

The Three Eternal Destinies #192

Who will be Hurt by the Second Death?

What about those who fail to overcome in Rev 2:11 and 3:5? Who is this addressing? What if a Christian does not overcome these things? Where will he spend eternity if his name is taken out of the Book of Life and he goes to the Second Death? What does “hurt by the second death” mean in Rev 2:11? Who does the second death have no power over in Rev 20:6? What happens if you don’t keep His Word? (Jn 8:51). Who is Rev 20:5 referring to when it says, “the rest of the dead”?

When it says in Phil 3:11, “by any means” attain to the first resurrection, what does this imply? Does the word *attain* imply *works salvation*? *Attain* (#2658) “unto” means *it requires work*; it is through much tribulation (Acts 14:22). We must *arrive at* our goal, like a ship on the sea that passes *through the straights* to safe harbor. This is what it means to *attain to* the first resurrection. *Unto* (#1519) indicates the point reached and entered into (to be received into).

Those Worthy of the Kingdom

Those who *overcome* (#3528) in Rev 2 and 3 “shall not be hurt” (#91) or “suffer the second death.” In other words, as in Dan 12:2, they will not be *hurt* by *age-lasting contempt* and *shame* (Mt 25:30). How many were *not* found worthy of the first resurrection (Rev 3:4-5) to walk with Him in white (Rev 17:14; Mt 24:40-41)? Who did not overcome the sins (Ex 20:5-6; Mt 1:21) which Messiah came to save us from, so we could escape the Second Death for the nations and the Second Death for believers?

Remember, *believers* do not appear at the judgment in Rev 20:11-15. This is only for the nations of those who *never heard the gospel* or lived outside Israel of old. The *believers* appear at the 2 Cor 5:10 judgment only to determine those who are *worthy of the Kingdom* (Dan 12:2; Rev 2:11; 3:5; Col 1:10; 1 Cor 4:5; Rom 8:17; Acts 14:22). The next age lasts for 1000 years (Rev 20:3-6; 5:9-10; 19:20; 20:1-10). Is Mt 25:41,46 the

Second Death? The Righteous are awarded a second life (Jn 5:28-29), that is those whose names were found in the Book of Life of the Nations (Mt 25:34).

The *First Resurrection* means the resurrection pertaining to the *next age* — the Kingdom Age of 1000 years, the Millennial Reign of Messiah (Rev 3:5; Mk 8:34-38). The *first* (#4413) *resurrection* (#386) is recorded in Rev 20:6. If we suffer now with Him (Phil 3:11; Rev 2:11; Rom 8:17), we will not suffer later by the *second death*. This is our life now, preparing us as the future rulers of the universe, even if we do have to suffer the second death. That is, if some of us do not overcome our *iniquities* that Messiah came to *save us from* (Mt 1:21), which He will be able to do if we depend on Him (Heb 4:16).

By All Means Possible

1 Cor 9:24-27 — To attain to the first resurrection is to reign with Messiah and be found worthy of Him and to ascend to His throne with Him (Rev 3:20-21). But all believers in Messiah will come to the judgment (2 Cor 5:10), and will not experience the first resurrection if they did not *attain* to it. Paul is stressing to the Philippians that they are “by any means possible” or “by all means possible” to overcome by the *grace He offers* (Phil 3:11; Heb 4:16 as Mt 25:15 – i.e., *using all the grace available*) so they may be found worthy as Col 1:10-11 describes. Walking with Him in white garments (Rev 3:4; Pr 28:13) means overcoming *by using whatever means possible* to ensure they are worthy of Him. In other words, doing whatever is necessary to overcome in order to attain to the first resurrection. What is necessary is receiving the ample grace to accomplish this. Our Father has all the means available for His children to attain to His Son’s throne (Rev 3:21).

1 Ths 5:23; Col 1:21-23 means using material or spiritual resources (Eph 2:10; 1 Pet 4:10; Mt 25:15) in order to secure or attain to Messiah’s throne. Just as Messiah used every means possible to attain to the cross as a perfect Lamb for our sins, so we too must overcome in order to attain to the first resurrection spoken of in Phil 3:11 and Rom 6:5.

1 Cor 15:52 is the first resurrection. Those who die in obedience, like Paul said, *pleasing to Messiah*, will be absent from the body, but at the same moment, present with the Master (2 Cor 5:8-11). 1 Ths 4:16-17; Mt 24:31 — Only the *faithful* will be taken (Rev 17:14; Mt 24:40-41; Dan 12:2).

Reaching the Goal

Paul is not talking in Phil 3:12 about eternal life in Messiah. That is the result of obeying the gospel. Eternal life is a *free gift*, something that is *given* (not worked for). To obey the gospel is to surrender all to Him, calling on the name of Yahshua the Messiah, believing in your heart what Messiah accomplished on your behalf (2 Cor 5:21). Rom 10:9,10,13 and 17 is the gift that saves a person from eternal death. Phil 3:12 tells us just what Paul meant in verse 9-11. So it is verse 10 that one must attain to, in order to attain to the first resurrection. This means one must overcome all things in order not to suffer the Second Death (for believers) and not to have one's name blotted out of the Book of Life (for believers). This has nothing to do with the Rev 20:12-15 judgment. The Book of Life and the Second Death of Rev 2:11 and Rev 3:5 are in a *different realm* altogether from those of Rev 20:12-15.

Paul said in Phil 3:12 that he had not yet attained, or was already *perfected*, but he was to make it his goal to *apprehend* being worthy of Messiah in his effort to *reach the goal* – the first resurrection. And verse 13 tells us what one must do in order to reach his final goal.