

THROUGH THE BIBLE STUDY

REVELATION 20:1-15

As a child, my favorite movie was Disney Picture's "The Swiss Family Robinson." The film was shot on the Caribbean island of Tobago. The story is about a family who gets shipwrecked on a south seas island.

With little hope of rescue, they make the most of their situation and create a tropical paradise. They build an elaborate treehouse, invent a system for running water, and add other conveniences. After a tangle with some pirates, the Robinson family lives happily ever after.

As a kid, I watched the movie and imagined myself marooned on an exotic island... *Swims in the lagoon. Life in a tree hut...* What an easy-going, carefree kind of life - in a pristine, unspoiled, garden Shangri-La.

Even as an adult, it doesn't sound so bad... *No more 8 to 5s - no more car repairs and fighting traffic - no more bills and bosses - no more income tax and corrupt politicians - no more deadbolts and burglar alarms - no more war and crime.* I believe movies like *The Swiss Family Robinson* are popular because they play on a deep-down longing in every human heart...

CS Lewis once observed, "If I find in myself a desire which no experience in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is I was made for another world." Here's a truth: **God made you and me for the garden.**

Adam and Eve began life in a garden paradise. Sin got them evicted but ever since humans have desired to return.

Whether we realize it or not, we long for the garden, and all we do is an attempt to get back.

Right now, it's a jungle out there! Our world is chaotic and out-of-control. But when the King of the Jungle takes possession, He'll reign and rule. He'll tame the beasts and transform the jungle to a garden paradise.

One day yet future, God will fulfill our human longing and return mankind to the garden from which we fell.

This Earth is due for *an extreme makeover*. God will repair the damage caused by sin and its judgment and restore the fallen planet to the paradise He intended.

And God begins by ridding us of our arch-nemesis...

John writes in Chapter 20, "Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years; and he cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal on him, so that he should deceive the nations no more till the thousand years were finished."

At the end of Chapter 19, John is near Jerusalem. He provides us play-by-play of the mother of all battles.

The nations rally to Armageddon to fight against the Christ. But Jesus returns despite their opposition. With *His breath* and *His brightness*, He kills all His enemies.

But there were leaders who orchestrated this revolt.

The Antichrist and the False Prophet were chief culprits. They ordered the execution of everyone who worshipped Jesus and refused their mark. Chapter 19 recounts their capture and disposal in the lake of fire...

But the real ringleader - the mastermind behind the rebellion - is the devil himself... Now in Chapter 20, God sends an angel *with a chain* to incarcerate the devil.

The Bible teaches that there are two spiritual places of punishment - *one temporary, the other permanent*.

Hades is where unbelievers are today. It has the characteristics of fire and brimstone, but it's temporary.

Whereas, the lake of fire is eternal. According to verse 14, in the end, Hades is cast into the lake of fire.

At the end of Chapter 19, the devil's two stooges, the Beast and False Prophet, received eternal torture. They're "*cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone.*" Yet here, Satan is held over in Hades, or "*the bottomless pit.*" He's *chained in hell's holding cell.*

At the end of verse 3, John explains why "*But after these things he must be released for a little while.*"

Apparently, God isn't through with Satan. He still has a use for him. Verse 8 will explain his final purpose...

But this brings up an interesting sidebar...

Satan's existence - even his mischief - has always been at God's allowance. Not that God approves of the Devil's specific acts. He doesn't. The evil Satan authors and the pain it causes grieves God's heart.

Nevertheless, God permits Satan some latitude.

God uses trials and temptation to strengthen our faith and neither has any teeth without a Tempter. At the end of the age, Satan *“must be released for a little while...”* for the same reason he wreaks havoc today.

Notice also, the duration of Satan’s incarceration - *“a thousand years.”* In Latin, it’s the term, **“Millennium.”** This is why you’ll hear terms like **“The Millennial Reign of Christ,”** or **“Millennial Kingdom,”** or just **“Millennium.”**

The first word in Chapter 20 *“then”* implies that what follows is chronological. In Revelation 19, Jesus returns to destroy the armies who oppose Him. Chapter 20:1 begins, *“Then...”* In other words, *here’s what comes next.* Satan is chained and Jesus will reign. And both are sustained for a thousand years. After Jesus’ second coming, He’ll set up His Kingdom on Earth.

