

Notes, Questions & Prayer Requests

Lined area for notes, questions, and prayer requests.

Question 4

This question makes it very clear that the time that the saints engage in judgment is during the 1000 years.

This obviously is not the time when the saints are judged, for they have to be judged before they get to heaven, not afterward. Therefore, this must be the second phase of judgment that takes place during the 1000 years.

Question 7

The point you are to establish here is that the 1000 years is simply the period between the two resurrections. 1000 years exists between the resurrection of the righteous and the resurrection of the wicked.

Question 9

It needs to be very clear to your students that the first resurrection is the resurrection of the righteous, and that it marks the beginning of the 1000 years. Remember that according to rapture theology the resurrection of the righteous takes place at the rapture.

The 1000 years doesn't begin until seven years later.

You will want to make certain, without referring to rapture theology, that you make it clear to your students that Revelation 20 says that the resurrection is what begins the 1000 years.

Question 10

Make certain that you emphasize that when Christ comes the righteous are caught up to meet Him in the air. It is not a case of Christ landing on the earth and ruling the earth. You need to make it very clear that the righteous are caught up and meet Him in the all.

Question 11

Most people believe that when Christ comes He's going to reign on the earth. The Scriptures, however, indicate clearly that when Christ comes the righteous are caught up and meet Him in the air, and He takes them to heaven.

The point of Question 11 is to show conclusively what Jesus promised the righteous—that they would be in the Father's house, where He had prepared mansions for them. It would be ridiculous to think that He would prepare the mansions for the righteous in the Father's house and then not take them there.

You are apt to have some folk who have read Armstrong's material. The Armstrong movement believes that the righteous never go to heaven.

Therefore, in order to reach these people you will need to make a concerted effort to make sure it is clear at this point that Jesus said the righteous are going to heaven.

The reason they believe that no person has ever gone to heaven is because of Jesus' statement in John 3:13: "No man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven."

Their point is that Jesus is the only one who has ever ascended into heaven. However, the text actually says that no one has ever ascended into heaven and come back to tell men about it, except Jesus Christ.

The Bible clearly indicates that Enoch and Elijah were both translated into heaven without seeing death (Hebrews 11:5). John 14:1—3 makes it very clear that Christ has prepared a place for His people in the Father's house, and that the purpose of His second coming is to take His people to the Father's house where He is.

Therefore, all the saints go to heaven at the second coming of Christ.

That point must be crystal clear to your students or they will not understand the millennium.

Response Questions:

1. If it is your desire to be safe inside that city with Jesus, put a check in Box #1.
2. If there is some problem in your life that you know is going to keep you outside that city and you would like me to pray that God will help you to yield that problem to Jesus Christ, put a check in Box #2.

the wicked to see that their exclusion from heaven is just. Verses 10-15 do not come in chronological order. After the wicked are destroyed, God does not destroy them a second time. The lake of fire in Verse 15 is the same as the lake of fire in Verses 9 and 10.

Verses 11-15 are merely a repetition of the previous verses and an expansion, so that we understand that God is not just arbitrarily devouring the wicked, but that He has taken the time to place them in judgment so that even the wicked see that their exclusion from heaven is just.

Question 31

Here is a chance to really exalt the fact that God is fully vindicated. At last no one questions His justice. Even Satan bows down and acknowledges the controversy. You might wish to quote the last paragraph of **Great Controversy**:

“The great controversy is ended. Sin and sinners are no more. The entire universe is clean. One pulse of harmony and gladness beats through the vast creation. From Him who created all, flow life and light and gladness, throughout the realms of illimitable space.

From the minutest atom to the greatest world, all things, animate and inanimate, in their unshadowed beauty and perfect joy, declare that God is love.”

At this point you will want to review the three phases of the judgment which you have covered. The points you will need to emphasize is that God is now fully vindicated before the entire universe. Angels, righteous and wicked, and even Satan himself, have acknowledged the justice of God.

