

THE DAY OF THE LORD

By Joseph Edwards II

Updated 08/14/26

INTRODUCTION

The Day of the Lord is the time when Christ judges mankind. Judgment is a necessary step along the pathway to salvation. And since all mankind will be saved, all mankind will be judged.

Rom 14:10 But why dost thou judge thy brother? or why dost thou set at nought thy brother? for we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ.

Mark 9:49 For every one shall be salted with fire (judgment), and every sacrifice shall be salted with salt.

Judgment comes upon mankind at two different times.

- 1). This present age
- 2). The final age

In this present age, the elect are judged after they receive the Latter Rain of the Spirit and have consumed the bread and new wine of Christ. Judgment will then fall on them to purify them.

1Pe 4:17 For it is the ripe time for the judgment to begin with the house of God; but, if first with us, what shall be the end of them who yield not unto the glad-message of God?

Tit 2:14 Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify (through judgment) unto Himself a peculiar people (the elect), zealous of good works.

In the final age, the Day of the Lord will come upon the balance of mankind. They are the people whose names were not written in the Lamb's Book of Life:

Rev 20:15 And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the Lake of Fire (judgment).

The Day of the Lord as it applies to the elect is also called the Thousand Years Reign of Christ.

Rev 20:2 And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, 3 And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season. 4 And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their fore-heads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years. 5 But the

rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the First Resurrection. 6 Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.

When speaking about the Day of the Lord, Peter says the Day of the Lord is like a Thousand Years:

2Pet 3:7 But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the Day of Judgment and perdition of ungodly men. 8 But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one Day is with the Lord as a Thousand Years, and a Thousand Years as one Day. 9 The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. 10 But the Day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.

In these verses, Peter is equating the Day of the Lord as being the same as the Thousand Years Reign of Christ. Though the book of Revelation was not written at the time Peter made this statement, Peter was obviously aware of the Thousand Years Reign teaching; perhaps from this scripture below:

Psa 90:3 Thou turnest man to destruction (judgment); and sayest, Return, ye children of men. 4 For a Thousand Years in thy sight are but as yesterday when it is past, and as a watch in the night. 5 Thou carriest them away as with a flood (judgment); they are as a sleep: in the morning they are like grass which groweth up. 6 In the morning it flourishes, and groweth up; in the evening it is cut down (judgment), and withers.

Or perhaps from this verse:

Ecc 6:6 Yea, though he live a Thousand Years twice told, yet hath he seen no good: do not all go to one place?

The above verse is speaking of the elect who will reign with Christ in judgment “twice told”.

The first time the elect will reign with Christ is during their own judgment in this age and the second time is during the judgment of the world in the final age. Neither time do they see any good and all who are judged go to “one place” (Lake of Fire).

A correct understanding of the Day of the Lord is truly one of Christ’s hidden treasures:

Prov 2:1 My son, if you receive my words and treasure up my commandments with you, 2 making your ear attentive to wisdom and inclining your heart to understanding; 3 yes, if you call out for insight and raise your voice for understanding, 4 if you seek it like silver

and search for it as for hidden treasures, 5 then you will understand the fear of the Lord and find the knowledge of God.

However, with perseverance and the leading of the Holy Spirit, this treasure of the Day of the Lord can be found.

To correctly understand the Day of the Lord, there are five primary truths which need to be understood first so that the scripture on the Day of the Lord will harmonize:

1). The second coming of Christ to His elect is a spiritual process.

The second coming of Christ begins when Christ comes (does not appear) to His elect and pours out the Latter Rain of the Spirit. This event is described in **John 14:2-20** and **Acts 2:14-21**. It is at this time when Christ makes His fallen away elect ready, watchful and sober. With the Latter Rain, the elect's spiritual blindness is also healed. With this healing, Christ will then spiritually appear to the person. Since the Lord will find the person "ready", He will gather them to dwell with Him in heaven (spiritually speaking). This event is described in **Mat 24:27-31** and **2Thes 2:1**.

2). The spirit of anti-Christ had not fully come during the time of the Apostles.

When Paul and the other New Testament writers first began their churches, the spirit of anti-Christ had not yet come. As a result, the early Gentile believers (babes) were not deceived by Satan and were remaining faithful. In the letters to the churches, the unconverted Gentile babes were frequently admonished to remain faithful and to keep "watch" for the coming of Christ. However, near the end of the Apostles' ministries, the spirit of anti-Christ came and caused all the babes in the churches to "fall away" from faith (mixing works with faith). Since that time, the churches have remained under Satan's deception & control and have become apostate. Because of such, none of the babes today are ready or are keeping watch for when the Lord will appear. They have all fallen "asleep" (spiritually died).

3). The order of the conversion events is different for the elect than it is for the balance of mankind.

a). The elect are saved first and then judged.

In this present age, Christ will come to His elect a second time and give them the Latter Rain of the Spirit. This baptism will cause Christ to appear to them. When Christ appears, He will find the elect person ready, watchful and sober. He will then gather the new child of God to dwell with Him in heaven (spiritually speaking). Next, Christ will feed the believer a meal of bread and New Wine (truth of God). Finally, the Day of the Lord will arrive and bring judgment upon the person to remove the chaff from within them. This is when the new child of God will reign with Christ. At this time, the Man of Sin will be "taken" from within the believer (**Mat 24:37-41**) and cast into the Lake of Fire for judgment & destruction (**Rev 19:11-20**). The Man of Sin represents all the spiritual things within the person which has made them carnally minded and sinful.

b). In contrast to the elect, the balance of mankind will begin their judgment first and then be saved afterwards before they perish (the penalty of sin).

For the non-elect, they will appear before Christ (after they are resurrected from the grave) when He sits upon His White Throne at the start of the final age (**Rev 20:11-15**). When they appear before Him, Christ will not find them ready (faithful) and their names will not be found in the Lamb's book of Life. Christ will then cast each person (the goats, **Mat 25:31-46**) into the Lake of Fire where the Day of the Lord will commence for them.

4). The judgment of the elect is not done in wrath.

Since the elect are saved prior to the Day of the Lord arriving, they will not experience any wrath during their time of judgment since they are no longer under the Law. They have become a new creation (a child of God) which is without sin. As a child of God, they will reign with Christ over their own judgment. The wrath of God will only fall on the child of the Devil (Man of Sin) who was separated from them and cast into the Lake of Fire (spiritually speaking).