And Jesus won’t just rule by Himself... John writes in verse 4, **“And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them.”** The army that rode with Jesus from Heaven now helps Him rule on Earth.

That includes you and me - the Church - *but not just the Church...* **“Then I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received his mark on their foreheads or on their hands.”** Believers martyred in the Tribulation will also now serve in Jesus’ administration.

They were mocked and martyred for Jesus' sake. Now they'll sit on thrones and help Him rule the world.

Verse 4, "And they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years." The first message Jesus preached was "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

Jesus came to establish God's Kingdom on Earth.

Yet in Jesus' day, in fact even today, no one is able to point to God's Kingdom on a map. His reign has no borders, or buildings, or budgets. It's invisible, spiritual. His Kingdom is known only in the hearts of believers.

In Luke 17:20, Jesus said, "The kingdom of God does not come with observation (that is, fanfare or outward demonstration); nor will they say, 'See here!' or 'See there!' For indeed, the kingdom of God is within you."

Yet still, the OT is packed with prophecies of a coming King... Who'll sit on an earthly throne - Who'll rule visibly and tangibly - over a geographic kingdom.

2 Samuel 7 predicts that a descendant of David will sit on the throne of Israel and rule the world forever.

This is the prophecy the angel quoted to Mary when she discovered that she was with Child. "He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end."

The OT predicts that God will establish a physical, political Kingdom on planet Earth. His throne will be in Jerusalem. All the world will come and bow before Him.

He'll rule with a rod of iron. *Jesus will be the police!*

And the fulfillment of these promises occurs here in Revelation 19-20. In His model prayer, Jesus told us to pray, "Your kingdom come. Your will be done. On earth as it is in heaven." Now here in Chapter 20 at Jesus' second coming, this prayer is finally and fully answered.

Imagine, Jesus' inauguration day in Jerusalem on the Temple Mount. He addresses throngs of people from all over the planet - articulating the goals of His new administration. His first term He reigned spiritually. Now in His second term, He rules legally and corporally.

On the cross, Jesus redeemed or purchased planet Earth. When He returns, He will take possession. One day soon our world will be **under new management.**

Revelation 20 gives us only the duration of Jesus' Kingdom - "*a thousand years.*" But there are a host of OT prophecies that provide us many other details...

We're told of *the quality of life, changes in the earth's ecosystem, even the lifestyle of folks in the Kingdom!*

Remember one of the plagues in the Tribulation is the poisoning of the waters. **Ezekiel 47:8-9** describes how the Earth's waters will be healed and rejuvenated.

Isaiah 30:23-26 tells us there'll be longer periods of sunshine to revitalize the planet's vegetation. Under Jesus'

administration, the Earth will be restored to the garden paradise it once was. We'll live in "Eden again."

Isaiah 11 tells us how God's Kingdom will even impact the animal kingdom. He'll resolve the hostility between animals - even between man and animals.

Verse 6 tells us, "The wolf shall also dwell with the lamb..." Natural born predators will no longer exist.

God will alter the food chain. Animals will no longer be carnivores... Imagine, *bulldogs won't be at odds with gators, and yellow jackets won't try to sting bulldogs!*

Isaiah 11 tells us that God will remove the fear that protects humans from animals and vice versa. Verse 8, "The nursing child shall play by the cobra's hole, and the weaned child shall put his hand in the viper's den." Mom, your baby's favorite pet will be a copperhead.

Isaiah 35:5-6 tells us there'll be no birth defects... No down syndrome, or cleft palates, or spina bifida...

Isaiah 65:20 comments on longer life-spans - a man 100 years old will be considered a child. The Bible tells us that before Noah's flood men lived to old ages: 600, 700, 900 years old. The phenomena of aging is a mystery. We really don't know what triggers the aging process. Whatever it is, Jesus will lift it in the Kingdom.