A good appeal at this point would be to back up and describe what it would mean to awake in the second resurrection and find yourself outside the holy city when you could have been inside if you had only made a decision for Jesus Christ. Appeal to your students to be safe inside that city with Jesus. Let them know that they will be there to witness this event, either inside or outside the city. The decision they make now regarding Jesus will determine where they are going to be.

Questions 12, 13 & 14

Questions 12, 13 and 14 deal with the destruction of the wicked.

Again, remember that most people believe that when Christ comes He is going to land on the earth and rule over the nations. Some, like Armstrong, believe that God will really try to save the world during the 1000 years, and that He's not even trying to save the world today.

Thus these texts that describe the destructive force of the second coming of Christ need to be emphasized for your students to clearly see that when Christ comes there is no second chance, the wicked are destroyed by His coming.

Question 14

It should be very clear to your students by the time you finish this question that the earth has been depopulated by the second coming of Christ. The righteous are in heaven; the wicked are all dead.

There is no one here. Make sure you give this point a very strong emphasis and also refer to the chart so your students will be able to picture exactly what is taking place.

Question 16

The binding of Satan is due to his being unable to perform his work. Why? Because the righteous are in heaven and the wicked are all dead. Keep reviewing that point so that it becomes very clear to the students that there is no one on earth during the 1000 years, for the earth is desolate.

Question 17

The point of this passage is to clearly show that during the 1000 years there will be no person here. The point that you need to make is that the

thing that will bring about this condition of the earth without form and void and no people here will be the presence of the Lord. The presence of the Lord at the first advent did not create those conditions. It will be the presence of the Lord at the second coming that produces these devastating, destructive conditions upon the earth.

Question 18

While the earth is desolate, much activity is going on in heaven. It is at this point that you should move into a discussion of phase two of the judgment.

This is another opportunity for you to show the loving character of God. So many have a warped concept of God's character, yet through the lessons on the judgment you will be able to show that God is absolutely true, fair and just.

Emphasize God's longsuffering and patience and the fact that He takes the time to satisfy not only the angels, but also the righteous. God wants all to see that what He has done and what He is going to do in excluding the wicked from heaven and finally destroying them is the only thing a just God could do.

The point here is that God takes 1000 years to make certain that everybody is fully satisfied with what He has done.

Question 19

The events at the end of the 1000 years can be moved through fairly rapidly. Don't get side-tracked into a discussion of the destruction of the wicked. That will be covered in Lesson 18 when we will deal with the subject of hell. However, during this lesson you will be reciting the facts of the events during the 1000 years as well as laying foundation for the subject of hell.

Obviously if the wicked are resurrected for judgment and thrown into the lake of fire at the end of the 1000 years, they can't be in the lake of fire

now. Some perceptive students will already see that and the question will be in their mind, but it will be best to postpone it if possible, letting them know that it will be discussed in an upcoming lesson.

Question 21

Draw the picture very clearly that all the righteous and all the wicked are now alive upon the earth at one time. Everybody who has ever lived is now present for the final vindication of God before the universe.

Question 23

Here is yet another opportunity to exalt the character of God. Point out to your students God's fairness even with the wicked.

God wants them to clearly see His justice, so that even they will admit that He is just in excluding them from heaven.

Question 25

The stubbornness of the wicked is remarkable. Even after all that God has done in trying to reach them, they stubbornly resist. Their attack on the city only vindicates what God has said, that they are incorrigible. T

here is nothing more that God could have done to save them. They have resisted all possible attempts for their salvation. Therefore God has no choice but to send fire down and devour them.

Some of your students might get a little confused as you move into this section of the lesson, simply because the Bible has a tendency to give the broad picture and then back up and give added details.

The broad picture of events at the end of the 1000 years is pictured through Verse 9, at which time the fire comes down and destroys them. Verses 10-15 back up and show us the reason why they are destroyed. In these verses we are given a view of how God opens the books and helps