

The purpose of God's word is to transform the willing heart

God's word is a holy, and exclusive, and the only purifying system of thought.

As the willing Christian sets his heart daily, to learn and obey¹ to do the word of God, to cleanse and purify his soul from unholy human religion; he becomes a usable vessel for the Holy Spirit to encourage others.

This is a deliberate conscious choice; like Ezra who prepared his heart to learn the law of the Lord, and to do it, so that he could encourage others.

Truth is the goal, not man's religious misperception of truth, and misuse of it; but actual truth as God intended it to be understood and received

12/28/21

God's Resolution of Evil

1.

The outworking of the righteousness and justice of God:

- a. The four living creatures are associated with God's holiness, and the outworking of His perfect righteousness justice from the throne of God.

The Tribulation is all about Jesus Christ executing God's justice on evildoers in the earth, to bring an end to evil and injustice, and ultimately to set up and begin His perfect reign on earth for 1000 years.

Revelation 4:1 (NKJV)

1 Now I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals, and I heard one of the four living creatures saying with a voice like thunder, "Come and see."

2 And I looked, and behold, a white horse. He who sat on it had a bow, and a crown was given to him, and he went out conquering, and to conquer.

3 When He opened the second seal, I heard the second living creature saying, "Come and see."

4 Another horse, fiery red, went out. And it was granted to the one who sat on it to take peace from the earth, and that people should kill one another, and there was given to him a great sword.

5 When He opened the third seal, I heard the third living creature say, "Come and see." So I looked, and behold, a black horse, and he who sat on it had a pair of scales in his hand.

6 And I heard a voice in the midst of the four living creatures saying, "A quart of wheat for a denarius, and three quarts of barley for a denarius, and do not harm the oil and the wine."

7 When He opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature saying, "Come and see."

Death and Hades:

8 And I looked, and behold, a pale horse. And the name of him who sat on it was Death, and Hades followed with him. And power was given to them over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword, with hunger, with death, and by the beasts of the earth.

All 4 times death is mentioned in the book of Revelation, it's connected with Hades

Matthew 23:33-34 (NKJV)

33 And you, Capernaum, who are exalted in heaven, will be brought down to Hades, for if the mighty works which were done in you had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day.

This passage indicates the consciousness of God, and His Son Jesus Christ. They not only know what will happen in history, but they also know what could have happened in history.

34 But I say to you that it shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgment than for you."

Lazarus and the rich man:

Luke 16:19-31 (NKJV)

19 "There was a certain rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and lived sumptuously every day.

20 But there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, full of sores, who was laid at his gate,

21 desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table. Moreover the dogs came and licked his sores.

22 So it was that the beggar died and was carried by the angels to Abraham's bosom. The rich man also died and was buried.

Lazarus referred to as Paradise at the time of death our souls are escorted to their destiny by the angels. Our destiny today is into the presence of the Lord

23 And Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob were in Hades, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom.

24 "Then he cried and said, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.'

This indicates a kind of physical interior body. It mentions soul + spirit and a living

He is not just talking in figures of speech here, he is extremely thirsty as part of the fact that he is in a place of extreme heat and flames.

This is a precursor to the lake of fire.

25 But Abraham said, 'Son, remember that in your lifetime you stored up your good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things; but now he is comforted and you are tormented.

26 And besides all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed, so that those who want to pass from here to you cannot, nor can those from there pass to us.'

27 "Then he said, 'I beg you therefore, father, that you would send him to my father's house,

28 for I have four brothers, that he may testify to them, lest they also come to this place of torment.'

29 Abraham said to him, 'They have Moses and the prophets, let them hear those.'

30 And he said, 'Yes, father Abraham, but if you give to them from the dead, they will repent.'

31 But he said to him, 'If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded though one rise from the dead.'

He is asking Abraham to have Lazarus resurrected from the dead

Christians often think that if only some great miracle like happened in the book of Acts, then a great revival would take place then multitudes would believe and come to Christ.

But that's not what Scripture teaches, and thus it is not true: Scripture teaches "if they don't believe what the God has already revealed in His word, neither will they be persuaded though one rise from the dead"

What confidence that gives us as believers to simply present the word of God, we don't have to have all the sophisticated arguments to turn every objection, or argument.

The power is in the Word of God and in the Spirit of God.

And somehow God uses us with all our frailties and klobies to simply present the truth of Scripture, and because it is God's Word and it is empowered by the Holy Spirit that is the strongest and most powerful evidence and testimony that we can give.

And any miracle that could possibly be added to it would merely be secondary;

the real power is in God's Word.

Paradise was taken to having from the lower parts of the earth buy Jesus when he ascended and Hades remains in the lower parts of the earth:

All old testament saints at death, were taken by the angels to paradise, otherwise known as Abraham's bosom. According to Luke 16:22

Luke 23:43 (NKJV)

43 And Jesus said to him, "Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise."

Agitation 4:4 (NKJV) 4 "Have this, 'We ascended'—what does it mean? but that 'He' also then descended into the lower parts of the earth."

2 Corinthians 12:3-4 (NKJV)

3 And I know such a man—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows—

4 how he was caught up into Paradise and heard inexpressible words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter.

Revelation 22:7 (NKJV)

7 "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give to eat from the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God."

Death and Hades, final judgment:

Revelation 1:17-18 (NKJV)

17 And when I saw Him, I fell at His feet as dead. But He laid His right hand on me, saying to me, "Do not be afraid; I am the First and the Last.

18 I am He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore. Amen. And I have the keys of Hades and of Death.

Those who are there can only be released through the Lord Jesus Christ, and He will release them only to judgment. And we see this in the following verse

Revelation 20:13-14 (NKJV)

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.

The fifth judgment relates to martyrdom

The sixth judgment refers to the wrath of the Lamb

2.

3.

4.

5.

This is the first of 11 times wrath is used in the book

Revelation.

It is a key word that describes the major theme in the book of Revelation.

It depicts the outworking of God's final judgments resolving the problem of evil in history.

The seventh seal judgment, when it is opened, reveals seven more judgments which are the trumpet judgments.