In Romans 8, we are told that all creation groans as it awaits its redemption. As Julie Andrews put it, "The hills are alive with the sound of music." But they're playing in a minor key. Creation groans over man's fall.

When mankind sinned, he threw a wrench into the gears of life. A capriciousness appeared in nature.

The gentle rains that water your lawn can also flood a city. The breeze that lifts a kite can splinter a house.

After the fall, twisters and hurricanes went on a crime spree - *random acts of violence*. Nature went nuts. Today, Mother Nature has a terrible case of PMS. In a fallen world, nature is now *a mix of beauty and brutality*.

Every time I hear a tree creak or a dog howl, I wonder if they're not expressing their angst over the conditions they're forced to endure in a fallen world.

Yet one day, the curse of sin will be lifted. When Jesus reigns over planet Earth, the natural order will be restored to its former and perfect and peaceful state.

Yet the greatest benefit of living in the Kingdom Age will be the unlimited access we'll have to Jesus.

Isaiah 2:2-4 describes how people will flow to the King in Jerusalem, and Jesus will teach us His ways.

Verse 4 tells us, "They shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore." Under the influence of King Jesus, this war-torn world will finally know peace.

And peace won't just be global, but local. In the Millennium, there'll be no deadbolts or security systems. Crime will be reduced to a minimum... And there'll be no Satan. He's chained for a thousand years... Jesus will enforce what's right and punish evil.

And realize during the Millennial Kingdom of Christ, a strange mixture of people will occupy planet Earth.

Mortal men will live alongside resurrected believers.

There'll be humans who survive the Tribulation. People are born in the Millennium. Folks will continue to marry and give birth. With improved conditions and longer life-spans, a population explosion will occur.

These survivors and their offspring will retain a sin nature, and even without the devil's influence, from time to time they'll need to be corrected. *And they'll be saved the way we've been... by grace through faith.*

But along with the Earth's population of mortals, the Church - with the OT and Tribulation saints - will also live on planet Earth. After we descend with Jesus at His second coming, we'll hang out and help Him rule.

2 Timothy 2:12 tells us, "If we endure, we shall also reign with Him." 1 Corinthians 6:2 asks, "Do you not know that the saints will judge the world?" The implication is we will! Think of the lessons we'll have to teach the mortals in the Kingdom. Through trials, and tears, and heartache, we've learned the effects of sin and need for faith. We've put together quite a resume.

When people living in God's Kingdom need to be reminded why it's wise to obey the Lord, we'll have firsthand knowledge that we can share as examples.

Remember what Jesus said to the faithful servant in Luke 19, “Well done, good servant; because you were faithful in a very little, have authority over ten cities.”

Authority and government in God’s kingdom is one of the rewards we’ll receive for our current faithfulness.

I’m serving the Lord the best I can now hoping I’ll get assigned a few tropical islands to rule over then.

In the Millennial Kingdom, we’ll live among the mortals on Earth, but according to 1 Corinthians 15, by this point we’ll have an immortal, incorruptible body.

At the rapture, we’ll receive resurrected bodies.

Our bodies will have the same capacities Jesus had after His resurrection... Recall how He would pop in and out on His disciples. His body wasn’t confined materially or spatially. He could dematerialize and reappear. The disciples thought He was a ghost until they touched Him and felt the scars of His crucifixion.

And you and I will have the same type of resurrected body. I like to say, we’ll travel at *the speed of want*... Desire to go to Hawaii for a day... *presto you’re there!*

As we talk about this future Kingdom, you should know, not all Bible teachers agree with its literalness...

Some Christians teach “A-millennialism” or “no millennium.” A-millennialism assumes that the thousand year reign of Christ is merely symbolic of the Church. One day, Jesus will return and wraps it all up.

Other people advocate “Post-millennialism.” Jesus returns only after mankind brings about a golden age on Earth. The

job of the Church is it to create a utopian society that'll usher in the second coming of Jesus.

