are expected to rule with justice — judgment (Rev 2:26-27; Isa 32:1-2, 30:18; Isa 26:9).

The final judgment will determine whether one will be rewarded a second life or a second death (Heb 9:27; Rom 2:16; Rev 20:11-15; Jn 5:28-29). The second death is compared to Gehenna (the "Tip" — garbage heap) that continually burns, casting up smoke as Rev 14:10-11; 19:2-3; Mt 25:41 — where the wicked of the nations are cast forever and ever. But the righteous of the nations are rewarded life (Mt 25:34,46).

*Gehenna* — the second death is a place where one's whole body, soul and spirit (alive) live in a state of torture — burning without severing (deadening) the immortal nerves. The person's resurrected, immortal body is cast there (Mt 5:29-30, #1067). Understand Rev 20:12 — One must stand in his resurrected body which is just as imperishable as the body of the redeemed (1 Cor 15:51-52), which will last forever and ever. Imperishable, immortal as Rev 19:20, cast (#2198, alive) into the Lake of fire (will live in torment, forever and ever). Rev 19:2-3 — the smoke of their (burning) torture will go up forever and ever (without end), just like the unending generations of the righteous (Eph 3:21; #165). Rev 14:10-11 — they will live in torment forever and ever (Mt 25:41; Rev 20:10; 19:20). In eternity all

men will have resurrected bodies (Rev 22:11), the Unjust and Filthy, the Righteous, and the Holy — bodies that are alive with nervous systems which are unable to be callused. But God will make even the universe and the planets eternal (imperishable; Heb 1:10-12) also. The *Righteous* of the nations will have imperishable bodies as well as the *Holy*.