These verses apply:

Rom 5:9 Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.

1Thes 5:9 For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ...

5). The judgment of the “condemned” (the goats) in the final age will be done by the Law and in wrath.

For the balance of mankind, the Day of the Lord will fall upon them shortly after they are resurrected from the grave. Since they will be condemned to death because of their sins, they will be cast into the Lake of Fire to perish.

Eze 18:4 Behold, all souls are mine; as the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is mine: the soul that sinneth, it shall die.

Mat 5:18 For verily I say unto you, Till (old**) heaven and (**old**) earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.**

During their time of judgment, they will suffer torment and wrath. This judgment will be administered by Christ in accordance with the Law. Under the Law, each person's judgment will be tailored to the sins they've committed during their lifetime. Some individuals will receive only a few stripes, whereas others will receive many stripes (**Luke 12:47-48**) with “weeping & gnashing of teeth” (**Mat 25:30**).

These verses below apply to this time of judgment:

Joel 1:15 Alas for the day! for the day of the LORD is at hand, and as destruction from the Almighty shall it come.

Isa13:9 Behold, the day of the LORD cometh, cruel both with wrath and fierce anger, to lay the land desolate: and he shall destroy the sinners thereof out of it.

THE PURPOSE FOR THE DAY OF THE LORD

There are TWO primary purposes for Christ's judgment upon mankind.

- 1). To convert the children of the Devil (mankind) into the children of God. During that conversion process, judgment is used to destroy the children of the Devil.
- 2). To teach His children the knowledge of good and evil.

Christ judges mankind because He loves mankind and knows that judgement, though unpleasant, is for mankind's own good.

Psa 33:5 He loveth righteousness and judgment: the earth is full of the goodness of the LORD.

Jer 9:24 But let him that boasts, boast in this, that he understands and knows me, that I am the LORD which exercise lovingkindness, JUDGMENT, and righteousness, in the earth: for in these things I delight, saith the LORD.

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

However, mankind does not understand Christ's judgment:

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

Mankind believes Christ's judgment is void of mercy and has no loving purpose to it. From this false understanding, the Doctrine of Hell was created by the apostate church. Nothing blasphemes the name and character of Christ more than this doctrine does.

However, Christ and His Father are not like mankind. They are loving, merciful and long-suffering with mankind. They will not pervert judgment as mankind does:

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

Because judgment is such a vital part of mankind's conversion, Christ was eager for His judgment to start:

Luke 12:49 “I came to send fire on the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled!”

In the sections below, I will explain the Day of the Lord in more detail as it applies to the elect in this age and as it applies to the OT faithful & the balance of mankind in the final age.

KEY SPIRITUAL SYMBOLS OF THE DAY OF THE LORD

APOSTATE BELIEVER

Man of Sin
Anti-Christ
Seven Headed Beast w/Ten Horns & Crowns
Minister of Satan

SPIRIT OF ANTI-CHRIST

Second Beast of Rev 13
False Prophet
Legion
Seven unclean spirits
Devils

MARRED SPIRIT

Woman
Old Earth
harlot
Typed by Eve
Typed by Lot's wife

THE CARNAL AND RELIGIOUS SPIRITUAL NATURE OF THE MARRED SPIRIT

Great Harlot
Mystery Babylon the Great City
Jerusalem
Sodom
Egypt
Damascus

NEW SPIRIT W/A DIVINE SPIRITUAL NATURE

New Earth
Virtuous Woman

CARNAL MIND/HEAD

Old Man
Man of Sin (worsened Old Man)
Satan
Natural Sun

MIND OF CHRIST/HEAD

New Man
Christ
Spiritual Sun

Christ uses many synonymous symbols in parables, analogies, prophecies and types to highlight certain aspects of the spiritual component they represent. Those listed above are just a few. Please see my paper AA. DEFINITIONS OF SPIRIT WORDS for a more detailed list.

Below are a few examples:

- The Great Harlot & Mystery Babylon the Great city highlight the carnal & religious spiritual nature of the marred spirit which elevates itself to be equal with God.
- The natural sun (Satan) and the natural moon (Old Covenant of Law/Bondwoman) highlight from where the child of the Devil/marred spirit receives their false beliefs & character traits (natural light of this world).
- The new Sun (Christ) and the new moon (New Covenant/Freewoman) highlight from where the child of God/divine spirit receives their truth & character traits. (spiritual light of the Kingdom of Heaven).
- Satan and the Bondwoman highlight who the parents of the child of the Devil/Man of Sin are.
- Christ and the Freewoman highlight who the parents of the child of God/New Man are.
- The Bondwoman & Old Jerusalem highlight that the child of the Devil lives under the Law.
- The Freewoman & Jerusalem from above highlight that the child of God is not under the Law.

THE COMPONENTS OF MANKIND'S SPIRITUAL MAKE-UP

The judgment of the Day of the Lord is often shown to fall not only on the individual person but also on the spiritual components that make up the person. Understanding these components is vital in understanding the spiritual process of judgment which will convert a child of the Devil into a child of God.

Here is the spiritual makeup of a person of mankind (one flesh):

CARNAL MIND + MARRED SPIRIT = CHILD OF THE DEVIL

or

MAN + WOMAN = CHILD OF THE DEVIL

or

ADAM + EVE = CHILD OF THE DEVIL

Below is the spiritual makeup of the Man of Sin:

WORSENERD CARNAL MIND + WORSENERD MARRED SPIRIT + SPIRIT OF ANTI-CHRIST = MAN OF SIN

Below is the spiritual makeup of the child of God:

MIND OF CHRIST + DIVINE SPIRIT + HOLY SPIRIT = CHILD OF GOD

One final point: The symbols and formulas are spiritual in nature and should be applied within a person. Of special note, an unconverted babe can have both the child of the Devil/Man of Sin AND the child of God within them at the same time. However, before judgment falls on the person (if they are elect), the spiritual components of the Man of Sin are shown to be removed from the person beforehand to show that judgment will only fall on the Man of Sin. This separation is performed to show that the child of God (who has no sin) is not judged. Mat 24:40-41 and Rev 19:11-21 apply.

