

#49 *FORUM POSTS ON HEB 9:27 AND THE FALSE PROPHET

Dear F_____,

You said:

I don't believe in an immortal soul, or a literal place of eternal fire; I believe we go to the grave upon death, either permanently, or as the Apostles teach, a sleep awaiting the resurrection. For me this subject is extremely clear and because the traditional view lacks all Scriptural support, I am able to rest easy in the divine hope as recorded in the Bible.

I completely agree with your statement above. It gives me joy to hear that someone else on the forum understands the truth of Christ.

Can you agree with what I present below?

Here is what I have been shown from scripture:

SPIRIT + BODY = A LIVNG SOUL

The "soul" is our individual consciousness. When the body dies, so does the soul. At that point, we enter into the state of death until the bodily resurrection from the grave occurs. That resurrection is still yet future.

For those who remain "lost" upon their resurrection, Christ will begin their judgment. This is "symbolized" by the person being cast into the Lake of Fire". The LOF is not literal fire.

Then, after the "lost" have "paid the last penny" (**Luke 12:59**), He will have mercy upon them.

These two verses represent this time of mercy:

John 7:37 In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, if any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. 38 He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.

Rev 22:17 And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.

This call presented above will go out to the "lost" at the end of the final age.

Exo 23:16 And the feast of harvest, the firstfruits (the Elect**) of thy labors, which thou hast sown in the field: and the feast of ingathering (**the rest of mankind**), which is in the end of the year, when thou hast gathered in thy labors out of the field.**

Exo 34:22 And thou shalt observe the feast of weeks, of the firstfruits of wheat harvest, and

the feast of ingathering at the year's end.

This time of "ingathering" which occurs at the "end of the year" is the Feast of Tabernacles. The Elect, as First Fruits, were harvested earlier (this present age) and the rest of mankind will be harvested into the Kingdom of Heaven at the end of the year when the full harvest is made.

So why are the Elect harvested early?

They will reign with Christ as "kings and priests" (**Rev 5:10**) in the final age over the "lost".

Their purpose: to bring in the harvest of mankind:

Luke 10:2 Therefore said he unto them, The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth laborers into his harvest.

The Elect are the "few" (**Mat 22:14**) who were chosen from the foundation of the world. They were chosen to be Christ's laborers to bring in the full harvest of mankind.

When the Lord and His "Christ" (the Elect, **Acts 4:26, Rev 11:15**) have completed their work, all mankind will be saved:

1Tim 2:3 For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior; 4 who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth. 5 For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; 6 who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time.

One last point: the purpose of the Lake of Fire (Christ's judgment) is stated in the verses below:

Isa 1:27 Zion shall be redeemed with judgment, and her converts with righteousness.

Psa 9:8 And he shall judge the world in righteousness, he shall minister judgment to the people in uprightness.

Isa 4:4 When the Lord shall have washed away the filth of the daughters of Zion, and shall have purged the blood of Jerusalem from the midst thereof by the spirit of judgment, and by the spirit of burning.

Amos 5:24 But let judgment run down as waters, and righteousness as a mighty stream.

Rev 15:4 Who shall not fear thee, O Lord, and glorify thy name? for thou only art holy: for all nations shall come and worship before thee; for thy judgments are made manifest.

Isa 26:9 With my soul have I desired thee in the night; yea, with my spirit within me will I seek thee early: for when thy judgments are in the earth, the inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness.

Everything that Christ does in this creation is because of His great love for mankind. Because all mankind is sinful and evil, His love demands that He make us into a new creation (new vessel, child of God) which is sinless and righteous. Christ does this by giving mankind a new spiritual nature (Holy Spirit). Then by His judgment, He destroys the old carnal spiritual nature and teaches us His righteousness. This process is called "conversion".

Christ loves His enemies by doing good to them. He does good to them by converting all mankind.

Mankind, who is evil, does not understand the true purpose of judgment:

Prov 28:5 Evil men understand not judgment: but they that seek the LORD understand all things.

However, Christ does understand it and He will not "pervert" it as mankind does:

Job 34:12 Yea, surely God will not do wickedly, neither will the Almighty pervert judgment.

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

Heb 9:27 And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:

After Jesus's Resurrection, this text does not allow a sleep period before the judgment.

L_____

Dear L_____,

Heb 9:27 is referring to the Great White Throne Judgment. Everyone will appear before Christ upon their resurrection from the grave.

Rev 20:11 And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. 12 And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the Book of Life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. 13 And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. 14 And death and hell were cast into the Lake of Fire. This is the Second Death. 15 And whosoever was not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the Lake of Fire.