One current form of "*Post-millennialism*" is "**Kingdom Now**" theology. Rather than expect Jesus to return, Christians need to take over earthly institutions now.

Their goal is to Christianize society and government. Create a political, social kingdom right here and now!

This was the mistake first century Jews made when they tried to fashion Jesus into a political Messiah. He refused to cooperate. His earthly kingdom is still future.

Here's the problem with *Post and A-millennialism* - if the Church is God's Kingdom, and we're currently in the thousand year reign of Christ, **why isn't Satan bound?** Take one look at the filth on the internet, or the violence in our streets... and if we're currently in the Kingdom; then Satan must be on a pretty long chain!

For me, *A-millennialism* and *Post-millennialism* fall flat on two counts... **First**, they put too much emphasis on the work and wisdom of man. If humans can solve a particular dilemma facing our planet, we should do so. But the ultimate answers are with God, not mankind.

And **second**, both schools of interpretation take the unfulfilled promises God made to Israel and apply them to the Church. This denies the Bible's literalness. God's OT promises to Israel are actual and factual.

This is why I believe in "**Pre-millennialism.**" The Bible teaches that *Jesus will literally and physically return to planet Earth... usher in God's glorious kingdom all by Himself... reign*

1000 years... restore all that sin has damaged... and in the process, fulfill every single promise God made to the nation of Israel...

Back to our text. John writes in verse 5, **“But the rest of the dead did not live again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection.”**

In John 5, Jesus spoke of two resurrections. **“For the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice and come forth - those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation.”**

Believers are raised to life. Unbelievers are judged. And both resurrections are found here in Revelation 20... What the Lord didn't mention in John 5 is that a thousand years separate these two resurrections...

The first resurrection occurs in three waves...

It **began** the first Easter. The NT calls our Lord Jesus **“the first fruits of the resurrection.”** Jesus was *the first of the first* to overcome death never to die again.

Then the Church joins the resurrection at the rapture followed by the OT believers and Tribulation martyrs who join at the end of the age - *the first resurrection*.

The second resurrection, that is, **“the rest of the dead”** isn't resurrected until the thousand years ends.

As Jesus said in John 5, God resurrects unbelievers to condemnation. We'll see it in verse 11. At the Great White Throne of Judgment, the bottomless pit empties out, and **“the**

rest of the dead” appear before their Maker to receive their permanent, final, fatal sentence.

Here’s the moral of the story... *be part of the first resurrection, not a member of the second.* For we’re told in verse 6, “Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years.”

In verse 7, the plot thickens, “Now when the thousand years have expired, Satan will be released from his prison.” *And it’s not difficult to guess what Satan does.*

Remember, Satan has been chained a thousand years. He’s had time to take a personal inventory. He’s thought it through - considered his mistakes. If ever he wanted to turn over a new leaf, this is it... *but NO!*

The moment he’s released he’s back to his lies and rebellion. Like a criminal who refuses rehabilitation, as soon as he hits the street again, he’s out for revenge.

Satan goes “to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog (players in the earlier war of Ezekiel 39), to gather them together to battle, whose number is as the sand of the sea.”

Did you hear about the devout Christian lady who was dirt poor? She lived hand-to-mouth. Yet she trusted God for all her needs, and the Lord always supplied.

Of course, her atheist neighbor couldn’t figure her out. If her God existed, why was she always in need?

One day, he overheard her desperate prayer. “Lord, please, I’m hungry.” The atheist decided to teach the woman a lesson. He went to the grocery store and loaded up several bags of food. He then set them on her doorstep, rang the doorbell, and hid in the bushes.

As soon as she opened the door and saw the food, she shouted, “Praise the Lord, God heard my prayer.”

That’s when the atheist revealed himself. He scoffed at the lady, “God didn’t bring you those groceries, I did.” The woman answered, “Praise the Lord! He heard my prayer and sent the Devil to make the delivery.”

Martin Luther once described Satan as “God’s ape.”

Like an organ grinder’s monkey, the devil exists for the Master’s purposes. Even Satan’s rebellion plays into God’s hands. He’s the puppet on God’s string.