THE SYMBOLISM OF CONVERSION AND JUDGMENT

God's Word teaches about the destruction of the child of the Devil who is representative of all mankind (**1John 3:8-10**). The child's destruction is a spiritual destruction which destroys the person's marred spirit (Old Earth) and carnal mind (Old Man).

This destruction is shown in the verse below:

Isa 66:16 For by fire (judgment) and by his sword (Word of God) will the LORD plead with all flesh (all mankind): and the slain of the LORD shall be many.

The scripture above is referring to the spiritual destruction of the person and not the destruction of the actual person themselves. It appears to show that the person (child of the Devil) has perished, and in God's eyes & in scripture, they have. But in reality, the person has only been spiritually changed (converted) on the inside. To reflect this spiritual change, scripture says the child of the Devil has perished and the child of God has been born. Through this transformation, the person's individual conscious existence remains the same.

The spiritual process that causes this change to occur is called conversion.

To make this spiritual change within a person, Christ will give a person the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit will change the person's marred spirit into a new spirit that has a divine spiritual nature. It is the same spirit that the person has always had, only now, it is changed because of the governance of the Holy Spirit.

And from this new spirit within the person, the carnal mind of the individual will slowly change into the mind of Christ.

Both the spirit & mind of the person are the same ones that the person has always had, except now, they are “made new” (**Rev 21:5**) by the governance of the Holy Spirit within them.

So when you see verses like the one above (**Isa 66:16**), know that the person themselves is not destroyed – they have only been spiritually changed from the old vessel into the new vessel.

Isa 64:8 But now, O LORD, thou art our father; we are the clay, ...

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.

The original marred vessel (marred spiritual makeup) is converted into a new vessel (perfect spiritual makeup) from the same lump of clay (the individual person). In this way, God will have new children who have a knowledge of both good and evil – something that God desires His children to have.

THE DAY OF THE LORD - THE ELECT

The elect of Christ will be fully judged before they physically die.

Their judgment has two parts:

- 1). The first part of the elect’s judgment is completed quickly. This is the judgment of the Man of Sin and the Great Harlot. This is the Lake of Fire judgment.
- 2). The second part of the elect’s judgment happens slowly. This is the judgment of the Old Man (carnal mind). This judgment is called the chastisement of Christ.

However, before the Day of the Lord arrives for the elect, Christ will come to His elect and pour out the Latter Rain of the Spirit. This will cause His elect to approach Him solely by faith, and because of such, they will be under the New Covenant of Grace through Faith and will be blameless before the law.

1). HOW CHRIST MAKES HIS ELECT “READY” FOR THE DAY OF THE LORD

Since the death of Paul, all new believers (babes) will “fall away” shortly after receiving the Early Rain of the Spirit. To restore the faith of the elect babes, Christ will “come again” with the Latter Rain of the Spirit so that they will be made “ready” (faithful) when the Lord appears in His glory.

This scripture applies:

John 14:16 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; 17 Even the Spirit of Truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you,

and shall be in you. 18 I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you. 19 Yet a little while, and the world seeth me no more; but ye see me: because I live, ye shall live also. 20 At that day ye shall know that I am in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you.

In the verses above, Christ is referring to the time when He came a second time to the Apostles. When Christ came, He poured out the Latter Rain of the Spirit upon them. The Latter Rain of the Spirit is the Comforter; the Spirit of Truth.

Since the apostasy of the church, one of the reasons that the Latter Rain of the Spirit is necessary is to restore the faithfulness of the elect. The baptism of the Spirit does this by causing them to repent of their works which they have been mixing with faith. To facilitate an elect babe's repentance from works, Christ will send a converted believer with the spirit of Elijah to them with the call of repentance. After the elect person responds to the call of Elijah, the pathway for Christ will be made straight. Christ will then appear to the elect person and will gather the newly born child of God to heaven (spiritually speaking).

Malachi chapter 4 is a teaching on the coming of Elijah to the elect:

Mal 4:1 For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the LORD of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch. 2 But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings; and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall. 3 And ye shall tread down the wicked; for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet in the day that I shall do this, saith the LORD of hosts. 4 Remember ye the law of Moses my servant, which I commanded unto him in Horeb for all Israel, with the statutes and judgments. 5 Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD: 6 And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse.

Let's look now at how this portion of the pathway to salvation applies to the Jewish elect.

When Moses led the Jewish Nation out of Egypt, they passed through the Red Sea to represent their baptism unto Law. This baptism applied to all the Jews who passed through the Red Sea and to all their physical descendants.

1Cor 10:2 They were all baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea.

Shortly after the Nation of Israel was called out from the world, they turned away from the commandments of the Law, and in so doing, they turned away from Christ:

Exo 32:7 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Go down, because your people, whom you brought up out of Egypt, have become corrupt. 8 They have been quick to turn away from what I commanded them and have made themselves an idol cast in the shape of a calf. They have bowed down to it and sacrificed to it and have said, 'These are your gods, Israel, who brought you up out of Egypt.'"

After the Nation of Israel turned away from Christ, they remained in this fallen away state until the physical coming of Christ.

To start the process of restoration for the Jewish elect, Christ sent John the Baptist in the spirit of Elijah to them. John the Baptist was the voice who cried out from the wilderness to the Nation of Israel for them to repent from their dead works:

Mat 3:1 In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea, 2 And saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

Mat 3:3 For this is he that was spoken of by the prophet Elijah, saying, The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.

Heb 6:1 Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God.

Many Israelites heard John's call to repent but only a small portion of them responded to the call. Those who responded to the call did so because they were given the Early Rain of the Spirit beforehand. With the Early Rain, they began following Christ, however, most eventually turned away from Him. The "few" who never turned back from their repentance (remained faithful) were the 120 Jewish elect who received the Latter Rain of the Spirit on the Day of Pentecost.

Acts 1:13 And when they were come in, they went up into an upper room, where abode both Peter, and James, and John, and Andrew, Philip, and Thomas, Bartholomew, and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon Zelotes, and Judas the brother of James. 14 These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren. 15 And in these days, Peter having risen up in the midst of the disciples, said, (the multitude also of the names at the same place was, as it were, an hundred and twenty,)...

Acts 2:1 When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. 2 Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. 3 They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. 4 All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

A short time later, the Gospel message also went to the Gentiles.

