

23. Will sin ever rise up again? Nahum 1:9

"Affliction shall not rise up the _____ time."

NOTE: Praise God! Never again will sin rear its ugly head.

24. What will God do after sin and sinners are destroyed?

Isaiah 65:17; 2 Peter 3:13; Revelation 21:3

"Behold I create new _____ and a new _____

...wherein dwelleth righteousness."

God will _____ with _____."

NOTE: Utterly fantastic! God moves in with His people on the new earth. Everything that Adam and Eve lost will be restored (Acts 3:19, 21). God's people will at long last have found joy unspeakable without end!

25. Jesus invites you Into His fabulous new kingdom. Have you accepted that invitation?

Ans: _____



REVELATION'S LAKE OF FIRE

Revelation in most graphic language repeatedly refers to the lake of fire, het], and the punishment of the unsaved. Fifteen times Jesus pointedly mentions the lake of fire so John will know that the fire is not a fable but rather a very necessary part of God's plan to abolish sin and make the righteous safe for eternity.

However, grave problems confront many when they study the subject of hell in Revelation. Thinking people have been shocked to read that the unsaved will be "tormented day and night forever and ever" (Revelation 20:10) because such words fill the mind with serious questions about God's mercy and justice.

Are all the wicked punished forever regardless of the degree and number of their sins? Does a sinner who died three thousand years ago receive three thousand years more punishment than one who dies today and is lost for the same sin? How can God get rid of sin if sinners are kept alive forever in a fire? In light of these questions, this subject becomes one of

exceeding great importance.

Millions have turned their back on Jesus because of such teachings and other have said, "If God is like that, I hate Him!" At stake here is the character and reputation of the great God of heaven. Let us examine carefully the Bible evidence."

GOD'S FINAL JUDGMENT

1. When will the wicked be punished in the fire? 2 Peter 2:9

"The Lord knoweth how to reserve the _____
unto the _____ of _____ to be _____."

2. When is the judgment day? John 12:48; Matthew 13:40-42

"Shall judge him in the _____."
"In the _____ of this _____."

NOTE: Clearly the judgment day is the end of the world. We would not think of sending a person to prison until he was tried or judged. Neither will God punish people till they face Him in the final judgment before His throne at the end of the world.

3. THOUGHT QUESTION: Since the wicked are not punished until the judgment day at the end of the world, how many souls are in hell now?

Ans: _____

4. If the wicked do not go to hell at death, where do they go? Job 21:30-32

To the _____

NOTE: Jesus also plainly stated In John 5:28, 29 that all who have died are in their graves until called forth by Jesus on the resurrection

who have rejected God's grace will be destroyed in hell. God lovingly pleads with us daily to let Him remove sin from our lives, but He will not force us.

GOD'S LOVE VINDICATED

20. What is God's act of destroying people called?

Isaiah 28:21

"His strange _____ ..His _____ act."

NOTE: Jesus came to save people. Destroying even those who hate Him is contrary to His nature. That is why it is called His strange act. He is not willing that any should perish, !I Peter 3:9. God's great heart will be torn asunder when He is forced to destroy those whom He dearly loves.

21. When God's new kingdom comes, what happens?

Revelation 21:4

"The _____ things are _____."

NOTE: The former things include "hell". God's plan is to completely rid the universe of evil. An eternal hell would perpetuate sin and evil and make it impossible to ever forget it.

22. Why should I serve Jesus? John 14:23, 24

Because I _____ Him.

NOTE: No one will be in heaven because they were afraid of hell. People will be in heaven because they loved Jesus first, last and always. And those who love Jesus will have no need to fear hell (1 John 4:8).

Some people wonder about Bible passages which speak of the smoke of torment ascending **FOREVER AND EVER; ETERNAL FIRE, EVERLASTING PUNISHMENT** and **UNQUENCHABLE FIRE**. Your teacher will lead you in a study of these scriptures.

NOTE: People will enter hell "alive" and in bodily form with eyes, hands, and feet. The picture is of real live human beings being destroyed by fire (Revelation 19:20).

17. Does the soul burn forever and is only the body destroyed?

Matthew 10:28

"Fear him which is able to destroy both _____ and _____ in hell."

NOTE: Everything that comprises a person: his intelligence, personality, life and all else that makes him an individual will be destroyed in the fire. Both soul and body represent the total being.

SATAN MISREPRESENTS GOD

The tragedy is that God has been given the ignominious credit for establishing the teaching of eternal torment. But we have seen today that He taught something entirely different.

18. What Is Job's question regarding God's justice?

Job 4:17

Is _____ more _____ than _____?