Think of the cross. I’m sure Satan relished the pain inflicted on Jesus - *the beating, the nails, the rejection.*

Yet it’s by His stripes we’re healed. He was bruised for our iniquities - wounded for our transgressions. He was rejected so we can be accepted. At the cross, Satan played into God’s hands. *And here’s another example of how he unwittingly serves God’s purposes.*

For the last several decades, the big debate in psychology has been between *nature and nurture?*

Which is the greatest determiner of human behavior?

Is our corruption the result of a *genetic defect* or can it be traced to a *deficient environment?* If my problem is me, I have

nobody to blame but myself. If it's my environment, I can blame everyone and everybody.

This is why most people say *nurture*. I'm a sinner because *I had bad parents, or grew up on the wrong side of the tracks, or had a poor education, or evil friends, or I couldn't find a job - excuses, excuses.*

But at the end of the thousand years, God steps into this debate. He ensures that no one walks off into an eternity in hell thinking they have a legitimate excuse.

At this point, for a thousand years, mankind has existed in the perfect environment. Jesus has occupied the throne. The world has been made brand new. Peace and prosperity, holiness and happiness, reigns across the globe. Folks have been treated flawlessly.

Yet people who populate the planet are still sinners at heart. Like men today, they're born with a sin nature.

With Jesus on the throne, they've lived by His rules. *They're the better for it*, but they've only conformed to an external standard. They haven't been transformed by the Holy Spirit. These people need to be born again!

And no one realizes it until Satan is let loose for a season. All of sudden, these people are given a choice.

The Devil tempts them. *"You know better than God. Who needs God anyway? You can be your own god?"*

We've heard this all before. But the people at the end of the Kingdom Age will hear it for the first time.

And it'll strike a chord in their hearts. It'll inflame the rebellious nature that's been simmering inside. Even after a

thousand years in a perfect world, the human race will still rebel because it's in their nature to do so.

Here God proves for all time that humans have sin in their heart. The old adage is true, "Sinning doesn't make you a sinner. You sin because you are a sinner."

Selfishness and rebellion are embedded in human nature. What happens at the end of the Millennium proves **that at the heart of man's problem is the problem of his heart!** Mankind is a rebel by nature!

Verse 9, "They went up on the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city." This flimsy coup d'etat dares to lay siege to Jesus' capital city. This is **the final insurrection**. *How dare anyone attack Jesus after He's been so good?*

The revolt gets put down in short order. "Fire came down from God out of heaven and devoured them."

And now the instigator finally gets his due! Verse 10, "The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet are. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever..."

Jesus said "**the lake of fire**" wasn't made for man. It was created for Satan and his angels.

Here Satan is sent to his ultimate destination.

Verse 11, "Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it..." What an ominous sight this is... "**White**" is the color of holiness and purity. A "**throne**" speaks of authority. And "**great**" has the sound of permanence.

I believe it's Jesus Christ who sits on this throne.

We'll learn in verse 12 that this is a throne of Judgment. And recall, the long list of people who judged Jesus...

Caiaphas the High Priest, Herod the king, the Jewish Sanhedrin, Pontus Pilate the Roman governor, the mob who screamed "crucify Him, crucify Him..."

Now imagine each of them appearing at this throne to be judged **by** Jesus. The roles are now reversed. Trust me, there'll be a lot of squirming going on.

The reason folks appear at this Throne of Judgment is because they've rejected Jesus. They judged Jesus as unfit to follow. Now it's His turn to judge them, and see how they stack up to God's righteousness.

Verse 11, "Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them." After a thousand years of renovations - after renewing all that sin has worn out - God decides to ditch the Earth and the Heavens, and start brand new.

And why would God do that? I don't pretend to know all His reasons. But perhaps He wants us to know that this world, and all that's in it, has simply been a stage.

The stuff we've value are but props and symbols. What truly matters are the things that last forever.

2 Peter 3:10 tells us of this day in Revelation, "But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements

will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up.”