Acts 28:28 Be it known therefore unto you, that the salvation of God is sent unto the Gentiles, and that they will hear it.

The Gentile elect are required to travel a similar pathway to salvation just as the Jewish elect traveled.

The pathway for the Gentile elect begins when they receive the Early Rain of the Spirit and are called to be a saint. However, shortly after receiving the Early Rain of the Spirit, the Gentile elect will fall away from faith and will come under the Law again.

Because all the Gentile elect will return to being under the Law shortly after receiving the Early Rain of the Spirit, it is necessary for Christ to send someone in the spirit of Elijah to each of them just as He sent John the Baptist to the Jewish elect.

James said it this way:

Jam 5:17 Elijah was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months. **18 And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth brought forth her fruit.** **19** Brethren, if any of you do err from the truth, and one turn him back; **20** Let him know, that **he which turns the sinner back from the error of his way shall save their soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins.**

After the believer hears the call to repent, Christ will pour out the Latter Rain of the Spirit which will cause the elect apostate babe to repent of their works. Their repentance will restore their faithfulness so that they are made “ready” for Christ to appear. This is a spiritual appearance which occurs as a result of the healing of the elect person’s spiritual blindness. After the person’s blindness is healed, Christ will spiritually appear to them and find them “ready” and “watchful”. At this time, Christ will gather the new child of God to heaven (spiritually speaking).

For my wife and I, Christ sent Ray Smith of www.bible-truths.com to us in the spirit of Elijah. If you would like to read our conversion testimony from that time, please see our conversion testimony that is posted on our website: www.greatmysteryofchrist.com.

2. THE DAY OF THE LORD AS TAUGHT BY THE MARRIAGE ANALOGY

Revelation chapter 19 is a teaching on the Day of the Lord for the elect. In this chapter, Christ uses the marriage analogy to teach His spiritual message.

Rev 19:7 Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honor to him: for the Marriage of the Lamb is come, and **his wife hath made herself ready.**

The Marriage of the Lamb represents the birth of the new child of God. This is the same event presented in Mat 24:29-31.

Earlier, before the marriage ceremony took place, the wife made herself ready when she received the Latter Rain of the Spirit and repented of her “works”. This made the pathway “straight” for the Lord to appear and take His Bride back to heaven for the marriage ceremony. This portion of the marriage analogy is presented in the parable of the Ten Virgins.

After the wedding ceremony, the Marriage Supper of the Lamb took place. During this supper, Christ will serve His new Bride a meal of bread and New Wine.

Rev 19:9 And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the Marriage Supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God.

Now that the elect person/Bride has received the truth of Christ, the judgment of the Day of the Lord will commence.

In the marriage analogy, the Day of the Lord is called the Supper of the Great God:

Rev 19:17 And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the Supper of the Great God; 18 That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all men, both free and bond, both small and great.

When the fowls (unclean spirits) came, they feasted on the recently killed false beliefs of the Man of Sin since that is what they consume.

During this time of judgment, the elect person's Beast and False Prophet (Man of Sin) are "taken" from within them and cast alive into the Lake of Fire.

Rev 19:20 And the Beast was taken, and with him the False Prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.

The Beast and False Prophet are described in Revelation chapter 13. The first beast is a symbol which represents the Man of Sin (666, an apostate believer). The second beast is the False Prophet who represents the spirit of anti-Christ that is indwelling the first beast.

During the judgment of the Man of Sin, the elect person will not experience any wrath or torment during this judgment because the believer is now the Bride of Christ who is not judged in the Lake of Fire. In fact, the person will reign with Christ during their own time of judgment.

Rev 19:14 The armies of heaven (Bride) were following him, riding on white horses and dressed in fine linen, white and clean.

Since the Man of Sin is the one who is sinful, he is the one who perishes in the Lake of Fire.

Rev 21:8 But the fearful, and unbelieving, and abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the Lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the Second Death.

Rev 2:11 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; He that overcomes shall not be hurt of the Second Death.

3. THE DAY OF THE LORD AS TYPED BY LOT AND HIS WIFE

The story of Lot and his wife is another example which teaches certain details of the Day of the Lord.

Before the Day of the Lord arrives for Lot, the angel told him to flee to the mountains:

Gen 19:17 And it came to pass, when they had brought them forth abroad, that he said, Escape for thy life; look not behind thee, neither stay thou in all the plain; escape to the mountain, lest thou be consumed.

This matches with what Christ said to do:

Mat 24:16 Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains.

The elect person's ability to flee to the mountains occurs because they have received the Latter Rain of the Spirit. With their new spiritual vision, the Man of Sin has been revealed. Also, as a result of having "eyes that can see", Christ has come to them and "appeared". With Christ's appearance, the believer has been born as a child of God. Christ will then gather the new child of God to dwell with Him in heaven (symbolized by the mountains).

However, letting go of our carnal beliefs is a very difficult and frightful thing to do. Lot displayed this fear in the next verses:

Gen 19:18 And Lot said unto them, Oh, not so, my Lord: Behold now, thy servant hath found grace (New Covenant of Grace through Faith) in thy sight, and thou hast magnified thy mercy, which thou hast shewed unto me in saving my life (salvation); and I cannot escape to the mountain, lest some evil take me, and I die: 20 Behold now, this city is near to flee unto, and it is a little one: Oh, let me escape thither, (is it not a little one?) and my soul shall live.

The angel then responded to Lot's request:

Gen 19:21 And he said unto him, See, I have accepted thee concerning this thing also, that I will not overthrow this city, for the which thou hast spoken. 22 Haste thee, escape thither; for I cannot do anything till thou be come thither. Therefore the name of the city was called ZOAR. 23 The sun was risen upon the earth when Lot entered into Zoar. 24 Then the Lord rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire from the Lord out of heaven; 25 And he overthrew those cities, and all the plain, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and that which grew upon the ground. 26 But his wife looked back from behind him, and she became a pillar of salt.

Note: Zoar represents the carnal beliefs of the Old Man (carnal mind). Lot represents the New Man who has yet to have his carnal mind transformed into the mind of Christ. Sodom represents carnal and religious spiritual nature of the marred spirit from which Lot has escaped. Lot's marred spirit is represented by his wife.

Now consider what is said in verse 23: **“the sun was risen upon the earth when Lot entered into Zoar.”**

The “sun” represents Christ who is the Sun of Righteousness.