The analogy of the sheep and the goats also applies to this time:

Mat 25:31 When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: 32 And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats: 33 And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. 34 Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:

Since the Elect have already been judged and converted during their lifetimes, they will be found in the Lamb's Book of Life. They will have "life" during the final age. Also, the Old Testament faithful will also be found in the Lamb's Book of Life. Though they are not yet converted like the Elect, they soon will be with the help of the Elect. After they are converted, they will have "life" during the final age.

As for everyone else, they will not be found in the Lamb's Book of Life. Christ will reject them and begin their judgment. Once their judgment is complete, Christ will pour out the Holy Spirit upon them and they will enter into life at the end of that final age.

Judgment is a necessary part of salvation. Unless a person spiritually dies, they cannot be made into the new vessel:

Jer 18:4 And the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the hand of the potter: so he made it again another vessel, as seemed good to the potter to make it.

As for the bodily resurrection from the grave, it still remains a future event, even for the Elect. It will occur when the end of this present age comes.

Paul said this to the Thessalonians:

1Thes 4:13 But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. 14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. 15 For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. 16 For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: 17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. 18 Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

In these verses, Paul was comforting the Thessalonians who had lost loved ones. He reminded them that their loved ones are only in a state of sleep and that they would be with them again when the resurrection from the grave occurs. Paul even said that if the resurrection occurs before a believer dies, that they would still rise to join their loved ones in the air. This truth was to give them "hope".

As for how you come to the conclusion that Heb 9:27 does not allow for a sleep period, I don't understand your reasoning. That verse does not address that subject. It merely states the "order" of things.

Also, "sleep" only refers to the converted Elect who have died. For the lost, they are in a state of death and are not "sleeping".

Joe

Dear H_____,

You asked:

Who is the False Prophet mentioned in the book of Revelation?

The "False Prophet" which is taught in Revelation is the spirit of anti-Christ. The spirit of anti-Christ is also presented in the second half of Revelation chapter 13 as the "second beast".

A called out believer who has the spirit of anti-Christ is "a" false prophet. They are also represented by the spiritual symbols "anti-Christ", "Man of Sin" and "Seven Headed Beast with 10 Horns/Ten Crowns".

In the verses below, Christ teaches how a believer becomes to be a "Man of Sin":

Mat 12:43 When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest, and findeth none. 44 Then he saith, I will return into my house from whence I came out; and when he is come, he findeth it empty, swept, and garnished. 45 Then goeth he, and taketh with himself SEVEN other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter in and dwell there: and the last state of that man is worse than the first. Even so shall it be also unto this wicked generation.

The spiritual symbol of an unclean spirit represents a spirit who teaches Satan's false truth through lies and deceptions.

Since a new believer remains spiritually blind (**Mark 8:21-25**) after receiving the Early Rain of the Spirit, they cannot replace their worldly false beliefs with the truth of Christ. ONE unclean spirit leaves but comes back with SEVEN more. The number "seven" represents perfection. In this case, the number seven represents the perfection of Satan's lies/deceptions which come to a believer by the indwelling of the spirit of anti-Christ. Now, instead of ONE unclean spirit within the believer, they now have EIGHT. The number eight is a spiritual symbol which represents a new spiritual condition. In this case, the new spiritual condition is worse than the first. This "worse than the first" spiritual condition makes the believer a false prophet, a Man of Sin or a Seven Headed Beast with Ten Horns and crowns.

Christ also taught on the spirit of anti-Christ in these verses:

Mar 5:2 And when he was come out of the ship, immediately there met him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit, **3** Who had his dwelling among the tombs; and no man could bind him, no, not with chains: **4** Because that he had been often bound with fetters and chains, and the chains had been plucked asunder by him, and the fetters broken in pieces: neither could any man tame him. **5** And always, night and day, he was in the mountains, and in the tombs, crying, and cutting himself with stones. **6** But when he saw Jesus afar off, he ran and worshipped him, **7** And cried with a loud voice, and said, what have I to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of the most high God? I adjure thee by God, that thou torment me not. **8** For he said unto him, Come out of the man, thou unclean spirit. **9** And he asked him, What is thy name? And he answered, saying, my name is LEGION; for we are many. **10** And he besought him much that he would not send them away out of the country. **11** Now there was there nigh unto the mountains a great herd of swine feeding. **12** And all the devils besought him, saying, Send us into the swine, that we may enter into them. **13** And forthwith Jesus gave them leave. And the unclean spirits went out, and entered into the swine: and the herd ran violently down a steep place into the sea, (they were about two thousand and were choked in the sea.