Physics teaches that “like charges” repel. Yet at the center of every atom is a cluster of bonded protons.

Scientists explain the mystery with terms like “atomic glue.” They talk of “a God particle.” Their explanations are vague at best. The Bible on the other hand is quite clear. Colossians 1:17 tells us that in Christ “all things consist.” It’s Jesus Who’s holds together the universe.

And one day, He’ll just *let go* - “and the elements will melt with fervent heat.” We’re headed for a meltdown. In that day, all that’s left will be man and his Maker...

Then suddenly, everyone in the bottomless pit - all unbelievers - every rebel who rejected God’s salvation will stand before Jesus and answer for their decision.

Verse 12 tells us, “And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books.”

These books contain every deed ever done.

At this Great White Throne, everything will be exposed. Nothing will remain hidden. Every person who rejected the work of Christ on the cross is judged by the deeds they did and the merit they manufactured.

Realize, there’re four judgments in Scripture...

First, is **the cross**. On Mount Calvary, in the person of Jesus, God judged the sin of the world. The punishment due

my sin - in fact, *all sin* - was taken out on Jesus. He bore our judgment so God could forgive us. When you trust in Jesus your sin is judged forever.

Second, is **the judgement seat of Christ**. It's mentioned in 1 Corinthians 3. At issue is not our sin, but service. Here a believer's work is judged to see what reward they'll receive. Our motivation is tested. Good deeds, done out of love for God, will be valued as gold and silver, but service done out of pride or selfishness will be burned like wood, hay, and stubble.

Third, is **the judgment of nations**. This occurs at Jesus' second coming in the Valley of Jehoshaphat. Joel 3 and Matthew 25 tell us how Jesus will separate *the sheep* from *the goats*. How the nations treated God's people, Israel, is the criteria for this judgment.

And then, the fourth judgment is here: **the Great White Throne of Judgment**. This is *not* for believers.

In Revelation 4, we saw believers gathered around a multi-colored throne. It represents the manifold grace of God. It's surrounded by a rainbow - a symbol of His faithfulness. Four living creatures are present - each one representing a different aspect of Jesus' ministry!

Yet what a contrast we have here. This throne is large and looming. It's stark white! It represents God's unapproachable holiness. *Unforgiven sinners beware!*

If you're in Christ, your sin is judged at the cross. But the people under scrutiny here are "**judged according to their works.**" And the last thing I want is to stand before God on the

merit of my own works. Who, but Jesus, lived a life good enough for a holy, sinless God?

Isaiah 64:6 tells us that in God's sight all our righteousness is as filthy rags. If judged according to my efforts, I'm in big trouble! I'm resting - not in my works, but in the work of Jesus Christ upon the cross!

God doesn't grade on *the curve*, but on *the cross*.

Verse 13, "The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works." "*Hades*" opens its hatches and all the unbelieving dead are condemned before God. Nobody stands a chance. **Romans 3:23** is the preview, "For all have sinned, and fall short of the glory of God..."

Remember "*Hades*" is like county jail - a temporary holding. It's where the spirits of unbelievers are today. In Luke 16 the rich man suffers in the flames of "*Hades*" - but it's not his permanent punishment.

"*Gehenna*" or "*lake of fire*" is the super-max prison.

The Lake of fire is the final assignment. Once you're found lacking at the Great White Throne you're sent to THE LAKE. And despite popular lore, there're no keg parties, wild orgies, or beer buddies at the lake... only fire and brimstone... scorching regret. Thus, verse 14, "Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire."

"This is the second death." Physical death is the first death. But *the lake* - eternal damnation - is the second.

There's an old saying, **"Born once die twice. Born twice die once."** Come to Jesus, be born again, and you'll face only physical death... The first death is not the one to fear. *"The second death"* is *"the lake of fire."*

Chapter 20 closes, **"And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire."**

Here's the most important question you'll ever be asked, **"Is your name written in the Book of Life?"**

Are you trusting in Jesus? Are you leaning on the cross of Christ, or trying to stand on your own merits? *Is it back to the garden, or is it on to the lake of fire...*