Mal 4:2 But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings; and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall.

When Lot entered Zoar (before judgment had fallen on Sodom & Gomorrah), the Sun of Righteousness had already risen. This truth represents that Lot had already received the Latter Rain of the Spirit. With the Spirit, Lot's spiritual blindness was healed and Christ was appearing to Lot (the coming of the Son of Man, **Mat 24:29-31**).

When judgment falls on Sodom and Gomorrah, Zoar (which is also in the plains) will not be destroyed. The beliefs of the Old Man will remain unjudged and very much alive at that time.

However, Lot's wife, who represents the marred spirit, is not excluded from Christ's initial judgment as was the Old Man (Zoar). After Lot and his wife enter Zoar, judgment begins to fall on Sodom and Gomorrah. Lot's wife then looks back and is turned into a pillar of salt (salt represents judgment).

After the judgment of Sodom and Gomorrah and his wife, Lot was converted and had become a child of God. However, to be a perfect man of full age, Lot's carnal mind (Old Man) must be transformed into the mind of Christ.

Rom 12:2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

In the marriage analogy presented in Revelation chapter 19, verse 20 is synonymous with the judgment of Sodom and Gomorrah:

Rev 19:20 And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.

Verse 21 is synonymous with the judgment of Lot's wife (the marred spirit) and the Old Man:

Rev 19:21 And the rest (Lot's wife & Zoar/carnal beliefs of the Old Man) were slain with the sword of him (Word of God) that sat upon the horse, which sword proceeded out of his mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh.

4. THE JUDGMENT OF THE GREAT HARLOT

Rev 17:1 And there came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials, and talked with me, saying unto me, Come hither; I will shew unto thee the judgment of the Great Harlot that sits upon many waters (all mankind): 2 With whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication. 3 So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness: and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet colored beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns. 4 And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet color, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication: 5 And upon her forehead was a name written, MYSTERY BABYLON THE GREAT (City), THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.

The Great Harlot is a symbol for the carnal and religious spiritual nature of mankind's marred spirit. She is the mother of all the various religions of the world.

The carnal and religious spiritual nature of the Great Harlot will be made worse when the spirit of anti-Christ indwells a new believer (**Mat 12:43-45**).

Rev 18:2 And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils (spirit of anti-Christ), and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird. 3 For all nations (contains the beliefs of the mind) have drunk of the (old) wine of the wrath of her fornication (with Satan), and the kings of the earth (ruling beliefs & character traits of the mind) have committed fornication with her (accepted Satan's ways, too), and the merchants of the earth (unclean spirits) are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies.

Satan via his deceptions/lies that he gives to the Great Harlot, and who, in turn, passes them onto the mind of the individual is why scripture says the Great Harlot is "drunken with the blood of the saints". The blood of the saints was spilled because the elect babe fell from grace when they accepted the Great Harlot's leavened bread (Satan's false gospel of works mixed with faith). And according to the law, the mixing works with faith makes the individual unfaithful (no longer a chaste virgin). In this condition, the person will fall from grace and come under the law again which condemns them to death.

Rev 17:6 And I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus: and when I saw her, I wondered with great admiration.

Rev 18:24 And in her was found the blood of prophets, and of saints, and of all that were slain upon the earth (all babes).

Mat 23:37 “O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing!

The prophets/saints, as well as “all that are slain upon the earth” (unconverted babes), are spiritually killed when they accept Satan’s false gospel which mixes works with faith.

The parable below shows how Satan and the Great Harlot kill the saints:

Mat 13:33 Another parable spoke he unto them; The kingdom of heaven is like unto leaven (lies), which a woman (Great Harlot**) took (**from Satan**), and hid (**represents deception**) in three measures of meal (**truth of God**), till the whole was leavened (**full of lies**).**

Leaven (lies) is given to the Great Harlot by Satan via the spirit of anti-Christ. The Great Harlot then hides (denotes deception) the leaven in three measures of God’s truth. After the loaf is made, she will feed the leavened bread to the carnal mind of the believer. The number “three” represents the spiritual process by which the babe was made “worse than the first” (**Mat 12:43-45**); a Man of Sin. It is with this leavened loaf of bread that the Great Harlot kills the saints and all who dwell upon the earth.

When the Day of the Lord arrives for the Man of Sin, the Great Harlot’s judgment will come quickly at the same time as the judgment of the Man of Sin.

Rev 18:8 Therefore shall her plagues come in one day (Day of the Lord**), death and mourning, and famine; and she shall be utterly burned with fire: for strong is the Lord God who judges her. 9 And the kings of the earth (**ruling beliefs & character traits of the mind**), who have committed fornication (**following her ways**) and lived deliciously with her, shall bewail her, and lament for her, when they shall see the smoke of her burning (**judgment**), 10 Standing afar off for the fear of her torment, saying, Alas, alas, that great city Babylon, that mighty city! for in one hour is thy judgment come.**

The scripture below applies to the Day of the Lord when judgment falls on the Great Harlot:

Luke 17:35 Two women (contained in one person**) shall be grinding together; the one shall be taken (**Great Harlot**), and the other left (**divine spiritual nature/New Jerusalem**).**

After the Great Harlot is taken, she will be cast into the Lake of Fire for destruction. After she is destroyed, the elect person will never mix works with faith again. The person’s salvation is now secure.

5. THE JUDGMENT OF THE OLD MAN

After the Man of Sin and the Great Harlot are destroyed in the Lake of Fire, the judgment of the Old Man will begin.

Rom 6:6 Knowing this, that our Old Man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.

Rev 19:21 And the rest (thoughts and beliefs of the Old Man**) were slain with the sword (**Word of God**) of him that sat upon the horse, which sword proceeded out of his mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh.**

The Old Man represents the carnal mind of the converted person.

Unlike the Man of Sin, the Old Man is not separated from the believer when judgment falls on him. His death is a slow process and comes from the sword of Christ (God's Word).

As the elect person is fed and sanctified by the truth of God's Word, their Old Man will slowly die upon the cross with Christ. As he dies, so will his carnal beliefs & carnal traits which have led the person astray for so long.

In the verses below, Paul is encouraging his church in Ephesus to put away the beliefs & character traits of the Old Man and to walk by the truth of Christ which he has taught them.