NOTE: Could you stand to see your child burn for even one hour for a terrible crime? Of course not. Eternal torment is not a part of God's great plan. Such a teaching has made God-haters and infidels of many people through the centuries. Such is slander on the holy name of God!

19. For whom did God plan the fires of hell?

Matthew 25:41

"The _____ and his _____."

NOTE: God prepared hell to destroy sin, Satan, and his angels. All

day. This is why we can be positive that not one single lost soul is in hell now. Jesus says they are all in their graves!

5. What rewards do the righteous and wicked receive? Romans 6:23

"The wages of sin is _____ ...the gift of God is eternal _____."

NOTE: The righteous receive eternal life and the wicked receive death.

6. Which death do the wicked receive in the fire? Revelation 21:8

"Which is the _____ death."

NOTE: The difference in the first and second death is that there is no resurrection from the second death. It is final.

7. Many say souls never die. What does God say? Ezekiel 18:4,20

"The _____ that _____, it shall _____."

NOTE: So on God's own authority souls that sin will receive death, and not everlasting torment in the fire.

GOD'S FIRE DESTROYS SIN

As we studied in a previous lesson, at the close of the 1000 years of Revelation 20, the Holy City comes down from heaven, and settles upon the earth where the Mount of Olives now stands at Jerusalem. The wicked of all ages are then raised to life, and Satan leads them in a dramatic assault upon the Holy City in an attempt to capture it. As the attack begins, fire falls down from God out of heaven upon the wicked. This is the "hell" of the Bible (review Revelation 20).

8. What does this fire do to the wicked? Revelation 20:9

"Fire came down from God ... And _____ them."

9. What does this fire do to the earth? 2 Peter 3:10

"The elements shall melt with fervent heat, the _____
also, and the works that are therein shall be _____ "

NOTE: The fire will be the exact size of the earth because it is the earth on fire. The elements and the earth will melt from the heat and everything on the face of the earth will be burned up.

10. Describe the fire and what it does? Malachi 4:1

The day will "bum as an _____."

"Alf that do wickedly, shall be _____."

It will "bum them _____."

"Leave them neither _____ nor branch."

NOTE: The -wicked will burn like stubble or dry grass, and the Bible says they burn "up." The little word "up" denotes completion.

11. Wig the fire finally go out? Isaiah 47:14

"There shall _____ be a... _____ to _____ at."

NOTE: The fire burns them as stubble, but when the stubble is burned up the fire goes out and not even a coal is left glowing. Isaiah 47 uses symbols and language very similar to that of Revelation 16 - 19, and for very good reason: both refer to the punishment and destruction of spiritual Babylon. Lesson 21' takes up a full study of spiritual Babylon.

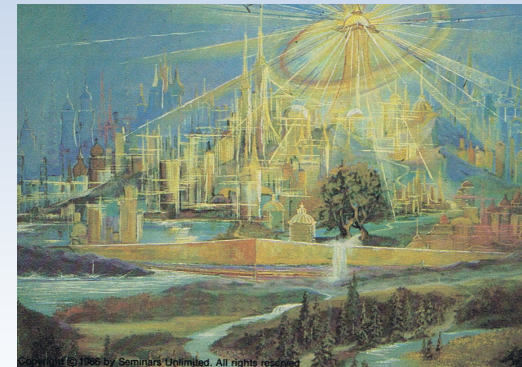
12. What is left when the fire goes out? Malachi 4:3

Only " _____ " remain.

13. The wicked will not be found. Why? Ps. 37:10, 20

"Into _____ shall they _____ ."

NOTE: The wicked will not be found because in hell they went up in smoke_ It would be easy to find the wicked if they were screaming for mercy somewhere in hell, but David says that is not so.



GOD'S JUSTICE COMPLETE

14. Now long will the wicked suffer in the fire? Revelation 22:12

"To give every man according as his _____ shall _____."

NOTE: Jesus says He will reward or punish all according to their works or conduct. Some will suffer longer than others, but soon all are turned to ashes and the fire goes out. Jesus will handle the destruction of hell fire quickly. Being destroyed in hell is not the great tragedy of sin. The great tragedy of sin is missing heaven and an eternity with Jesus.

15. What happens to the devil to the fire? Ezekiel 28:18 (851)

Satan is turned "to _____ upon the _____."

NOTE: Satan Is reduced to ashes in the fire and his existence ends. God says to the devil in Ezekiel 28:19, "Never shalt thou be any snore." Also see Revelation 20:10.

16. Will people enter the fire bodily or as spirits? Matthew 5:30

"Thy _____ should be _____ into _____."