The "man" who is possessed by many unclean spirits represents an Elect believer just prior to their conversion. The stones the man uses to cut himself represents the Law of Moses (man's work). The unclean spirit (Legion, who are many) represents the spirit of anti-Christ who has spiritually killed the man (he dwells among the tombs). This is how Satan kills the saints (**Mat 24:9, Rev 11:7**). When Christ comes to the man with the Latter Rain of the Spirit, Christ drives out the spirit of anti-Christ by the brightness of His appearing. This represents the judgment of the Beast and False Prophet (a Man of Sin, one flesh). Before this happens, Legion asks to go into the great herd of Swine feeding upon the hill. The Herd of Swine represents other called out believers who are also chosen ("2000" in the herd). When Legion enters the Swine, they run into the sea and are killed just as the possessed man was killed earlier.

The spirit of anti-Christ invaded the church in the 1st century A.D. and ravaged it.

Paul prophesied of its coming in the verse below:

Acts 20:29 For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock

John also made this statement:

1John 4:3 And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.

By the time the book of Revelation was written by John, the spirit of anti-Christ had come and

destroyed the churches which the Apostles started. Nothing has changed in the church since that time. The apostasy of the church happened in accordance with God's "will" and plan which He has revealed in scripture.

To be saved in this age, the First Fruits/Elect must pass through this "Day of Evil" which occurs between them receiving the Early and Latter Rains of the Spirit. This time in between the two Rains is represented by the last 3 1/2 years remaining of Daniel's Seventy Weeks prophecy. This 3 1/2 years is also presented as "time, times and a half", "42 months" and "1260 days" The Day of Evil is also represented by Israel's 40 years of wandering in the wilderness and by Elijah's 3 1/2 years of drought.

If you look at Rev 13:5, you will see that the Seven Headed Beast continues for 42 months. The Seven Headed Beast is destroyed when an Elect believer receives the Latter Rain of the Spirit and is converted (**2Thes 2:8**).

Also, notice that the book of Revelation says that to be "blessed", a believer must "keep the sayings of the prophecy".

Rev 22:7 Behold, I come quickly: blessed is he that keepeth the sayings of the prophecy of this book.

The book also says that the "time is at hand" and that the prophecies taught in the book are not sealed.

Rev 22:10 And he saith unto me, Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book: for the time is at hand.

Christ's second coming is said to happen "quickly" for the Elect. Christ's second coming is a spiritual event when He comes to one of His Elect to give them the Latter Rain of the Spirit. If He doesn't come to believer before they die, they are not going to be saved in this age and will not be a first fruit of His harvest. To be saved in this age, a believer must keep the sayings of the prophecy. For the Elect, Christ will do all the necessary spiritual work to make sure they keep the sayings. He has been doing this work for His Elect ever since the book of Revelation was written.

Becoming a Man of Sin (a believer who has the spirit of anti-Christ) is a required step along the Pathway to Salvation. If a believer does not keep that step, they will not be saved in this age. All Elect believers must take the "mark of the beast" and they will do so without any knowledge that they have taken it. The "mark" is taken when the spirit of anti-Christ indwells a believer. However, the believer has no knowledge of when this happens because Satan's deceptions are too strong and concealed.

This verse applies:

Mat 24:24 For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.

The "very Elect" are the Apostles (including Paul) and the possibly other early Elect believers. For them, it was not possible to be deceived by Satan because the spirit of anti-Christ came upon the church AFTER the "very Elect" had been converted and were given "eyes that can see".

After the apostasy came, all Elect believers have taken the mark of the beast at some point before they were converted. It happens during their "Day of Evil" when they endure for 42 months. Nothing has changed even for the Elect of today. They, too, will take the mark of the Beast before they are converted.

One final point: The book of Revelation is a spiritual teaching on the Pathway to Salvation an Elect believer must travel before they die. It is NOT a book which teaches outward world events which only happen near the end of the literal age. None of the "end-time" prophecies are teaching about outward literal events. The events they teach are spiritual and happen "within" a believer.

The Old Covenant was outward and physical. However, the New Covenant is inward and spiritual.

If a believer cannot understand spiritual things, they are not going to be able to understand the truth of God's Word and have their mind transformed by it. They will remain carnal.

Paul even had this same difficulty (even before the spirit of anti-Christ came) with the churches he started:

1Cor 3:1 And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ.

The "world" understands God's Word in a physical, literal and outward way. A converted believer who has "eyes that can see" will understand God's Word in a spiritual way. They are the only ones who have the "mind of Christ" and who walk by the truth.

Joe

H_____ never responded.