Eph 4:17 This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye no longer walk as the Gentiles also walk, in the vanity of their mind, 18 being darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the hardening of their heart; 19 who being past feeling gave themselves up to lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness with greediness. 20 But ye did not so learn Christ; 21 if so be that ye heard him, and were taught in him, even as truth is in Jesus: 22 that ye put away, as concerning your former manner of life, the Old Man, that waxes corrupt after the lusts of deceit; 23 and that ye be renewed in the spirit of your mind, 24 and put on the New Man, that after God hath been created in righteousness and holiness of truth.

John the Baptist, who is a type for the Old Man, made this profound statement below which basically repeats what Paul was teaching above:

John 3:30 He must increase, but I must decrease .

In this verse, Christ is the one who must increase within the person and the Old Man is the one who must decrease within the person. In other words, as the truth of God permeates the believer's mind, the Old Man's control of the believer's beliefs & character traits will become less and less. The chastisement of Christ will also be used to correct any sinful behaviors that still come from the carnal mind.

The verses below apply:

2Cor 10:3 For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: 4 (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) 5 Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;

In the above verses, Paul is speaking about reigning with Christ in the war against the beliefs & character traits of the Old Man. However, to ensure that the believer brings into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ, the chastisement of Christ will fall on the person when they are disobedient.

Paul made this statement concerning chastisement:

Heb 12:4 Ye have not yet resisted unto blood, striving against sin. 5 And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaks unto you as unto children, My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him: 6 For whom the Lord loveth he chastens and scourges every son whom he receives. 7 If ye endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chastens not? 8 But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons. 9 Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live? 10 For they verily for a few days chastened us after their own pleasure; but he for our profit, that we might be partakers of his holiness. 11 Now no chastening for the present seems to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.

Consider this verse below which is also teaching about chastisement:

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 (New) Earth, the inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness.

The earth mentioned in the above verse is speaking of the New Earth. The New Earth is the new spirit of the person which has a divine spiritual nature. The spirit's new spiritual nature comes from the indwelling Holy Spirit. The judgments that come from the New Earth will cause the person (their mind) to learn righteousness. This is the chastisement of Christ.

After the judgments of Christ are completed upon the Old Man, the carnal mind of the person will be completely transformed into the mind of Christ. The elect person will then be a fully matured, perfect man of full age (**Heb 5:14**).

Note: After a person is converted, they have entered the Kingdom of Heaven and their salvation is secure.

This verse applies:

Mat 18:3 And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children (no longer babes), ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.

Whether or not a converted person fully matures into a man of full age before they die is up to Christ. I believe that those who are highly blessed (like the very elect) will reach the highest level of spiritual maturity before they die. Those who only reach a lower level of maturity will be those who are considered “least” in the Kingdom of Heaven.

This verse applies:

Mat 11:11 Verily I say unto you, Among them that are born of women there hath not risen a greater than John the Baptist: notwithstanding he that is least in the kingdom of Heaven is greater than he.

THE DAY OF THE LORD - THE OLD TESTAMENT FAITHFUL

The Old Testament (OT) faithful were justified by their faith. Their faith is the same faith which the elect were given after they received the Early Rain of the Spirit. Faith is what makes the pathway straight for the Lord to come with the Latter Rain of the Spirit.

However, since the OT faithful died prior to the introduction of the New Covenant of Grace through Faith, they have received the Latter Rain (the baptism) nor have they been converted.

Hebrews chapter 11 gives us the most details concerning the fate of the OT faithful and I will now present the key verses of that chapter:

Heb 11:1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. 2 For by it the elders obtained a good report.

The “good report” is the same good report that Joshua and Caleb gave to Moses upon their return from spying out the Promised Land. Joshua and Caleb are “types” for the elect. Their report was based on faith, and because it was, they were ready to enter the Promised Land. They had put their trust in God rather than in their own abilities.

However, the other 10 spies came back with a bad report which was based on their own abilities (works) rather than on faith in God. After all the reports were heard, the Nation of Israel believed the bad reports and became too fearful to enter the Promised Land. Those faithless individuals are “types” of a “called but not chosen” babe. As a result of their lack of faith, the Nation of Israel was sent into the wilderness for 40 years where everyone who believed the bad reports died. Only Joshua and Caleb lived to cross the Jordan River (type for the Latter Rain) into the Promised Land (salvation).

Since the OT faithful obtained the same good report as Joshua and Caleb, they, too, will be able to enter the Promised Land when the Lord comes to them. Faith is the key which unlocks the door to salvation. And that is why the OT faithful who are mentioned below are considered “heirs” to the promise made to Abraham:

Heb 11:3 Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear. 4 By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh. 5 By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God. 6 But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him. 7 By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith. 8 By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went. 9 By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise.

However, like John the Baptist, they all “died in faith, not having received the promises”:

Heb 11:13 These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.

But God has not forgotten their faith because God has already “prepared for them a city”:

Heb 11:16 But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city (New Jerusalem).

The verse below applies to the OT faithful just as it applies to the elect of this age:

John 14:3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.

This city/place is New Jerusalem. It is described in Revelation chapter 21 and it represents the new divine spiritual nature of the elect person’s new spirit. The OT faithful will enter New Jerusalem after their “better resurrection” and after they are “made perfect” by conversion.

Heb 11:35 Women received their dead raised to life again: and others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection:

Heb 11:39 And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise: 40 God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect.

The OT faithful died without receiving the “promise” and have not yet been made perfect (converted).

However, I believe that upon their “better resurrection”, the OT faithful will be found in the Lamb’s Book of Life. At that time, they will be found ready, watchful and sober by Christ so He will enter their “house” (Latter Rain). Then, with the help of the elect, Christ will complete their conversion to make them “perfect”.

They will then reign with Christ as His Bride in the final age over the balance of unsaved mankind.

The verse below shows that the OT faithful will reign with the NT elect in the Kingdom of Heaven in the final age:

Mat 8:8 The centurion answered and said, Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldest come under my roof: but speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed. 9 For I am a man under authority, having soldiers under me: and I say to this man, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth it. 10 When Jesus heard it, he marvelled, and said to them that followed, Verily I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel. 11 And I say unto you, That many shall come from the east and west, and shall sit down with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of heaven. 12 But the children of the kingdom shall be cast out into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

The centurion mentioned above is a type for the Gentile elect who will “sit down” with the OT faithful and reign with Christ in the final age.

However, most of Israel will not come to Christ by faith. They will remain under the Law until their physical deaths. Upon their resurrection, they will appear before the Judgement seat of Christ where they will be told that their “works” did NOT earn them entrance into the Kingdom of Heaven. At that time, there will be “weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

The scripture below is a second witness to this truth:

Luke 13:28 There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when ye shall see Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, and all the prophets, in the kingdom of God, and you yourselves thrust out. 29 And they shall come from the east, and from the west, and from the north, and from the south, and shall sit down in the kingdom of God. 30 And, behold, there are last which shall be first, and there are first which shall be last.

THE DAY OF THE LORD - THE BALANCE OF MANKIND

Please be aware that there is NOT a lot of detail given to us in scripture about the final age. However, we can know with certainty that all the individuals of that age will be judged in wrath by Christ & His Bride but will be eventually saved by the end of that age.

Here is what Christ told the chief priests and elders who were responsible for crucifying him:

Matt 21:31 Which of the two was obeying his father?" They replied, "The first, of course." Then Jesus explained his meaning: "I assure you, corrupt tax collectors and prostitutes will get into the Kingdom of God before you do.

It is not a question of whether or not the chief priests and elders are going to be saved. It is only a matter of when they will be saved.

Christ made a similar statement in the verses below:

Luke 13:23 Then said one unto him, Lord, are there few that be saved? And he said unto them, 24 Strive to enter in at the strait gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able. 25 When once the master of the house is risen up, and hath shut to the door, and ye begin to stand without, and to knock at the door, saying, Lord, Lord, open unto us; and he shall answer and say unto you, I know you not whence ye are: 26 Then shall ye begin to say, We have eaten and drunk in thy presence, and thou hast taught in our streets. 27 "But He will say, 'I tell you I do not know you, where you are from. Depart from Me, all you workers of lawlessness.' 28 "There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and yourselves thrust out. 29 "They will come from the east and the west, from the north and the south, and sit down in the kingdom of God. 30 "And indeed there are last who will be first, and there are first who will be last."

Salvation is a certainty for all mankind; only the order of mankind's salvation will vary. The elect (First Fruits) are saved first in this age, followed by the OT faithful who will be saved at the beginning of the final age. Next, the balance of mankind will be saved in the Lake of Fire with the Gentiles being saved first. They will then be followed by the remaining physical descendants of Abraham (Nation of Israel) who will be saved last.

Rom 11:25 For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fullness of the Gentiles be come in. 26 And so all Israel shall be saved.

At the start of the final age, all the individuals who were not found in the Lamb's Book of Life will be cast into the Lake of Fire for judgment:

Rev 20:13 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. 14 Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. 15 And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.

Only the elect and the Old Testament faithful will be found in the Lamb's Book of Life. Everyone else will be rejected by Christ, including the many who were called to be saints but were not chosen.

Matt 7:21 Not everyone that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. 22 Many will say to me in that Day (Day of the Lord), Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? 23 And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work lawlessness.

The believers who are called but not chosen will be rejected by Christ because they have been practicing “lawlessness”. In other words, they are still under the Law. They are under the Law because they are approaching Christ by their own “works”. Paul said that if a person believes that they must do even just one “work” to be acceptable to Christ, they will become a debtor to keeping the whole Law.

Gal 5:1 Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage. 2 Indeed I, Paul, say to you that if you become circumcised, Christ will profit you nothing. 3 And I testify again to every man who becomes circumcised that he is a debtor to keep the whole law. 4 You have become estranged from Christ, you who attempt to be justified by law; you have fallen from grace. 5 For we through the Spirit eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness by faith. 6 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but faith working through love.

And since no man but Christ can keep the whole Law, they have all become lawbreakers and are rejected by Christ.

Once a believer turns to “works” for salvation, they will fall from grace, and as a result, they will not be able to be renewed to repentance in that spiritual condition.

Heb 6:1 Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God, 2 Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and age-enduring judgment. 3 And this will we do, if God permit. 4 For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Spirit, 5 and have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come, 6 If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame.

Only Christ has the power to restore a fallen away believer back to repentance and to make them “ready” (faithful). Christ does this by giving the fallen away babe the Latter Rain of the Spirit.

Turning to “works” for salvation is the sin that leads to death and is how Satan via the Great Harlot kills the saints (Rev 11:7).

Since all babes after Paul’s “departing” will fall away after receiving the Early Rain of the Spirit, the only hope for them to be saved is for Christ to come to them a second time and give them the

Latter Rain of the Spirit. And since the elect are the only ones to whom Christ will come a second time, no one else in this age will be saved.

A person's salvation comes to them only by the work of Christ. Mankind has no ability to contribute anything towards their own salvation. If a person believes otherwise, that belief shows that we are not approaching Christ by faith alone. They have turned to their own works for salvation. And as Paul said, once a person does this, they will be a debtor to keeping the whole Law.

Because Christ is in full control of mankind's salvation - even the timing of it, mankind must learn to trust in Him to do all that is necessary for their salvation.

To save mankind, Christ will baptize mankind with the Holy Spirit and with Fire (judgment).

Mat 3:11 I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Spirit, and with Fire: 12 Whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner; but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.

Because mankind's marred spirit which developed a carnal and religious spiritual nature is the source of mankind's rebellion from God, it must be destroyed and replaced with a new spirit which has a divine spiritual nature – one that is governed by the Holy Spirit. This happens by Christ's spiritual process of conversion - the end result of which is mankind's salvation.

In the final age, Christ will use the Law to judge mankind (**Rev 20:15**) because they are still under the Law.

Peter made this statement below about the Day of the Lord in the final age:

1Pet 4:17 For it is the ripe time for the judgment to begin with the house of God; but, if FIRST with us, what shall be the end of them who yield not unto the glad-message of God?

Peter says that judgment comes to the elect first in this present age. He then asks a question which implies that those who are not saved in this age will have a much harder time during their judgment in the final age. I explained the reasons for this harder judgment earlier in this paper so I won't repeat the reasons here.

Even though the judgment in the final age will be more difficult (torment & wrath), the individuals being judged will still complete the pathway to salvation and be saved.

Here's why:

Mat 23:23 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law: JUSTICE, MERCY, AND FAITH: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone.

When Christ and His Bride judge unsaved mankind in the Lake of Fire, they will not omit justice, mercy or faith in their administration of the Law. Before anyone perishes by the Law (the true penalty of sin), Christ will have MERCY upon them. His mercy will come to them as the Early and Latter Rains of the Spirit. With the Spirit, each person will have FAITH and be born as a child of God. Christ will then gather the new child of God to heaven, leaving only the child of the Devil to remain in the Lake of Fire to perish. This death will satisfy JUSTICE.

I will now present this same judgement as taught by Joel chapter 2.

Day of the Lord - Joel Chapter 2

Joel chapter 2 teaches the judgment of the Day of the Lord when it falls on the physical descendants of Abraham who will be the last to be saved. Their judgment will continue up to their moment of salvation.

Since Joel chapter 2 is long and detailed, I will quote the key verses from it which show the progression from judgment to salvation.

In the first group of verses below, Joel describes the moment the Day of the Lord commences. The elect, who reign with Christ during this time of judgment, are shown as a great and strong people who devour the land with fire (judgment).

Joel 2:1 Blow ye the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in my holy mountain: let all the inhabitants of the land tremble; for the DAY OF THE LORD cometh, for it is nigh at hand; 2 A day of darkness and of gloominess, a day of clouds and of thick darkness, as the morning spread upon the mountains: a great people and a strong; there hath not been ever the like, neither shall be any more after it, even to the years of many generations. 3 A fire devoureth before them; and behind them a flame burneth: the land is as the Garden of Eden before them, and behind them a desolate wilderness; yea, and nothing shall escape them.

In verse 3, the land represents the marred spirit with a carnal & religious spiritual nature of the people who are being judged. Before the marred spirit is judged, it is described as being “as the Garden of Eden”. This is a reference to the false outward righteousness of the Great Harlot.

These verses apply:

Mat 23:27 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye are like unto whited sepulchres, which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead men’s bones, and of all uncleanness.

Rev 18:16 And saying, Alas, alas, that great city, that was clothed in fine linen, and purple, and scarlet, and decked with gold, and precious stones, and pearls!

In verse 4, the elect are described as “horsemen”.

Joel 2:4 The appearance of them is as the appearance of horses; and as horsemen, so shall they run.

This is the same symbol used to describe the elect when they reigned with Christ during their own judgment.

Rev 19:14 And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean.

And just as Christ comes as a thief in the night, so will the elect:

Joel 2:9 They shall run to and fro in the city; they shall run upon the wall, they shall climb up upon the houses; they shall enter in at the windows like a thief.

Joel 2:11 And the LORD shall utter his voice before his army: for his camp is very great: for He is strong who executeth his word: for the Day of the LORD is great and very terrible; and who can abide it?

None of the people who are being judged can withstand Christ's army. When the elect fall upon a person, their judgment will grind them to powder - just as they were ground to powder in the previous age.

Mat 21:44 And whosoever shall fall on this stone shall be broken: but on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder.

Next, a call for repentance from works will go out to the lost:

Joel 2:12 Therefore also now, saith the LORD, turn ye even to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning: 13 And rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the LORD your God: for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil.

They are told that their repentance should not be an outward repentance (rend not your garments) but that it should be a repentance that comes from the heart (rend your heart).

Christ then has pity on the people and shows them mercy:

Joel 2:18 Then will the LORD be jealous for his land, and pity his people. 19 Yea, the LORD will answer and say unto his people, Behold, I will send you corn, and wine, and oil, and ye shall be satisfied therewith: and I will no more make you a reproach among the heathen:

Joel 2:22 Be not afraid, ye beasts of the field: for the pastures of the wilderness do spring, for the tree beareth her fruit, the fig tree and the vine do yield their strength. 23 Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice in the LORD your God: for he hath given you the Early Rain moderately, and he will cause to come down for you the Rain, the Early Rain,

and the Latter Rain in the first month. 24 And the floors shall be full of wheat, and the fats shall overflow with wine and oil.

To cause the people to repent and to become faithful, Christ will send them corn for bread (truth), wine for the New Covenant and oil for the anointing of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit will come to them as the Early and Latter Rains of the Spirit.

Notice that verse 23 says that the Early and Latter Rains will both fall in the “first month”. This is a sign that the time in between the two Rains will be shortened. Salvation will come quickly once Christ begins to act.

Joel 2:27 And ye shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I am the LORD your God, and none else: and my people shall never be ashamed.

Verse 27 shows that the end of the final age has arrived and the last of mankind has been saved.

The last enemy of death has been defeated and the Kingdom of Heaven is ready to be delivered up to the Father so that God will be “all in all”:

1Cor 15:20 But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the first-fruits of them that slept. 21 For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. 22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. 23 But every man in his own order: Christ the first-fruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming. 24 Then cometh the consummation, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power. 25 For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet. 26 The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death. 27 For he hath put all things under his feet. But when he saith all things are put under him, it is manifest that he is excepted, which did put all things under him. 28 And when all things shall be subdued unto him, then shall the Son also himself be subject unto him that put all things under him, that God may be all in all.

SUMMARY

The Day of the Lord is the established time of judgment for each and every person who has ever lived. The judgment of mankind is one of the most important works of Christ, because without it, no one can be converted and saved.

In addition to judgment, Christ will perform all the other works that are necessary for mankind's salvation. Those works include His physical work at the cross and His spiritual work of giving each person the Early & Latter Rains of the Spirit. Then, lastly, Christ will mature each and every person to be exactly like Him.

When Christ's work is finished and the ages come to an end, God will be “all in all” and He will have many new children!

At that time, this scripture will be testified to be true:

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.

It is my hope from what I have presented in this paper that you, too, will understand & appreciate the reasons why Christ judges mankind.

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

Psa 33:5 He loveth righteousness and judgment: the earth is full of the goodness of the LORD.

Jer 4:2 And thou shalt swear, The LORD lives, in truth, in judgment, and in righteousness; and the nations shall bless themselves in him, and in him shall they glory.

Jer 9:24 But let him that glory, glory in this, that he understands and knows me, that I am the LORD which exercise lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness, in the earth: for in these things I delight, saith the LORD.